

TUSLA PRE- REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances



Tusla I.D:	TU2015MH135							
Name of Service	Mornington Preschool The Old Redbrick							
Address of Service:	The Old Schoolhouse, Donacarney, Co Meath, A92 R927							
Email Address:	fineganh@gmail.com							
Name of Registered Provider:	Helena Finegan							
Type of Proposed Service:	Full Day Care	☐	Part-Time	☐	Sessional	☒		
	Drop-In	☐	Childminding	☐	Temporary	☐		
Proposed change:	Change of Address from Realt Na Mara BNS, Donacarney, Mornington, Meath, A92 WC52 to Old Schoolhouse, Donacarney, Meath, A92 R927							
Proposed Number of Children:	33							
Recommended Change Following Inspection:	Old Schoolhouse, Donacarney, Meath, A92 R927							
Registered change:	Change of Address from Realt Na Mara BNS, Donacarney, Mornington, Meath, A92 WC52 to Old Schoolhouse, Donacarney, Meath, A92 R927							
Date of Inspection:	2	4	0	8	2	0	2	6
Inspection undertaken by:	AM Cunningham							
Title:	Early Years Inspector							
Tusla Early Years Inspectorate Address:	Tusla Early Years Inspectorate, Meath Child & Parent Support Hub, Commons Road, Navan, Co Meath							
Rationale for Inspection:								
Proposed Change of Circumstance								
Note: For Office use only, to be completed by Registration Office								
Registration Status:	Registered Sessional Service for 33 Children							
Date of Registration	31 August 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	Mornington Preschool The Old Redbrick operates as a sessional service located in the community centre. The service operates between 09.00am to 12md each weekday and service caters for maximum number of 33 children aged between 2 years and 6 years.
Premises	The preschool is located in an urban setting in Mornington. The service will consist of two care rooms, namely the Big Room and the Orange room. An outdoor area will be available to the back of the service.
Staffing	There will be five staff members in the service which will include the registered provider and an AIM support staff member.
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 registered provider and staff member 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:

(1)(a) The requirement has been met. The service has a designated person in charge and a named deputy.

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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.

Requirement met:

(1) The requirement has been met.

The registered provider states

- In the **Orange Room** 1 staff member will be working directly with the 10 pre-school children aged between 2 years 8 months and 3 years 6 months.
- In the **Big Room** 2 staff members and 1 AIM support staff will be working directly with the 20 preschool children aged between 3 years and 5 years.

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—

- 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*
- 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:

(1)(a) The service is well resourced with play materials and equipment. For example, the care rooms are set up with messy play areas, art area, home corner, construction and library areas.

(b) A rest area is equipped with comfortable soft couches and cushions in both pre-school rooms to enable children to take a break from activities and rest if required.

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:

Parents will supply the children's lunches, and a fridge is provided for their storage.

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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:

Infection Control Measures

- The indoor environmental hygiene in the pre-school was well maintained. Cleaning records were available identifying all areas within the pre-school and dates for cleaning.
- Thermostatically controlled running water was available at the wash hand basins in the children's sanitary accommodation.

General Safety

- External doors can be secured to prevent children from exiting unsupervised and to restrict unauthorised persons from gaining access to the pre-school children.
- Bins are secured in an area inaccessible to pre-school children.
- Play materials and equipment are stored on stable based storage units, positioned at levels accessible to the pre-school children.
- All emergency doors were unobstructed.

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 ensures that a staff member trained in first aid is available to children at all times.

(2) A first aid box is available and accessible in the pre-school rooms.

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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:	(1)(a) A record of fire drills for the premises was available. (b) A maintenance certificate for the fire extinguisher was available. The fire extinguishers maintenance certificate was dated February 2026 and the smoke alarms maintenance certificate August 2026. (4) A notice to be followed in the event of a fire was available in the pre-school rooms.
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Part VI – Safety

Regulation 28 – Insurance

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

Requirement met:	An insurance certificate was available for 33 children dated with an expiry of 27 th March 2027.
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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 requirement has been met. (a)The service is operating from a premises which appears to be structurally sound. (b)The service is safe and secure with a locked entrance. The outdoor area is fenced, gated and secured. (c) Lighting is provided by means of natural light and supplemented with covered fluorescent lights in the care rooms. There is fluorescent lighting in the sanitary area. The room temperature in the care room is adequate and comfortable. Heating is by means of gas supply. The care rooms and sanitary accommodation toilets for children and staff are adequately ventilated. (d) The premises, toys and equipment are in a clean condition and in good repair. Cleaning schedules are available.
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(e) Adequate and suitable sanitary accommodation is provided i.e. There are 3 toilets and 3 wash hand basins in the hallway outside the preschool rooms. One staff toilet available within the service. The sanitary area has a continuous supply of thermostatically controlled running water, a supply of liquid soap and paper towels.

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.

Requirement met:

(1) Adequate space is available for the children attending.
Orange Room: There is a floor space of 20.9m² which is adequate to accommodate 11 pre-school children attending a sessional service.
Big Room: There is a floor space of 45m² which is adequate to accommodate 22 pre-school children attending a sessional service.