

# TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

## Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances

Tusla I.D.: TU2015LD005

Name of Service Lanesborough/Ballyleague Community Childcare Service  
CLG

Address of Service: The Green, Lanesboro, Co. Longford, N39 V104

Email Address: teresaplayschool@gmail.com

Name of Registered Provider: Brid Gordon

|                           |               |  |              |   |           |  |
|---------------------------|---------------|--|--------------|---|-----------|--|
| Type of Proposed Service: | Full Day Care |  | Part-Time    | ✓ | Sessional |  |
|                           | Drop-In       |  | Childminding |   | Temporary |  |

|                                          |                                                                                                                                                                                             |
|------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Proposed change:                         | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Change in service type from Sessional to Part-Time.</li> <li>Change in hours of operation from 9:30am – 12:30hrs to 9:00am – 14:00 hours.</li> </ul> |
| Proposed Number of Children:             | 58                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| Recommended Change Following Inspection: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Change service type to Part-Time.</li> <li>Change hours of operation to 9:00am – 14:00 hours.</li> </ul>                                             |
| Registered change:                       | Change in service type from Sessional to Part Time.<br>Change in hours of operation from 9:30 – 12:30 to 09:00 – 14:00                                                                      |

Date of Inspection: 2 3 0 7 2 0 2 6

Inspection undertaken by: Therese Duignan

Title: Early Years Inspector

Tusla Early Years Inspectorate Address: SAP Office, St Loman's Campus, Springfield, Mullingar, Co Westmeath, N91 N4XC.

**Rationale for Inspection:**  
**Proposed Change of Circumstance**

**Note: For Office use only, to be completed by Registration Office**

|                      |                                              |
|----------------------|----------------------------------------------|
| Registration Status: | Registered Part Time Service for 58 Children |
| Date of Registration | 31 <sup>st</sup> July 2026                   |

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### Authority to Inspect

The Tusla Early Years Inspectorate carries out inspections of Early Years Services under Section 58(D) of the Child Care Act 1991 (as inserted by Section 92 of the Child and Family Agency Act 2013).

|                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Description of Service</b> | <p>Lanesborough/ Ballyleague Community Childcare service was established in 1997 and is a non-profit community service. It provides sessional preschool care and education to children aged 2-6 years. The service participates in the Early Childhood Care and Education scheme (ECCE) and operates from 9:30 am to 12:30 pm.</p> <p>The service is registered to provide school age care.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| <b>Premises</b>               | <p>The service is located in a former primary school in the town of Lanesborough, Co Longford. There are 3 care rooms in the service -Toddler room, Room one and Room two. Each care room has a separate enclosed outdoor space available to the rear of the service. Parking facilities are available.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| <b>Staffing</b>               | <p>Fourteen adults are employed in the service. The registered provider does not work in the service and was not present for the inspection.</p> <p>The manager is not assigned to a care room but is available to provide support across all of the care rooms as required. An administrator for the service is also employed.</p> <p>All adults working directly with the children have a major award in Early Childhood Care and Education on the National Framework of Qualifications.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| <b>Methodology</b>            | <p>The inspection was an announced inspection to assess compliance with the Childcare Act 1991 (Early Years Services) Regulations 2016 and Childcare Act 1991 (Early Years Services) (Amendment) Regulations 2016. The Inspection focused on regulations under the following themes: Governance, Health, Welfare and Development of the child, Safety and Premises.</p> <p>The findings on inspection based on information obtained through examination of documentation, direct observation, and discussion with relevant staff are documented in the inspection report and taken into consideration when making a decision in relation to registering the change in circumstance. The Inspectorate reserves the right to edit</p> |

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|                         | responses received for reasons including clarity; completeness; and compliance with administrative and legal processes. The contents of the report are compiled by the inspectorate body. |
| <b>Acknowledgements</b> | The Inspector wishes to acknowledge the cooperation of the registered provider, person in charge, staff and children who were present on the day of the inspection.                       |

| Part III - Management and Staff                                                                                                                                         |                                                                                                                                                      |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Regulation 9 – Management and Recruitment                                                                                                                               |                                                                                                                                                      |
| <i>(1) A registered provider shall ensure that—</i><br><i>(a) the service has a designated person in charge and a named person who is able to deputise as required.</i> |                                                                                                                                                      |
| <b>Requirement met:</b>                                                                                                                                                 | The requirement has been met.<br><br>(1) (a)<br><br>There is a designated person in charge, and a named person is available to deputise as required. |

| Part III - Management and Staff                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
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| Regulation 11 -Staffing Levels                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| <i>(1) Subject to this Regulation, a registered provider shall ensure that there is at all times an adequate number of adults working directly with the children attending the pre-school service.</i><br><i>(8) Without prejudice to paragraphs (2) to (7)—</i><br><i>(c) a registered provider of a sessional pre-school shall ensure that, where the person in charge operates the service single-handedly, a second person familiar with the operation of the service and in a position to provide assistance to the person in charge in operating the service is, at all times, within close distance of the service and available to attend the service to assist the person in charge in the event of an emergency.</i> |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| <b>Requirement met:</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | The requirement has been met.<br><br>(1) The proposed registered provider has stated that there will be an adequate number of adults working directly with the children attending the service.<br><br>(8)(c) Not applicable, there are two adults on the premises at all times for the duration of the Inspection. This was confirmed by the staff roster and staff sign in book. |

