

# TUSLA PRE- REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

## Initial Inspection of Proposed New Service

|            |             |
|------------|-------------|
| Tusla I.D: | TU2026DN103 |
|------------|-------------|

|                  |              |
|------------------|--------------|
| Name of Service: | The Creative |
|------------------|--------------|

|                     |                                             |
|---------------------|---------------------------------------------|
| Address of Service: | 24 Willow Road, Dundrum, Dublin 16, D16KC86 |
|---------------------|---------------------------------------------|

|                |                        |
|----------------|------------------------|
| Email Address: | dundrum@thecreative.ie |
|----------------|------------------------|

|                                       |                                   |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Name of Proposed Registered Provider: | Daren Seagrave, Chantelle Geoghan |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|

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

|                                                                                       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Proposed service type:                                                                | Full day care, Part time, sessional                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| Proposed Number of Children:                                                          | 20                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| Outcome of the F06 Inspection<br>(e.g., type of service, numbers, age ranges, times,) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The proposal is for children in the 3–6-year age range to be accommodated.</li> <li>The service can accommodate 20 children who attend for full day care.</li> <li>The number of children attending each room must be in accordance with those specified in column (3) of schedule 7 under Regulation 30.</li> </ul> |
| Registered service:                                                                   | Service Registered                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |

|                     |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---------------------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Date of Inspection: | 2 | 0 | 0 | 8 | 2 | 0 | 2 | 6 |
|---------------------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|

|                           |                       |
|---------------------------|-----------------------|
| Inspection Undertaken by: | Olivia Quill          |
| Title:                    | Early Years Inspector |

|                                         |                               |
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| Tusla Early Years Inspectorate Address: | Tusla – Child & Family Agency |
|-----------------------------------------|-------------------------------|

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Loughlinstown Health Centre  
Loughlinstown Drive  
County Dublin  
A96P3Y6

### Rationale for Inspection

### Proposed New Service

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

|                              |                    |
|------------------------------|--------------------|
| <b>Registration Status:</b>  | Service Registered |
| <b>Date of Registration:</b> | 28/08/2026         |

### 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).

|                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Description of Service</b> | The Creative is proposed for registration as a private, early years service. The providers propose to offer full day care service catering for a maximum 20 children aged 3 to 6 years of age. The proposed hours of operation are from 8am to 6pm for 50 weeks of the year.                                                                                                                                |
| <b>Premises</b>               | The premises is a purposely adapted, two storey commercial property and comprises of two care rooms on the ground floor for pre-school children, sanitary facilities for children and a kitchen. A school age service will operate on the first floor. The service is located in an urban, residential area of Dundrum. The children have access to a secure outdoor play area to the rear of the premises. |

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|                        |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
|------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Staffing</b>        | The providers propose to initially operate the service with four staff members. This includes a manager, an assistant manager who will work directly with the children.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| <b>Methodology</b>     | <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> |
| <b>Acknowledgement</b> | The Inspector wishes to acknowledge the cooperation of the proposed registered providers 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.*

The requirement is met.

(1)(a) The service has a designated person in charge and a named person who is able to deputise as required.

### Part III - Management and Staff

#### Regulation 11 -Staffing Levels

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*(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 is met.

(1) The providers propose to initially operate the service with four staff members. This includes a manager and an assistant manager who will work directly with the children.

### 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 is met.

(1)

(a) The providers propose to allocate the children to one of two pre-school rooms according to their age and stage of development. The rooms were laid out with equipment to cater for the play needs of the children. The equipment was visible and easily accessible to the children. Appropriately sized furniture was available for table-top activities.

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(b) Designated cosy areas were set up in both pre-school room to allow children to take a break from activities as required. Six sleep mats were available should a children feel tired and require sleep.

(2)(a) There was a fully enclosed outdoor play area to the rear of the premises. The perimeter was secured with high walls and a gate. The gate was secured to prevent unauthorised access or a child leaving the area unsupervised. The ground was surfaced with artificial grass. There was space for free movement and storage facilities for equipment and toys. The area had items to support play and gross motor development including climbing equipment, a slide, ride-on toys and water tables.

### Part V – Care of Children in Pre-School Services

#### 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 was met.

A kitchen was available for preparing and storing food. Drinking water was freely available. The proposed providers confirmed the service will provide breakfast and the main hot meal. An external catering company will supply the meal which will be reconstituted onsite. A four weekly menu was available. Parents will provide the morning and afternoon snack for their children. Refrigerators were available for storing perishable items. The providers advised the relevant health authority had been informed regarding the preparation of food on the premises.

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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.

External doors are secured to prevent children from exiting the service unsupervised and to restrict unauthorised persons from gaining access to the service. An intercom system is in place to allow authorised access.

The outdoor area is suitably secured.

There were no cord blinds. Windows were fitted with fire-safe restrictors.

Radiators are thermostically controlled.

Emergency exits were marked and clear from any obstructions.

There is provision for the appropriate disposal and storage of waste including the provision of foot pedal operated bins throughout the service and in the outdoor area.

### 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 was met.

(1) Evidence was submitted to demonstrate one of the staff members caring for the children will have a current certificate in First aid responder (FAR) training

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and a second staff member will complete FAR training on the 4 September 2026.

(2) (a), (b) A suitable equipped first aid box is available in the service. The first aid box was clearly identifiable and readily accessible.

### 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) The proposed providers indicated that fire drills will be carried out monthly.

(1)(b) There is a record available relating to the number and type of firefighting equipment and for the commissioning and servicing of the fire detection and alarm system.

(4) Notices of the procedures to be followed in the event of fire were displayed conspicuously throughout the service and the fire assembly point was identified.

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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:

The requirement has been met.

Evidence of insurance for the required number of children was available.

### 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 proposed service is at ground level in a purposefully adapted two storey premises located within a commercial property and appears to be of sound and stable structure.
- (b) There is one point of entry to the service. The front door is secured. An intercom system is in place to allow authorised access.  
The outdoor area is secured to prevent a child leaving the area unsupervised and to prevent unauthorised access to the area.
- (c) The premises benefits from natural light via windows in both care rooms. There is supplemental artificial lighting also provided from covered fluorescent ceiling lights in the rooms. Blinds have been fitted to control light levels when required in all rooms.

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Thermostatically controlled hot water (which did not exceed 43 degrees Celsius) was available. A gas central heating system is provided. Windows in the care rooms and the sanitary area can be opened. The ambient room temperatures were measured and recorded between 19.5 and 21.2 degrees Celsius.

(d) A system is in place to record daily cleaning and displayed.

(e) Adequate and suitable sanitary facilities have been provided.

There are two toilets and two wash hand basins designated for children's use. One toilet and wash hand basin has been provided for adults on the first floor.

### 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.*

#### Requirement met:

The requirement has been met.

- (1) Adequate clear floor space has been provided for the work, play and movement of children proposing to attend the service as demonstrated.

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(2)

| Room                       | Room 1<br>Senior<br>Montessori | Room 2<br>Junior<br>Montessori |
|----------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Clear floor space          | 28.5 sqm                       | 18.1 sqm                       |
| Proposed age range         | 3-6 years                      | 3-6 years                      |
| Maximum number of children | 12                             | 8                              |

The required floor space is available for 20 children in the proposed age ranges attending on a full day care basis.