

TUSLA REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT



TUSLA Identifier:	TU2016MO008							
Name of Service:	Kilroe Montessori Pre-school							
Address of Service:	C/O Kilroe National School, Kilroe, Co Mayo.							
Email Address:	Bredamoran5@gmail.com							
Name of Registered Service Provider:	Breda Moran							
Type of service registered:	Sessional		☒					
Date(s) of Inspection:	1	6	1	0	2	0	2	0
No of Pre-School Children present during Inspection:	AM		7		PM			

Address of the Early Years Inspectorate:	Early Years Inspectorate, Quality Assurance Directorate, Child and Family Agency, Clinical & Administration Building, Block A (1st Floor- Green Corridor), Merlin Park, Galway.
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Inspection undertaken by :	F Kelly,
Title:	Early Years Inspector.

Areas which were the subject of this Inspection		
Governance	Health, Welfare and Development	Safety

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

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Conditions If Applicable

Not Applicable

Description of Service	This Sessional service is located in a rural setting in Kilroe, Co Galway. There were 7 children present on the day of inspection. The service is open from Monday to Friday between 9:00am to 12:00pm. The premises is located on the ground of a Kilroe National school and has an outdoor play area located at the front of the premises.
Staffing	There was 1 adult present on the day of inspection which was the registered provider.
Methodology	Tusla's Early Years Inspectorate is the independent statutory regulator of early year's services in Ireland. The Child Care Act 1991 (Early Years Services) Regulations 2016 define the duty of a registered provider to ensure the safety and well- being of children and to comply with these regulations. This Act also gives Tusla the authority to assess compliance with the regulations. The purpose of regulation in relation to early year's services is to ensure that the care, safety and well-being of children attending such services is upheld. The findings on inspection are based on; • Information obtained through examination of documentation • Direct observation • Discussion with relevant staff This inspection was announced and focused on areas of Governance, Health, Welfare and Development of Child and Safety. Inspections may also focus on other areas as required. The inspection process has been amended to minimise the amount of time that inspectors spend in the service and advance notice had been given to the service of the planned inspection. This minimised disruption to service provision while services focus on re-opening and familiarising staff and children with new ways of working. 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 wish to acknowledge the cooperation of the Registered Provider and children who were present on the day of the inspection.

GOVERNANCE

Part III - Management and Staff

Regulation 9 - Management and Recruitment

- (2) A registered provider shall ensure that each employee, unpaid worker and contractor is suitable and competent taking into consideration the nature of the needs of children, including by—
- (a) consideration of references from the person's past employers, if any, and in particular the most recent employer, if any,
 - (b) consideration of references from reputable sources in the case of a person who has no past employers,
 - (c) consideration of the vetting disclosure received from the National Vetting Bureau of the Garda Síochána in accordance with the Act of 2012 in respect of the person, and
 - (d) ensuring, insofar as is practicable, that where a person has lived in a state other than the State for a period of longer than 6 consecutive months, he or she provides police vetting from the police authorities in that state.
- (7) A registered provider shall ensure that all employees, unpaid workers and contractors are appropriately supervised and provided with appropriate information and where necessary training, including in relation to the following:
- (a) the policies, procedures and statements of the service specified in Schedule 5;

Compliance Information:	(2)(a),(b), (c), (d) Following a review of the service files and discussion with the register provider it was confirmed that there was no new member of staff employed in the service since the last inspection. (7) The register provider on the day confirmed to the inspector that the staff received a copy of updated policies and procedures for the service. Evidence of additional training that the staff attended (staff induction and return to work training) was also available for inspection.
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Part III - Management and Staff

Regulation 10 - Policies, Procedures etc. of Pre-school service

A registered provider of a pre-school service shall ensure that the written policies, procedures and statements specified in Schedule 5 are in place for the service.

