

TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances



Tusla I.D.: TU2015OY052

Name of Service M and A's Montessori

Address of Service: Unit 28 Axis Business Park, Clara Road, Tullamore, Co. Offaly, R35 R642

Email Address: sharon@montessorimusic.ie

Name of Registered Provider: Sharon Moyles

Type of Proposed Service:	Full Day Care	ü	Part-Time	ü	Sessional	ü
	Drop-In		Childminding		Temporary	

Proposed change:	Increase the number of children from 63 to 118 in a newly built extension. Change in number of staff members from 21 to 23.
Proposed Number of Children:	118
Recommended Change Following Inspection:	118 children
Registered change:	Change in number of children from 63 to 118 children Change in number of staff from 21 to 23 staff

Date of Inspection: 0 8 0 7 2 0 2 6

Inspection undertaken by: C. O' Connor Hughes
Title: Early Years Inspector

Tusla Early Years Inspectorate Address: Tusla, Child and Family Agency, Primary Care Unit, St. Loman's Campus, Delvin Road, Mullingar, Co. Westmeath

Rationale for Inspection:
Proposed Change of Circumstance

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

Registration Status:	Registered Full Day, Part-time & Sessional Service for 118 Children
Date of Registration	20 July 2026



Child and Family Agency Act 2013
 Child Care Act 1991 (Early Years Services) Regulations 2016

Version 05
 Implemented- Aug 2022
 EYI-IR12.23 F07 FFP (CIC)

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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	This service is seeking registration for the purpose of increasing the number of children attending the service on a full day care, part time and sessional basis. The proposed increase is from sixty-three children to one hundred and eighteen children. The service will operate from 08:00 to 18:00 on a Monday to Friday basis.
Premises	The Early Years' Service is located on the ground floor of a two-storey adapted commercial premises. Four pre-school rooms namely the Garden room, the Woodland room, the Ocean room and the Farm room. A sleep room, a dance room, a kitchen and general-purpose room are provided on the ground floor. An office, staff room and additional facilities are provided on the first floor. The change in circumstance incorporates a new extension that provides two new pre-school rooms namely the Sunshine room and the Courtyard room and an extended Farm room. An outdoor play area is attached to the rear and front of the premises. A newly developed outdoor play area is located between the Sunshine and Courtyard rooms. Onsite parking and set down facilities are available. The service is urban in its location in a business park on the outskirts of the town of Tullamore, Co. Offaly.
Staffing	The service will be staffed by the registered provider and twenty-one adults qualified in Early Childhood Care and Education on the National Framework of Qualifications.
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, staff and children 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 requirement has been met.

The early years' service has a named designated person in charge with another named staff member who can deputise as required.

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 requirement has been met.

An adequate number of adults will work directly with the children. The service can accommodate one hundred and eighteen children on a full day care, part time and sessional basis with twenty-one adults working directly with the children at all times. The registered provider stated some current staff members will have their working hours increased to ensure the adult; child ratio is met at all times.

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

Requirement met:

The requirement has been met.

(1)(a)

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	Suitable and adequate play materials and work equipment are provided for children both indoors and outdoors which incorporate creative, manipulative, imaginative and sensory play. Interest areas include home areas, construction areas, rest areas with books, dress up and village shop. (b) Suitable and adequate rest facilities are available in the pre-school rooms in the new extension. Twelve low level beds are available for children to sleep and rest. (3)(a) A newly developed outdoor play area is attached to the rear of the service which can be accessed directly from the Sunshine, Courtyard and Farm pre-school rooms. The outdoor play area is safe and secure surrounded with high level fencing to the side of the outdoor play area. The outdoor play area consists of an artificial grass surface with greenery and plants and equipped with age and stage appropriate play equipment and materials. Interest areas included water play, M and A's food market, nature table, a flower kitchen, art easel, make and do experience and a rest area.
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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 provides the meals and snacks for the children attending on a full day care basis. An outside catering company provides the main meal of the day on a Monday to Friday basis. Parents and guardians will provide a morning snack for children attending the service on a sessional basis. Refrigerators are available for the storage of perishable goods in the pre-school rooms.
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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:

The requirement has been met.