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## Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances

### Part V - Care of Child in Pre-school Service

#### Regulation 20 - Facilities for Rest and Play

(1) *Subject to this Regulation, a registered provider shall ensure that—*

*(a) having regard to the number of pre-school children attending the service, their respective ages and the amount of time they spend on the premises, there are adequate and suitable facilities for each child to play indoors and, where required by these Regulations, outdoors, during the day, and*

*(b) there are adequate and suitable facilities for a pre-school child to rest during the day, and in the case of an overnight pre-school service, during the day and the night.*

(2) *A registered provider—*

*(b) of a full day care service, a part-time day care service, a sessional preschool service or a childminding service that moves premises on or after 30 June 2016, shall ensure that a suitable, safe and secure outdoor space to which the preschool children attending the service have access on a daily basis is provided on the premises.*

#### Requirement met:

The requirement has been met.

(1)

(a) The service comprises of three care rooms which are bright and spacious. The care rooms have been constructively planned and presented to cater for the needs of the children in each room. The three care rooms have a variety of age-appropriate toys and learning equipment available at an accessible height to facilitate a child-led learning environment. There are clearly defined areas of interest including home corners, construction areas, dress up, hairdressing space, sensory play, small world and a rest area with a reading corner. A variety of play and learning materials included puzzles, jigsaws, interconnecting manipulative equipment, blocks, cars, dolls and an assortment of props for the interest areas. The Toddler room which will accommodate the younger children was equipped with interactive toys, push/pull equipment, shape sorters and stacking toys, sensorial equipment, wooden jigsaws and puzzles and a variety of suitable art and craft materials to cater for the younger age group.

There are four secured spacious outdoor play areas at the rear of the premises with plenty of outdoor toys, trikes and scooters available.

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|--|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|  | <p>(b) Three stackable beds are available for children over 2 years of age requiring a period of sleep when attending on a part time basis. The sleep area is located in a quiet designated area of the Toddler room.</p> <p>Suitable rest areas with child sized comfortable seating are provided in the three care room.</p> <p>(2)</p> <p>(a) Four spacious secured outdoor play areas are located at the rear of the service and are secured by a high perimeter wall to prevent unauthorized entry or unsupervised exit of a child.</p> |
|--|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

### Part V - Care of Child in Pre-school Service

#### Regulation 22 – Food and Drink

*A registered provider shall ensure that adequate and suitable, nutritious and varied food and drink is available for each pre-school child attending the pre-school service.*

#### Requirement met:

The requirement is met. A healthy eating policy is in place in the service. The parents will provide the children with snacks and lunch which will be refrigerated on arrival. Drinking water is available at all times for the children.

### Part VI – Safety

#### Regulation 23 - Safeguarding health, safety and welfare of child

*A registered provider shall ensure that all reasonable measures are taken to safeguard the health, safety and welfare of a pre-school child attending the service and that the environment of the service is safe.*

#### Requirement met:

The requirement has been met.

Access to the service is controlled by staff at the main entrance to prevent children from exiting the service unsupervised and to restrict unauthorised persons from gaining access to the service. The outdoor area is suitably secured with a perimeter wall and a secured gate at the side of the building. Visibility stickers are in place on the full-length glass doors and windows. All cupboards are fitted with safety catches.

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There is sufficient storage space in the premises for cleaning materials and equipment, arts and crafts resources for the service and sleep equipment. All emergency exits are clear.

Thermostatically controlled hot water, liquid soap and paper towels are available in the sanitary and nappy changing accommodation for hygienic hand washing and drying. Paper hand towel, hygienically dispensed from wall mounted dispensers are available at the sinks in the sanitary areas.

Foot pedal operated bins are located in the sanitary areas and in each care room for the hygienic and safe disposal of used paper hand towel, tissues and waste. Soiled nappies are brought out the outside bin immediately after nappy change completed.

Two refrigerators are available in the kitchen in the service.

A pest control contract is in place for the premises.