Compliance Information:	There was documentary evidence available of the recently updated policies, procedures and statements of the pre-school. These were available in hard copy and electronically, the registered provider supplied evidence that each staff member had signed a return to work questionnaire stating that they had attended an online return to work safely induction course before commencing work. Area covered included : • Roster and relief cover, • Infection control policies, • Drop off and collection of children revised. • Detailed Risk Management policy.
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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.
- (3) Subject to paragraph (5), a registered provider of a sessional pre-school service shall ensure that at all times the minimum ratio of adults to children specified in column (3) of Part 2 of Schedule 6 opposite a particular reference number specified in column (1) of that Part in respect of the age range of the children specified in column (2) thereof at that reference number is satisfied.
- (8) Without prejudice to paragraphs (2) to (7)—
- (c) a registered provider of a sessional pre-school service 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.

Compliance Information:

- (1) During the period of inspection there were adequate numbers of adults working with the pre-school children attending the service.
- (3) At 10.15 am on the day of inspection, the following care room/pod system was in operation.
Pod 1 – 1 adults were caring for 7 Pre-school children.
- (8)(c)
The Registered Provider ensured the inspector that they was a second person familiar with the service available and in a position to offer assistance to the person in charge in the event of an emergency.

Part V - Care of Child in Pre-school Service

Regulation 19 - Health, Welfare and Development of Child

- (1) A registered provider shall, in providing a pre-school service, ensure that—
- (a) each child's learning, development and well-being is facilitated within the daily life of the pre-school service through the provision of the appropriate activities, interaction, materials and equipment, having regard to the age and stage of development of the child

Compliance Information:

SUPPORTING RELATIONSHIPS AROUND CHILDREN:

- Children had an opportunity during the day to play outdoors. This was observed on the day of the inspection, the children play in the outdoor area each day prior to going home.
- The adult present was supportive and caring in their approach to the children. Children were listened to and communicated with in an ongoing basis and regularly praised for their efforts, this was observed during the inspection when a child gave out the children's lunch boxes.
- The children were encouraged to be independent as much as possible this was observed when the children washed their hands before lunch and after messy play in the outdoor play area. The children were also encourage to get tissues themselves to wipe their noses and dispose of the tissues after use.

Part V - Care of Child in Pre-school Service

Regulation 19 - Health, Welfare and Development of Child

- The service communicates with the parents and guardians via text messages applications and verbal feedback via telephone.
- Each parent of the children attending the service has signed a copy of the revised Covid 19 Response plan.

PHYSICAL AND MATERIAL ENVIRONMENT

OUTDOOR PLAY AREA

The service uses the play area that is located at the front of the premises.

- The outdoor play area has a selection of areas to explore and use such as slides, Mud kitchen and sand/clay box.
- The registered provider also has a range of toys and equipment that can be used in the outdoor area such as ride on toys, balls etc. These were located in the gazebo shelter that was erected in the play area, ensure that the area could be used in all weather.

INDOOR PLAY AREA

- The playroom was bright and well laid out with a variety of distinct interest areas. Wall spaces were effectively used to display photographs of the children and their families, art works and posters relating to the current curricular plan.
- The following were examples of the play activities and materials provided in the playroom. There were child sized seat and a large selection of picture and story books available for the children to look at. Resources for painting such as paper and paints and arts and crafts were available to the children.
A play house and a well- equipped home corner and a selection of animals, a range of construction blocks and bricks were also available. There was a range of jigsaws and puzzles of varying complexity available to the children.
- All of the play and educational resources were accessible to children on open shelving at their height.
- A selection of the children's family photographs were also on display.

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.

Compliance Information:

GENERAL SAFETY:

- The front entrance door was secured thus prevented children from exiting the premises unsupervised and prohibiting unauthorised persons from entering the service.
- The outdoor play area in the service was securely fenced when in use.
- All storage facilities for waste and for hazardous cleaning materials were inaccessible to the children.

INFECTION CONTROL:

- The registered Provider had completed a self-assessment checklist regarding Covid 19 guidelines to help identify, support the safe reopening of the service during the Covid 19 period.
- There was a supply of thermostatically controlled hot water (not exceeding 43°C) to support effective hand washing practices.
- Posters with picture instructions were on display over the hand washing sinks in the children's sanitary areas.
- Hand sanitiser Gel (with 70 % alcohol) was available in the playroom and also in the outdoor play area.
- Up to date cleaning records were available and were maintained, it detailed all areas and equipment that was cleaned.
- All toys and equipment were cleaned daily.