The emergency exit doors are unobstructed in the new extension.
Visibility strips are in place on low level patio doors in the new extension.
A designated fire assembly point is located to the rear of the premises.
Child safety locks are in place on all cupboards in the pre-school rooms in the new extension.
The kitchen is secure and not accessible to children.
Medication is stored out of reach of children.

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)
Eight adults qualified in First Aid for children (FAR) are available for the duration of the operational hours in the service.
- (2)(a)(b)
Wall mounted first aid boxes are available in the pre-school rooms.
Three stocked first aid boxes are also available in the service.

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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 requirement has been met.

(1)(a)

A fire register was available for monthly fire drills to be conducted in the service.

(b)

A fire detection system was noted in the entrance of the service. The fire alarm maintenance certificate and firefighting equipment maintenance certificate were available and dated April 2026.

(4)

A notice of the procedure to be following in the event of a fire was displayed in a conspicuous position in the premises.

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.

An insurance quotation was submitted to the registration team prior to this inspection. The registered provider must ensure that adequate insurance is in place prior to the commencement of the change. The change approval is contingent on the registered providers compliance with Regulation 28.

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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 premises is an adapted two-storey commercial premises with a newly built extension attached to the side of the building and visually appears to be of sound and stable structure.

(b)

A doorbell and intercom system was noted at the front door of the service for parents and visitor's access and to prevent unauthorised access to the service.

(c)

Openable windows provide both natural light and ventilation in the pre-school rooms. The light fittings were located in the ceiling covered and fully operational to provide adequate artificial light to the rooms and sanitary accommodation. Thermostatically controlled heaters are in place in the new extension. Records indicated that the heaters were serviced on 20 May 2026. Carbon monoxide alarms are in place.

The premises is serviced by the public drainage system and the public water supply.

(d)

The floors and the walls were newly painted and in good repair with wooden floor covering in the pre-school rooms. The premises was visually clean, and cleaning records were displayed for use. A contractor for the collection of refuse bins has been engaged by the service to collect refuse from the premises on a scheduled basis. A pest control system is in place for the service. The record reviewed was dated 20 May 2026.

(e)

Suitable sanitary accommodation consisting of six water closets and six wash hand basins are available for children's use. Sinks were noted in each of the pre-school rooms in the new extension. Five water closets and five wash hand basins are available in the main premises.

The temperature of the water recorded at the wash hand basins was 37.8 to 40.3 degrees Celsius.

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A nappy changing area in the sanitary accommodation is located off the Sunshine pre-school room. A second nappy changing area is located in the sanitary accommodation in the main building.

The sanitary accommodation was ventilated by means of natural and mechanical ventilation. Two new separate staff toilets are available. A third staff toilet is located in the main building.

The sanitary accommodation was stocked with a sufficient supply of liquid soap and paper hand towel in wall mounted dispensers.

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.*
- (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).

Requirement met:

The requirement was met.

(1)
Sufficient space was available to accommodate the proposed number of children in the new extension. Refer to table below.

Room 1 Sunshine Room	Room 2 Courtyard Room	Room 3 Farm room Extension
46m2	45m2	23m2
Breakout/ Rest room 21m2		
Number of proposed children	Number of proposed children	Number of proposed children
22 2 years and 8 months to 6 years sessional	22 2 years and 8 months to 6 years sessional	

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	or 19 2-3 yrs PT/FDC or 20 3-6 yrs PT/FDC	or 19 2-3 yrs PT/FDC or 19 3-6 yrs PT/FDC	11 2 years and 8 months to 6 years sessional or 9 2-3 yrs PT/FDC or 9 3-6 yrs PT/FDC
	(2) The minimum amount of clear floor space is available for proposed number of children in the new extension measuring 114m². (4) A minimum of 1.818 square metres for each of the 55 proposed children attending on a sessional basis is available in the new extension of the service.		