The premises is maintained in a clean and hygienic condition and detailed cleaning schedules are in place for all room environments

### Part VI – Safety

#### Regulation 25 – First Aid

- (1) *A registered provider shall ensure that a person trained in first aid for children is, at all times, immediately available to the children attending the pre-school service.*
- (2) *A registered provider shall ensure that a suitably equipped first aid box for children—*
- (a) is safely stored in an easily accessible and conspicuous position on the premises, and*
  - (b) is available to the children attending the pre-school service at all times.*

#### Requirement met:

The requirement has been met.

(1) Current certification in relation to First Aid Response (FAR) training, is available for nine staff members.

(2), (a), (b) Suitably equipped first aid boxes are easily available and accessible to children at all times and are placed in conspicuous positions in the service.

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## Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances

### Part VI – Safety

#### Regulation 26 – Fire Safety Measures

- (1) A registered provider shall ensure that a record in writing is kept of—
- (a) any fire drill that takes place in the premises, and
  - (b) the number, type and maintenance record of firefighting equipment and smoke alarms in the premises.
- (4) A notice of the procedures to be followed in the event of fire shall be displayed in a conspicuous position in the premises.

#### Requirement met:

requirement has been met.

(1)

(a) Documentation is available to record monthly fire drills. The last fire drill was completed on 15 June 2026.

(b) The firefighting equipment and smoke alarm were serviced in May and June 2026 respectively.

(4) A notice of the procedures to be followed in the event of fire is displayed conspicuously in each care room and the fire assembly point is identified in the outdoor area.

### Part VI – Safety

#### Regulation 28 – Insurance

A registered provider shall ensure that the pre-school service is adequately insured.

#### Requirement met:

The requirement has been met.

An insurance certificate is available indicating cover for 58 children attending a part time care service. The insurance certificate expires on 27 March 2027.

The registered provider must ensure that adequate insurance is in place prior to the commencement of the service. Registration of the service is contingent on the registered provider's compliance with Regulation 28.

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## Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances

### Part VII – Premises and Space Requirements

#### Regulation 29 – Premises

*A registered provider shall ensure that the premises of the service are—*

- (a) of sound and stable structure,*
- (b) safe and secure,*
- (c) kept adequately lit, heated and ventilated,*
- (d) cleaned, maintained and repaired, as required, and*
- (e) equipped with adequate and suitable sanitary facilities.*

#### Requirement met:

- (a) The proposed premises is maintained, decorated and visually is in a state of good repair.
- (b) The entrance/exit doors to the premises and gates to the outdoor area are secured and will be controlled by the staff members to prevent unauthorised access to the service and to prevent children from exiting the service unsupervised. The outdoor play area is surrounded by a high perimeter wall at the rear. Metal fences and secured gates are provided in the four defined play areas.
- (c) The premises benefits from natural light via large windows and glass doors in the three care rooms. There is supplemental artificial lighting also provided from strip lights with protective covers in the three care rooms.  
There are openable windows and doors in the three care rooms and all sanitary areas.
- (d) Daily cleaning schedules are in place for the three care room environments and sanitary areas.
- (e) There are adequate sanitary facilities in the service.
  - Two toilets and two wash hand basins are provided for children's use in the three sanitary areas attached and used by the three care rooms.
  - A nappy change unit and one wash hand basin is available for any child not toilet trained.
  - Three toilets and three wash hand basin facilities are available for the staff members in the service.

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### Part VII – Premises and Space Requirements

#### Regulation 30 – Minimum Space Requirements

- (1) Subject to paragraphs (2) to (6), a registered provider shall ensure that adequate clear floor space is available in the premises for the work, play and movement of children attending the pre-school service.
- (2) A registered provider of a full day care service or a part-time day care service shall ensure that the minimum amount of clear floor space specified in column (3) of Schedule 7 opposite a particular reference number specified in column (1) of that Schedule in respect of the age range of children specified in column (2) thereof at that reference number is available for each child in that age range attending the service.
- (4) Where a registered provider contemporaneously provides—
- (a) a sessional pre-school service, and
  - (b) a full day care service or a part-time day care service, or both, the minimum clear floor space applicable for the duration of the sessional preschool service in respect of the children attending that service shall be the floor space specified in paragraph (3).

#### Requirement met:

The requirement has been met.

(1), (2) Adequate clear floor space has been provided for the work, play and movement of the proposed number of children attend the service as demonstrated below:

|             |         |                   |                         |
|-------------|---------|-------------------|-------------------------|
| <b>Room</b> | One     | Clear floor space | <b>41 m<sup>2</sup></b> |
| <b>Room</b> | Two     | Clear floor space | <b>41 m<sup>2</sup></b> |
| <b>Room</b> | Toddler | Clear floor space | <b>61 m<sup>2</sup></b> |

(4)(a)(b) The required floor space for the proposed 58 pre-school children aged 2 -6 years old, attending on a part-time basis in the service is met.