Pre-Registration Inspection Report for Change in Registration

Change Details

Proposed Change(s):	**Change in number of Children that can be accommodated in the service from 70 to 100**
EYI Recommended Change(s) following inspection:	**100 Preschool Children to be accommodated in the facility**

Registration Decision

Approved Registered Change(s):	Change in number of children that can be accommodated from 70 to 100 Change in number of staff from 16 to 19
Date of Registered Change(s):	**25th September 2026**

Service Details following Registration Decision

TU Number:	TU2015LK059
Name of Service:	Day Dreams Creche
Name of Registered Provider:	Lynn Shanahan
Address of Service:	Lissanalta, Dooradoyle, Limerick, V94 H5P8
Service Type(s):	Full Day Care, Part Time, Sessional
Maximum number of children to attend at any one time:	100
Age range of children to attend the service:	1 - 6 Years
Hours of operation:	07:15 – 18:00

Inspection Details

Date of Inspection:	23/09/2026
Name of Early Years Inspector:	Marie Riordan

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Pre-registration Inspection Process

Tusla's Early Years Inspectorate may complete a Pre-Registration Inspection of a proposed change of registration details of a pre-school services. This is undertaken before a change in the service's registration details can be registered. The purpose is to assess whether the service is a safe and suitable setting for children and to ensure that the number of children the service wants to care for can be safely accommodated. The inspection is arranged with the registered provider in advance. The inspector will assess the service against the pre-school regulations.

There are two possible outcomes following the pre-registration inspection:

- **Requirements Met**: The service may be registered without any further actions needed by the registered provider.
- **Requirements Not Met:** The inspector has identified regulatory requirements which have not been met. The registered provider has an opportunity to submit to the inspector what actions they have taken / are taking to address them in advance of the finalisation of the report and the registration decision.

Once the Pre-Registration Inspection process is complete, the report will be finalised and a registration decision will be made and communicated to the registered provider.

Description of Service
Day Dreams Creche operates from a single-story, purpose-built premises in an urban area on the outskirts of Limerick city. It is a privately owned, full day care facility. It caters for children from 1 to 6 years of age. It is opened from 7.15 am to 6.00 pm, Monday to Friday. A service for school aged children is offered each afternoon. The premises has 8 preschool rooms with a large outdoor play area to the rear and side of the facility. The Wobbler room measuring 35.017 metres square accommodates children between the ages of 1 and 2 years and can accommodate 5 preschool children. The Toddler room measuring 51.24 metres square accommodates children between the ages of 2 and 3 years and can accommodate 18 preschool children. The Pre- Preschool room measuring 46.67 metres square accommodates children between the ages of 3 and 4 years and can accommodate 16 preschool children. The Preschool room measuring 40.35 metres square accommodates children between the ages of 3 and 4 years and can accommodate 16 preschool children. The Montessori room measuring 40.32 metres square accommodates children between the ages of 3 and 5 years and can accommodate 16 preschool children.

The Sessional room 1 measuring 27.12 metres square accommodates children between the ages of 3 and 5 years and can accommodate 11 preschool children.

The Sessional room 2 measuring 26.77 metres square accommodates children between the ages of 3 and 5 years and can accommodate 11 preschool children.

The Prefab measuring 40.96 metres square accommodates children between the ages of 3 and 5 years and can accommodate 7 preschool children.

Adequate sanitary accommodation and nappy changing facilities are provided for all staff and children using the service.

Adequate sleep facilities and rest spaces are provided for all children attending the service. Low level beds are used by the Wobblers and stackable beds are provided for rest for all children over 2 years who require a rest.

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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.

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. *(8) Without prejudice to paragraphs (2) to (7)—* *(a) a registered provider of a pre-school service other than a child-minding service or a sessional pre-school service shall ensure that there are at least 2 adults on the premises at all times,* *(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.*
Requirement met
The requirements of this regulation have been met.

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* *(b) where no such space is provided, the pre-school children attending the service have access on a daily basis to a suitable outdoor space.*
Requirement met
The requirements of this regulation have been met.

Regulation 21- Equipment and materials
A registered provider shall ensure that there is adequate and suitable furniture, play and work equipment and materials available on the premises of the pre-school service.
Requirement met
The requirements of this regulation have been met.

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.

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 requirements of this regulation have been met.

Regulation 24- Checking in and out and record of attendance
(1) A registered provider shall ensure that each pre-school child attending the service is checked in and out of the service by an employee or an unpaid worker. *(2) Where there are more than 15 children attending a pre-school service in a drop-in centre, the registered provider shall ensure that one employee or unpaid worker is assigned responsibility for the checking in and out of children.*
Requirement met
The requirements of this regulation have been met.

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 requirements of this regulation have been met.

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 firefighting 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.

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.

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.* *(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.* *(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).* *(5) A registered provider of a temporary pre-school service shall ensure that a minimum of 2 square metres of clear floor space is available for each child attending the service.* *(6) Subject to paragraph (7), a registered provider of a sessional pre-school service shall ensure that there are no more than 22 children in a room in the service at any time.* *(7) Paragraph (6) shall not apply 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.*
Requirement met
The requirements of this regulation have been met.

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 making a decision 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.