

TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

Initial Inspection of Proposed New Service

Tusla I.D: TU2026CC100

Name of Service: Park Preschool

Address of Service: Park National School, Youghal, Co Cork P36 CK76

Email Address: alison.preschool@outlook.ie

Name of Proposed Registered Provider: Alison Curtin

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

Proposed service type:	Sessional
Proposed Number of Children:	11
Outcome of the F06 Inspection (e.g., type of service, numbers, age ranges, times,)	Sessional service for 11 children, aged 2 to 6 years. Hours of operation from 9.15am to 12.15pm.
Registered service:	Pre-School Service Registered

Date of Inspection: 1 7 0 7 2 0 2 6

Inspection Undertaken by: D Prendergast

Title: Early Years Inspector

Tusla Early Years Inspectorate Address: Early Years Inspectorate, Administration Building, St Mary's Health Campus, Gurrabraher, Cork T23 X440.

Rationale for Inspection

Proposed New Service

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

Registration Status: Pre-School Service Registered

Date of Registration: 06.08.2026

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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	Park Preschool proposes to offer a sessional service, for children aged 2 to 6 years. This will include children attending the Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) Scheme. Proposed daily opening hours are from 9.15am to 12.15pm, each Monday to Friday, over 38 weeks of the year.
Premises	The proposed early years service is located on the grounds of Park National School, in Youghal, Co Cork. It consists of one care room, with adjacent sanitary facilities and an entrance area. An enclosed outdoor play area is directly accessible from the care room.
Staffing	Three staff are proposed for the setting. This includes the proposed registered provider, who will not be service based.
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.
Acknowledgement	The inspector wishes to acknowledge the cooperation of the proposed registered provider, who was 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.

(1)

(a) A person in charge and a deputy have been assigned to the proposed service. This information is displayed in writing.

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.

(1) The correct adult to child ratio is proposed to be ensured; there will be 2 staff working directly with up to 11 children, aged 2 to 6 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—

(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.

(2) A registered provider—

(a) of a full day care service, a part-time day care service, a sessional preschool service or a childminding service that is registered for the first time on or after 30 June 2016, shall ensure that a suitable, safe and secure outdoor space to which the preschool children attending the service have access on a daily basis is provided on the premises.

Requirement met:

The requirement has been met.

(1)

(a)

- The care room is equipped with developmentally appropriate play and learning materials, which are visible and accessible at child level.
- The play resources include wooden kitchen units, with play food and utensils, construction toys, jigsaws, threading materials and art and craft supplies.
- Child-sized tables and chairs are available for the children's use.

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	The outdoor play space offers a variety of equipment, which promotes exploration, active movement and gross motor development. Interest items include a mud kitchen, a double sided art easel, wall mounted blackboards, a balance beam, ride on toys and seesaws. (b) A rest area is provided for any child that may require quiet time or space to relax during the day. This consists of wooden seating with cushions and adjacent bookshelves. (2) (a) The children have direct access to a suitable, safe and secure outdoor play environment from the care room.
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Part V – Care of Children in Pre-School Services	
Regulation 22 – Food and Drink	
<i>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.</i>	
Requirement met:	The requirement has been met. - The proposed registered provider has advised that a copy of the healthy eating policy will be shared with the children’s parents, who will be supplying the children’s snacks. - Drinking water will be accessible to children both during and outside of mealtimes. - There is a refrigerator in place for storing perishable foods. - Alternative meal options will be available and offered to children, as needed. - Appropriate crockery and cutlery will be provided at mealtimes.

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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.

General safety:

- Suitable safety clips are in place to secure blind cords.
- Restrictive opening devices are fitted to the low-level cupboards, where staff belongings and cleaning agents will be stored.
- There are no trailing cables or flexes within the children's reach.
- The storage cupboard is appropriately secured to prevent access by children.
- All of the recorded warm water temperatures are below 43°C.

Infection control:

- Handwashing facilities include warm running water, liquid soap and paper towel dispensers.
- A foot pedal operated bin is available for the hygienic disposal of used paper towels.
- Individual wall hooks have been installed, to store the children's coats and bags.

Fire safety:

- Fire exit routes are unobstructed.
- Wall mounted storage is in place for firefighting equipment.

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) An up to date First Aid Response (FAR) certificate is on file for one staff member. The proposed registered provider is aware that a FAR trained adult must be available to the children throughout the hours of operation.

(2)

(a) An adequately stocked first aid kit is available in a location that is inaccessible to children.

(b) The first aid supplies will be consistently accessible throughout the service's opening hours.

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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 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 requirement has been partially met. (1) (a) A fire drill book is available to record the undertaking of monthly fire drills. (b) According to the servicing record, the wired smoke alarm was tested on 15 September 2025. (4) A notice, outlining the steps to be taken in the event of a fire, is displayed in the entrance area.
Requirement not met:	(1) (b) A record of servicing, dated within the previous 12 months is unavailable for the firefighting equipment, as required.
Response from Provider:	The proposed registered provider submitted a certificate of servicing for the firefighting equipment.
Summary Comment:	The requirements of Regulation 26 have been met.

Part VI - Safety

Regulation 28 – Insurance

A registered provider shall ensure that the pre-school service is adequately insured.	
Requirement met:	An insurance quotation was submitted to the change in circumstance team prior to this inspection. The registered provider must ensure that adequate insurance is in place prior to the commencement of the service. The registration approval is contingent on the registered provider's 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 appears to be in a good state of repair.
- (b) The main entrance door is key locked from the exterior, to prevent unauthorised access and a doorbell entry system will be in place for parents and visitors. A thumb turn lock is fitted on the interior and a door sensor alarm will sound if this door is opened unexpectedly. The outdoor play area is enclosed by wooden fencing.
- (c)
 - The care room and sanitary facilities are provided with adequate lighting, through a combination of windows, fluorescent and LED lights, with protective covers.
 - Electric heating is provided, with an option to incorporate the additional use of an oil heated radiator, if required during the colder months.
 - The premises is ventilated through a combination of openable windows and air vents.
- (d) A cleaning schedule is available for the various areas within the service.
- (e) In the sanitary area, there is one children's toilet, one staff toilet and two adjacent wash hand basins. A nappy changing unit is not currently required. The premises is serviced by a private well.

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.*
- (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.*

Requirement met:

The requirement has been met.

- (1) Adequate clear floor space is ensured in the proposed care room for the free movement of children.
- (3) The care room allows for the children attending the sessional service to have a minimum of 1.818 square metres of clear floor space. The room was measured at 20.56m².