

TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances



Tusla I.D.: TU2015SO049

Name of Service Sligo Springboard CLG Resource House Project Creche

Address of Service: 2 Racecourse View, Cranmore, Sligo. F91Y295

Email Address: yvonne@sligospringboard.ie

Name of Registered Provider: Clara Meehan

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

Proposed change:	Proposed addition of a room. Proposed increase in children from 15 to 21. Proposed increase in staff from 3 to 4.
Proposed Number of Children:	21
Recommended Change Following Inspection:	21 children
Registered change:	Change in number of children from 15 to 21 Change in number of staff from 3 to 4 staff

Date of Inspection:	1	5	0	5	2	0	2	6
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Inspection undertaken by:	L Costello
Title:	Early years Inspector

Tusla Early Years Inspectorate Address:	Early Years Inspectorate, Tusla Child & Family, Markievicz House, Barrack St, Sligo, F91XC84
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Rationale for Inspection:
Proposed Change of Circumstance

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

Registration Status:	Registered Sessional Service for 21 Children
Date of Registration	10 June 2026



Child and Family Agency Act 2013
Child Care Act 1991 (Early Years Services) Regulations 2016

Version 05
Implemented- Aug 2022
EYI-IR12.23 F07 FFP (CIC)

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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).

Description of Service	The service proposes to care for a maximum of 20 children in the age range of 1 to 6 years between the hours of 9.15 am and 12.45pm and 1:15pm to 4:45pm on a sessional basis. The premises is situated on the ground floor of a community building. It is proposed to have an additional care room (two care rooms in total). An outdoor area for the childcare service is situated to the rear of the premises.
Premises	Sligo Springboard Resource House Project Creche operates from a premises within a housing estate close to Sligo town. The service will operate on the ground floor.
Staffing	It is proposed that there will be four staff members working directly with the preschool children. The person in charge is supernumerary. The registered provider does not work directly with the preschool children.
Methodology	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. 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 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.
Acknowledgements	The Inspector wishes to acknowledge the cooperation of the person in charge and staff who were present on the day of the inspection.

Part III - Management and Staff

Regulation 9 – Management and Recruitment

(1) A registered provider shall ensure that—

(a) the service has a designated person in charge and a named person who is able to deputise as required.

Requirement met:

This requirement has been met:

(1) (a)

There is a person in charge and a person available to deputise as required.

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Part III - Management and Staff

Regulation 11 -Staffing Levels

(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.

Requirement met:

This requirement has been met.

- (1) The person in charge is aware of the statutory requirements to ensure that at all times an adequate number of adults work directly with the preschool children.

The proposed roster has 4 adults caring for 20 children.

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.

Requirement met:

This requirement has been met.

- (1) (a)

The service demonstrated that adequate and suitable facilities for play are provided in respect of the children's age and stage of development.

Creche Room:

Age-appropriate toys and resources are laid out to stimulate the child's imagination. Open low-level shelving facilitates the young child to direct their sense of play. Opportunities for imaginary, role play, creativity are provided with home corners, construction areas, dress up and arts and crafts.

Preschool Room:

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This room caters for the older child with adequate resources and materials provided that are age appropriate. Interest areas provided allow for various opportunities of play including creativity, sensory, gross motor and fine motor development.

Outdoor:

Direct access from the creche room to the outdoor space, allows for an alternative environment. Playhouses and mud kitchens are provided as well as a fully enclosed sand area. A shed with equipment provides opportunities for gross motor skill development with bikes, trikes and tractors, footballs and ride on toys.

(1)(b)

Creche Room:

The creche room provides a sessional service to children aged from 1 to 2 years of age. A corner of the room is decorated with soft matting and cushions to provide a rest area for the children.

For those children who may require sleep during the sessional service, extra resources of cots or floor beds are provided. The service is aware that if a number of children require sleep that a restful area is provided by utilising the other areas of the service to support the waking children to include the outdoor area and sand room.

Preschool Room:

A corner of the preschool room decorated with soft matting and cushions and library provides a space to relax and rest. Stackable floor beds are also provided for those children who require sleep in the sessional service.

The service is aware of the Tusla 'Guidance for the Early Learning and Care sector on sleep for under 24months'.

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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:

This requirement has been met.

The service provides all food to the children attending the sessional service in line with the service healthy eating policy. A proposed menu includes a variety of fresh fruit, yoghurts, sandwiches, cheese and crackers, toast, pancakes and bagels.

Drinks of water and milk are provided throughout the session.

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:

This requirement has been met.

The service demonstrated the following safety measures:

- The service was secure on the inspector's arrival.
- The premises is secure with high level fencing and locked doors controlling access.
- Foot pedal bins are provided across the service.
- Waste bins outdoors is secured away from the preschool children.
- The kitchen is inaccessible to the preschool children.
- Cleaning materials are stored out of reach of the preschool child.
- Highchairs are fitted with harnesses and in good condition.
- Toys are in good condition and free of pinch and crush points.
- Leeds and flexes are secured.
- Windows are secure and risk assessed with restrictors in place.
- Storage areas are inaccessible to preschool children.

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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:

This requirement has been met.

- (1) The service demonstrated by way of certification that three adults have been trained in first aid for children and are available to the preschool child during the operating hours.
- (2) (a)(b)
Fully stocked first aid boxes with appropriate resources are available to children as required.

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 fire fighting 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:

This requirement has been met

- (1) (a)
Emergency evacuation drills occur in the service monthly as demonstrated by review of documented fire drills.
- (1) (b)
The service has a list of all fire fighting equipment and smoke detection systems in the service with a maintenance date of 15 April 2026.
- (4)
Fire evacuation procedures are clearly displayed throughout the service. A child friendly social story is also displayed alerting children to emergency evacuation routes.

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Part VI – Safety

Regulation 28 – Insurance

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

Requirement met:

This requirement has been met.

The registered provider has informed the insurance company of the increase in numbers attending and an updated insurance certificate was forwarded to the registration department.

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:

This requirement has been met.

On a visual check the premises was found to be:

- (a) Of sound and stable structure with the person in charge not aware of any deficits or maintenance requirements.
- (b) The service was found to be safe and secure with secured access and egress points and high perimeter fencing and gates securing the outdoor area.
- (c) The service is adequately lit and ventilated with large openable windows and patio doors. The service is adequately heated with electric storage heaters providing ambient temperatures.
- (d) The service was observed to be clean and well maintained. Evidence of pest control maintenance was provided to the inspector.
- (e) The service has appropriate sanitary facilities for children and adults.

Adjacent to the care rooms is two toilets, 2 sinks and one nappy changing area. Warm water liquid soap and paper towels are provided for effective hand hygiene.

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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.*
- (3) *A registered provider of a sessional pre-school service or a pre-school service in a drop-in centre shall ensure that a minimum of 1.818 square metres of clear floor space is available for each child attending the service.*

Requirement met:

This requirement has been met.

(1)

The registered provider demonstrated that adequate clear floor space has been provided for children to work, play and move.

(3)

The registered provider demonstrated that a minimum of 1.818 square meters of clear floor space is provided for each child attending the service as follows:

- Creche Room 18.649m² suitable for 10 children in a sessional service.
- Preschool Room 20.629m² suitable for 11 children in a sessional service