

TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances



Tusla I.D:	TU2016DY036							
Name of Service	Early Journeys							
Address of Service:	74 Shantalla Road, Beaumont, Dublin 9, D09 AY28							
Email Address:	rkeszei@hotmail.com							
Name of Registered Provider:	Rita Keszei							
Type of Proposed Service:	Full Day Care	ü	Part-Time	ü	Sessional	ü		
	Drop-In		Childminding		Temporary			
Proposed change:	The registered provider proposes to change the type of service offered from a sessional care service to a sessional, part-time and full day care service.							
Proposed Number of Children:	40							
Recommended Change Following Inspection:	Up to 40 children to attend the pre-school service on a sessional care basis, with a max of 18 attending on a full day care basis.							
Registered change:	Change in service type from sessional to full day, part-time & sessional Change in number of children from 40 to 40(Max 18 full day) children							
Date of Inspection:	0	5	0	5	2	0	2	6
Inspection undertaken by:	T. Nelson							
Title:	Early Years Inspector							
Tusla Early Years Inspectorate Address:	Early Years Inspectorate 2 nd Floor, Unit 4/5, The Nexus Building							

TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances

Blanchardstown Corporate Park
Ballycoolin
Dublin 15 | D15 CF9K

Rationale for Inspection:

Proposed Change of Circumstance

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

Registration Status:	Registered Full Day, Part-Time & Sessional Service for 40 (Max 18 Full Day) Children
Date of Registration	10 June 2026

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	Early Journeys is a sessional care service located in a residential area of Dublin 9. The service is currently registered to provide early childhood care and education to a maximum of 40 children aged 3 to 6 years old, Monday to Friday from 9.00am to 12.00pm and provides a school age service in the afternoons in the first-floor care room. The service is one of two services operated locally by the registered provider.
Premises	Early Journeys operates from a converted retail building, with two care rooms. There are sanitary facilities located off the care rooms and further sanitary facilities are available for staff. An enclosed outdoor area is located to the rear of the premises.
Staffing	The registered provider currently employs five staff to work in the service, including the person in charge, a staff member to work in the kitchen, and three staff who work directly with the children who also work in the school age service in the afternoon. The registered provider does not work in the service but was present on the morning of the inspection, along with the person in charge, a staff member who worked in the kitchen, and four staff who worked directly with the children.

TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances

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.
Additional information	The service was found to be operating a part-time service prior to approval from the Registration Office.
Acknowledgements	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

(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:	The requirement is met. (1) (a) The service has a designated person in charge, and a named staff member is available to deputise as required.
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TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances

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:

The requirement is met.

- (1) The registered provider will ensure that an adequate number of adults will work directly with the children attending the service. It is proposed that there will be up to 5 adults caring for the proposed 18 full time children or 40 sessional 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.*

(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 is partially met.

(1)

- (a) The proposed care rooms provide suitable facilities for the children in the 3 to 6 years age range to play indoors.
 - There is an adequate supply of toys and resources available to support a range of play experiences.
 - Furniture in the rooms are suitable for the age and stage of development of the proposed number of children.

TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances

	• Toys and equipment are stored on low-level shelving, visible and accessible to the children. (b) There are adequate and suitable facilities for a pre-school child to rest during the day. • There is a cosy area available in the care rooms where children can take a break from activities and rest. • There are three low beds available for children who may wish to sleep. • There is an appropriate supply of bed linen available. (2) (b) There is an outdoor play area available to the rear of the premises which is fully enclosed. A range of outdoor toys to facilitate physical play experiences for the proposed age range is available.
Requirement not met:	(2) (b) The surface of the outdoor play area was uneven, with some of the synthetic tiles curling up at the sides posing a potential trip risk.
Response from Provider:	The surface of the outdoor area was levelled.
Summary Comment:	The requirement is now met.

TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances

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.

- There is an on-site kitchen where the service will prepare and provide snacks.
- Hot meals will be prepared offsite and delivered to the service.
- There is suitable refrigeration in the onsite kitchen to accommodate the children who attend the sessional service who will bring a snack from home.
- The registered provider stated that children will receive four meals per day, with breakfast on arrival, a mid-morning snack, a hot meal and an afternoon tea.
- The registered provider will ensure that suitable alternatives are available for those with additional or alternative dietary requirements.
- There is a healthy food policy in place.
- Children will have access to drinking water in the care rooms.

TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances

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 is partially met. The following are examples of the measures taken to safeguard children: - Storage presses were adequately secured and inaccessible to children. - Windows are fitted with restrictors. - Emergency exits are clearly indicated and are unobstructed. - Shelving and storage units are stable and secure. - Thermostatically controlled warm water, liquid soap and dispensed paper towels are available at all sinks. - Logs are maintained where a sleeping child's colour, breathing and position are checked every ten minutes.
Requirement not met:	General Safety: - There are no visibility strips on the glass panelling of the door leading to the quiet room on the first floor, posing a potential injury risk. Infection control: - The bins in the following rooms are not an effective means of waste disposal: - The foot pedal on the bin in the ground floor care room is broken - The bin in the first-floor sanitary area was not foot pedal operated and required hand touch to lift the lid.
Response from Provider:	- Pictures were fixed to the glass panel making it visible. - Appropriate working foot pedal operated bins are now in use.
Summary Comment:	The requirement is now met.

TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances

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 is met.

- (1) Documentary evidence is available that there will be a staff member trained to First aid Responder level available to the children during the operational hours of the service.
- (2)
- (a) Suitably equipped first aid boxes are available in easily identifiable locations throughout the premises.
- (b) The first aid box is easily accessible to adults.

TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

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 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:

The requirement is met.

(1) A record of the following is available:

- (a) There is a template available to record fire drills that take place in the service.
- (b) A written record is available to demonstrate the firefighting equipment in the premises was maintained on 23 October 2025 and the smoke alarms were maintained on 28 January 2026.

(4) There is a notice displayed in the care rooms of the procedures to be followed in the event of a fire with a clear route indicated to the fire assembly point.

Part VI – Safety

Regulation 28 – Insurance

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

Requirement met:

The requirement is met.

The registered provider has evidence of insurance for a maximum of 85 children in a full-time day care service valid from 1 March 2026 to 28 February 2027.

The registered provider must ensure that adequate insurance is in place prior to the commencement of the change. The change approval is contingent on the registered providers compliance with Regulation 28.

TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

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:

The requirement is partially met.

- (a) The premises appears to be of a sound and stable structure.
- (b) The main entrance door to the premises is monitored and managed by staff to prevent a child from exiting unsupervised and restrict unauthorised access. The outdoor area is fully enclosed.
- (c)
 - Windows provide natural lighting to the care rooms. The natural light can be augmented with artificial ceiling lighting as required. Ceiling lights are recessed and fitted with protective covers.
 - Heating is provided by air conditioning units on the ground floor and wall mounted radiators are fitted in the care room on the first floor. The temperature of the care rooms on the day of the inspection was maintained between 18 and 22°C.
 - The proposed care rooms have openable windows, and the sanitary accommodation is fitted with either an operating mechanical ventilation system or openable windows.
- (d) The rooms appeared to be clean and there is a cleaning schedule available to ensure regular cleaning of the rooms.

TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances

	(e) There are adequate sanitary facilities available for the proposed number of children who are toilet trained and can use a toilet and for the proposed number of staff. - One toilet and one sink is required for every 11 children who use a toilet. - One toilet and one sink is required for every 8 adults. <table><tr><th>Number of toilets for children</th><th>Number of toilets for staff</th><th>Number of sinks</th></tr><tr><td>4</td><td>1</td><td>9</td></tr></table>	Number of toilets for children	Number of toilets for staff	Number of sinks	4	1	9
Number of toilets for children	Number of toilets for staff	Number of sinks					
4	1	9					
Requirement not met:	(c) There is a build-up of dust on the extractor fan in the first-floor sanitary area which can limit effective ventilation. (d) - There is an unfinished wall surface on the wall in the library area on the ground floor. - The grill on the top of the radiator in the library area is loose and coming away from the top of the radiator.						
Response from Provider:	(c) The extractor fan was cleaned. (d) - The unfinished wall surface has now been completed. - The radiator grill had been fixed.						
Summary Comment:	The requirement is now met.						

TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances

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.

(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 is met.

(1) A total of 74.3m² is available.

There is adequate clear floor space available in the premises for the work, play and movement for up to 18 children to attend the proposed pre-school service on a full day care basis.

There is adequate clear floor space available in the premises for the work, play and movement for up to 40 children to attend the proposed pre-school service on a sessional care basis.

(4) The amount of clear floor space available is demonstrated in the table below:

Room Name	Clear floor space m ² measured by EYI	Space required:	Number of children room can accommodate:
Ground floor	43 m ²	2-6 years: 1.818 m ² 3-6 years: 2.3 m ²	23 sessional 18 full day care*
First Floor	31.3 m ²	2-6 years: 1.818 m ² 3-6 years: 2.3 m ²	17 sessional 13 full day care*

*The above numbers are contingent on the service operating a preschool service only, with no school age children attending.

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Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances

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