

TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

Initial Inspection of Proposed New Service

Tusla I.D:	TU2026KK100											
Name of Service:	Johnstown Pre-School for Little Learners											
Address of Service:	Chapel Street, Johnstown, Kilkenny. E41EH32											
Email Address:	angelabrennan01@hotmail.com											
Name of Proposed Registered Provider:	Angela Brennan											
Type of Proposed Service:	Full Day Care	☐	Part-Time	☒	Drop-In	☐	Sessional	☒	Childminding	☐	Temporary	☐
Proposed service type:	Sessional, Part-Time											
Proposed Number of Children:	22 Sessional, 21 Part-Time											
Outcome of the F06 Inspection (e.g., type of service, numbers, age ranges, times,)	Service may be registered to provide a sessional service for a maximum number of 22 pre-school children aged 2 to 6 years and To provide a part-time service for a maximum number of 21 pre-school children aged 2 to 6 years.											
Registered service:	Registered Pre-School Service											
Date of Inspection:	2	4	0	7	2	0	2	6				
Inspection Undertaken by:	Norma Thornton											
Title:	Early Years Inspector											
Tusla Early Years Inspectorate Address:	Early Years Inspectorate, Tusla Child & Family Agency, Athy Road, Carlow.											
Rationale for Inspection												
Proposed New Service												
Note: For Office use only, to be completed by Registration Office												
Registration Status:	Registered Pre-School Service											
Date of Registration:	03.08.2026											

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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).

Description of Service	The proposed pre-school service is in the rural village of Johnstown in north county Kilkenny. The service is proposed to provide a part-time pre-school service between the hours of 08:30 to 13:00 hours with a sessional early childhood care and education (ECCE) curriculum provided between the hours of 09:00 to 12:00 hours.
Premises	The service is proposed to operate from a purpose-built premises comprised of one large classroom, a designated sensory/ sleep room, kitchen, a staff toilet, two children's toilets and a nappy changing area. A secure outdoor play area is located onsite which can be directly accessed from the classroom via an outdoor classroom which is also provided in the service.
Staffing	It is proposed that at full capacity there will be three qualified staff members employed in the service whose qualifications range from Level 5 to Level 8 on the national Quality and Qualifications Ireland (QQI) framework. The registered provider has one other pre-school service in the nearby town of Urlingford and will share her time between both services.
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 four 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 deciding in relation to the registering application. 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.
Acknowledgement	The Inspector wishes to acknowledge the cooperation of the proposed registered provider who were present on the day of the inspection.

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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 requirements of this regulation have been met. There is a designated person in charge and a named deputy designated person who is able to deputise as required.

Summary Comment:

The requirements of this regulation have been met.

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 requirements of this regulation have been met.
The registered provider states that there will always be an adequate number of qualified adults working directly with the children attending the pre-school service. It is proposed that there will be at least three staff members working directly with the children attending the service when at full capacity.

Summary Comment:

The requirements of this regulation have been met.

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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:

The requirements of this regulation have been met.

(1)(a)(b) A spacious classroom planned with interest areas and associated play materials and resources is provided for the children along with a smaller sensory room which can be converted into an appropriate sleeping environment with stackable beds and appropriate bed linen for children aged two years plus when required.

A secure outdoor play area can be directly accessed via an outdoor classroom room leading of the main classroom.

Summary Comment:

The requirements of this regulation have been met.

Part V – Care of Children in Pre-School Services

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 requirements of this regulation have been met. A healthy eating policy is in place in the service which will be communicated to all parents of children upon registration with the service. A refrigerator is provided in the kitchen area for the safe storage of children's perishable lunch items and additional food resources provided by the service in the event of a child arriving to the service without a lunch.

Clear information is provided for parents on the food requirements for a child attending the sessional service and part-time service.

Summary Comment:

The requirements of this regulation have been met.

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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:

General Safety

The requirements of this regulation have been met.

The service is secured at the main entrance with a keypad system for staff employed in the service and a call bell system for parents of the children attending the service. A reception counter just inside the main entrance also helps to ensure that no unauthorised person can enter the premises and to reduce the risk of any child leaving the service unsupervised.

A high six-foot block wall with an additional three feet of wire fencing on top ensured that the outdoor play area is secure.

Infection Control

In the sanitary facilities provided an adequate number of liquid soap dispensers and paper hand towel dispensers are provided.

There is a designated storage area for cleaning materials and equipment in the service which is inaccessible to the children.

Safe Sleep

Three stackable beds are available with appropriate fitted sheets and cellular blankets for any children who may wish to nap while attending the part-time service.

A safe sleep policy is available in the service, and an appropriate sleeping environment is provided in the sensory / sleep room away from the main classroom and directly opposite the office.

Summary Comment:

The requirements of this regulation have been met.

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:

(1) The requirements of this regulation have been met. There will be at least two staff members in the service with first aid responder (FAR) training accreditations, while the pre-school children attend the service.

(2)(a)(b) A designated first aid cabinet is always located on a wall in the classroom and available for use.

Summary Comment:

The requirements of this regulation have been met.

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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 requirements of this regulation have been met.

(1)(a)(b) The registered provider demonstrated to the inspector the fore records that will be maintained for fire drills and maintenance records in the service. The inspector observed that records were available demonstrating that the fire alarm system had been recorded as having been serviced on 20 April 2026 and the firefighting equipment was recorded as having been serviced in November 2025.

(4) A notice of the procedure to follow in the event of a fire was displayed on the main entrance hall and an assembly point was clearly signposted in the car park at the front of the premises.

Summary Comment:

The requirements of this regulation have been met.

Part VI - Safety

Regulation 28 – Insurance

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

Requirement met:

The requirements of this regulation have been met

The registered provider provided the inspector with evidence that the proposed service was adequately insured for the period 16 July 2026 to 27 March 2027.

Summary Comment:

The requirements of this regulation have been met.

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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 requirements of this regulation have been met

The registered provider assured the inspector that the service was of sound and stable structure, was safe and secured at the main entrance and side entrance gate to the outdoor play area. Natural lighting was provided in all areas and in the main classroom with four large windows. Artificial lighting was available to supplement the natural light in the premises.

The registered provider ensured that the service was tidy, well maintained and equipped with suitable sanitary facilities for both staff and children.

Summary Comment:

The requirements of this regulation have been met

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) 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 requirements of this regulation have been met.

(1) There was a clear floor space of 49.6 square metres provided in the main classroom.

(3)(a)(b) There was adequate clear floor space provided in the classroom for 22 children to attend a sessional service and 21 children to attend a part-time service in the classroom.

Summary Comment:

The requirements of this regulation have been met.