

TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances

Tusla I.D:	TU2015DL133							
Name of Service	St. Oran's Community Pre-school							
Address of Service:	St. Oran's N.S., Cockhill, Buncrana, Donegal. F93 YD52							
Email Address:	storanspreschool@yahoo.ie							
Name of Registered Provider:	Leah Cheesman							
Type of Proposed Service:	Full Day Care	☒	Part-Time	☐	Sessional	☐		
	Drop-In	☐	Childminding	☐	Temporary	☐		
Proposed change:	Change in service type: from part-time & sessional to full day. Change in hours of operation: from 09:30 - 14:30 pm to 08:00 to 18:00.							
Proposed Number of Children:	30							
Recommended Change Following Inspection:	Change in service type: from part-time & sessional to full day. Change in hours of operation; from 09:30 - 14:30 to 08:00 to 18:00.							
Registered change:	Change in service type: from part-time & sessional to full day. Change in hours of operation; from 09:30 - 14:30 to 08:00 to 18:00.							
Date of Inspection:	1	1	0	8	2	0	2	6
Inspection undertaken by:	S Mc Kenna							
Title:	Early Years Inspector							
Tusla Early Years Inspectorate Address:	Early Years Inspectorate, Hampton Court, Drumalee, Cootehill Road, Co Cavan. H12 YY84							
Rationale for Inspection:								
Proposed Change of Circumstance								

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

Registration Status:	Registered Full Day Care Service for 30 Children
Date of Registration	19 August 2026

TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances

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	St. Orans Community Preschool is a not-for-profit early years' service operating from the grounds of the local primary school in the townland of Cockhill outside Buncrana, Co. Donegal. The service caters for 30 children aged 2 to 6 years and currently operates on a part-time basis. The service proposes to operate a full day care service.
Premises	The premises consist of two interconnecting rooms on the first floor of a building to the rear of the primary school with access either from the outdoor play area or from the main entrance of the school. The two playrooms consist of the front main room with adjacent sanitary facilities and the back small room with adjacent sanitary facilities. Children have access to two outdoor areas.
Staffing	There are five staff employed by the service to work directly with children. The registered provider does not work in the service daily.
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 who was present on the day of the inspection.

TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances

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 has been met.

The service has a designated person in charge who is the service manager, and a named person to deputise in their absence.

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.

(2) Subject to paragraphs (4) and (5), a registered provider of a full day care service or a part-time day care service shall ensure that at all times the minimum ratio of adults to children specified in column (3) of Part 1 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

Requirement met:

The requirement has been met.

(1) The person in charge provided a roster which demonstrated that four staff will work daily in the preschool, and one additional adult will provide relief cover.

(2) The registered provider is aware of the requirements of this regulation in relation to adult: child ratios.

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.

(3) A registered provider of a full day care service, a part-time day care service or a childminding service, other than such a service to which paragraph (2) applies, shall ensure that—

(a) a suitable, safe and secure outdoor space to which the pre-school children attending the service have access on a daily basis is provided on the premises or

TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances

(b) where no such space is provided, the preschool children attending the service have access on a daily basis to an outdoor service

Requirement met:	The requirements of this regulation have been met. (1) (a) Adequate and suitable facilities have been provided for the children to play indoors during the day. A range of play materials, play equipment and toys, along with designated interest areas, are available in the preschool. (b) Adequate and suitable facilities are provided for the children to rest and sleep. Two sleep mats are provided for children aged over 2 years to sleep if required. Individual bed linen is supplied by the service. There is a cosy area available, which is a wooden arch structure with soft matting and cushions. (3) There are two outdoor areas designated on the school grounds for the use of the preschool service. One area is a large tarmac surface for use with ride-on toys, and the second area has a tarmac ground surface and soft fall surfacing, and part of this area is covered, allowing for use during inclement weather conditions.
-------------------------	---

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 has been met. The service will provide breakfast up until 9 am, and afternoon snacks at 3 pm to the children in attendance. The children's parents will send in the morning snack that their children will have at 10.30 am, and they will order a weekly hot meal option for their children from a local catering company, who bring the meals on site fresh daily, which is served at 12.45 pm. The children will have access to potable drinking water. A fridge is available in the preschool room for the storage of perishable food items. A one-week menu was available for review, which demonstrated a variety of hot meal options that were adequate, suitable and nutritious for children. The person in charge advised the inspector that additional food items are available, should a child have insufficient amounts for their age and the time spent in the service on a particular day.
-------------------------	---

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 has been met.

- The main entrance door into the preschool room is secured by a high-level handle and thumb lock. This prevents children from exiting the service unsupervised and restricts unauthorised access.
- The emergency exit doors were unobstructed throughout the inspection.
- Windows on the first floor have been fitted with restricting devices.
- Staircase and handrails were maintained in good condition.
- There is provision for the appropriate disposal and storage of waste, including the provision of foot pedal-operated bins throughout the service.
- Individual single-use paper towels are provided for handwashing purposes.
- Cleaning schedules were available for the service. Cleaning materials were stored on high-level shelves.
- Risk assessment records were in place.
- Pest control contracts are in place, most recently carried out in November 2025.
- The designated fire assembly point, confirmed by the person in charge, is located in the large tarmac outdoor area.

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) The registered provider has ensured that a person trained in First Aid Responder (FAR) training will be on the premises. The person in charge and deputy person in charge hold up-to-date FAR training.

TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances

(2) (a) (b) An adequately stocked first aid cupboard is provided in the preschool room, available to the children at all times.

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 has been met.

(1) (a) The registered provider demonstrated that a template to record fire drills is available, and that fire drills will be conducted monthly.

(b) There is a record available relating to the number and type of firefighting equipment. The most recent servicing of the firefighting equipment was carried out in June 2026, and the fire detection and alarm system was carried out in November 2025.

(4) The procedures to be followed in the event of a fire were displayed throughout the preschool.

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.

Insurance is in place for up to 30 preschool children in attendance on a Full Day Care basis and expires on 27 March 2027.

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

TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances

e. *equipped with adequate and suitable sanitary facilities.*

Requirement met:	The requirement has been met. (a) The person in charge confirmed that she had no knowledge of any structural defects. (b) The service is adequately secured to prevent children exiting unsupervised and unauthorised persons gaining entry. (c) The service is adequately lit and heated. The lighting is provided by a mixture of natural light leading from windows, which were supplemented with fluorescent ceiling lights, which were fitted with protective covers. The service is heated by gas heating. The care rooms were maintained between a temperature of 18-22°C. The care rooms and sanitary areas were ventilated by openable windows. (d) Cleaning schedules were available and in place, and the premises were maintained in a clean condition. On the day of inspection, the service was being painted in preparation for the new preschool year. (e) The children's sanitary facilities in the service were equipped with a total of 3 toilets and 3 wash hand basins. A nappy changing unit is available if required. Thermostatically controlled warm water to a maximum of 33°.6C, and cold running water is available in all of the hand-washing sinks. There is one toilet available for the adults, located downstairs from the preschool room.
-------------------------	--

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.*

Requirement met:	The requirement has been met. (1) Adequate clear floor space has been provided for the work, play and movement of children within the preschool rooms.
-------------------------	--

TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances

(2) The following clear floor space is available

- The front main room is 69m².
- The back small room is 15.4m².