Childminding
Pre-Registration Assessment Report

Application Details

Name of Proposed Childminder:	Aisling Balen
Name of Proposed Childminding Service (if any):	Aisling Balen Childminding
Address of Proposed Service:	53 Deravarra, Delvin Road, Mullingar, Westmeath, N91W4C2

Registration Decision

Registration Decision:	Service Registered
Date of Registration Decision:	26/09/2025
Maximum number of children registered to attend at any one time:	6
Age Range of Children:	0 to 14 years
TUSLA number (if registered):	TU202500140CM

Assessment Details

Date of pre-registration assessment:	24/09/2025
Name of Early Years Inspector:	Fiona Carty

Pre-registration assessment process

Tusla's Early Years Inspectorate complete a Pre-Registration Assessment of all childminding services in the childminder's home, as part of the registration process. This is undertaken before the service can be registered. The purpose is to assess whether the home is a safe and suitable setting for children and to ensure that the number of children the childminder wants to care for can be safely accommodated. The assessment visit is arranged with the childminder in advance. The inspector will assess the service against the childminding regulations.

There are three possible outcomes following the pre-registration assessment:

- **Requirements Met:** The service may be registered without any further actions needed by the childminder.
- **Requirements Met with Actions Identified:** The service may be registered however the inspector has identified some areas for improvement, which do not pose an immediate risk to children, that the childminder must address. These areas will be clearly explained and may be reviewed when the service is next inspected.
- **Requirements Not Met:** The inspector has identified regulatory requirements which have not been met. The childminder 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 Assessment process is complete, the report will be finalised and a registration decision will be made and communicated to the childminder.

Registration of a childminding service – Regulation 5 (2)

Purpose:

The childminder has the Childminding Service Handbook available, including a completed, signed and dated Child Safeguarding Statement.

The requirements of this regulation have been met.

Number of children attending - Regulation 12 (1) (3) (4)

Purpose:

The childminder is caring for an appropriate number of children in their home, so that the needs of each child attending can be met.

The requirements of this regulation have been met.

Maximum Numbers of Children - Regulation 12 (2)

Purpose:

The childminder is caring for an appropriate number of children in their home, so that the needs of each child attending can be safely met. This takes into consideration a number of factors such as: the space available indoors and outdoors, the suitability of the home environment and other factors that may impact meeting the needs of the children.

The requirements of this regulation have been met.

The Home Setting - Regulation 13 (1)(a)

Purpose:

The childminder's home is safe for all children attending. The childminder ensures that external doors, gates and boundary fences are safe and secure. The childminder ensures that the rooms/ areas that children will have access to in the home and in the outdoors are free from hazards, and any risks are managed. The childminder regularly checks the home environment to ensure it is safe.

The requirements of this regulation have been met.

The Home Setting - Regulation 13 (1)(b)

Purpose:

The home is suitable for children's needs for warmth, fresh air and light, and suitable for the time of day and the season of the year.

The requirements of this regulation have been met.

The Home Setting - Regulation 13 (1)(c)

Purpose:

The rooms/areas in which children are cared for are cleaned regularly and fixtures, fittings and furniture are well maintained and in good condition.

The requirements of this regulation have been met.

The Home Setting - Regulation 13 (1)(d)

Purpose:

Children attending have access to a clean and working toilet and hand-washing facilities, suitable for their age and stage of development.

The requirements of this regulation have been met.

The Home Setting - Regulation 13 (2)

Purpose:

Each child attending has easy access to age and developmentally suitable toys and materials that are in good condition which support their play and development.

The requirements of this regulation have been met.

The Home Setting - Regulation 13 (3)

Purpose:

Each child attending has daily access to a safe and suitable outdoor space.

The requirements of this regulation have been met.

The Home Setting - Regulation 13 (4)

Purpose:

Each child has access to a safe, comfortable and suitable place for sleep and rest during the day, so their sleep and rest requirements can be met.

The requirements of this regulation have been met.

The Home Setting - Regulation 13 (5)

Purpose:

The childminder has a fully and suitably stocked first aid box that is easily accessible in the event of an accident or incident that requires first aid.

The requirements of this regulation have been met.

Food and Drink - Regulation 17

Purpose:

Provision for food and drink is in place to ensure that each child attending is served varied, nutritious food that is suitable for their age and stage of development and caters for the length of time they attend the service. Each child has access to water and other healthy drinks throughout the day. Food provision takes account of children's individual requirements, preferences, allergies and cultural considerations.

The requirements of this regulation have been met.

Record of the child - Regulation 19 (1)

Purpose:

The childminder keeps written records relating to each child in their care. The records contain appropriate information about the child and their parents/ guardians and ensures the childminder has documented all information relevant for the provision of care to the child. This includes personal information, contact details, health information, relevant parental consents.

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) Childminding Regulations 2024.

The inspection focused on the safety and suitability of the home by assessing regulations relating to the registration of a childminding service, numbers of children to be cared for, the home setting, food & drink and the children's records.

The findings on inspection are based on:

- direct observation
- discussion with the childminder
- examination of documentation where necessary.

The findings from this inspection were taken into consideration when making the final decision to register the childminder with Tusla.