

TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

Initial Inspection of Proposed New Service

Tusla I.D:	TU2026WX100							
Name of Service:	Firefly Daycare Ltd							
Address of Service:	Bolaboy Oulart Gorey Y25 KN66							
Email Address:	enquiries@fireflychildcare.ie							
Name of Proposed Registered Provider:	Tara Finn							
Type of Proposed Service:	Full Day Car	☒	Part-Time	☐	Drop-In	☐		
	Sessional	☐	Childminding	☐	Temporary	☐		
Proposed service type:	Full day care							
Proposed Number of Children:	48							
Outcome of the F06 Inspection (e.g., type of service, numbers, age ranges, times,)	Full day care for 46 children							
Registered service:	Registered Pre-School Service, Full Day Care							
Date of Inspection:	2	8	0	7	2	0	2	6
Inspection Undertaken by:	C. Ryan							
Title:	EYI							
Tusla Early Years Inspectorate Address:	Early Years Inspector Tusla Child and Family Agency Ely Hospital Ferrybank Wexford							
Rationale for Inspection								
Proposed New Service								
Note: For Office use only, to be completed by Registration Office								
Registration Status:	Registered Pre-School Service, Full Day Care							
Date of Registration:	07.08.2026							

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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	Firefly Daycare Ltd proposes to offer a full day care service to children aged from 0 to 6 years of age. The service proposes to offer a Montessori and play based care and education to the children attending. The premises is located in the village of Oulart in county Wexford.
Premises	The building is a two-storey former home that has been renovated for the sole purpose of childcare. There are extensive outdoor play areas to the rear of the building, sufficient carparking and drop off space for parents. The building consists of four playrooms: Downstairs is the baby, toddler room and sleep room. Upstairs is two playrooms, and office and staff room. There are sufficient toilets, wash hand basins and nappy changing units for the proposed number of children. There is also sufficient staff toilets and staff facilities. There is a kitchen and utility room.
Staffing	The registered provider and manager will be present daily. The registered provider has employed new staff and implemented a clear management structure.
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 and person in charge who were present on the day of the inspection.

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Part III - Management and Staff	
Regulation 9 – Management and Recruitment	
<i>(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.</i>	
Requirement met:	The requirement of the regulation is met. The registered provider has a clear management structure in place to identify the daily designated person in charge. There is a second named staff member employed who will be available to deputise as required.

Part III - Management and Staff	
Regulation 11 -Staffing Levels	
<i>(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.</i>	
Requirement met:	The requirement of the regulation is met. The registered provider is familiar with the Child Care Act 1991 (early years services) Regulations 2016, Schedule 6 Staff: Child ratios and will ensure that there are always adequate numbers of staff working directly with the children attending the service.

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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.
- (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 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, or
 - (b) where no such space is provided, the pre-school children attending the service have access on a daily basis to a suitable outdoor space.

Requirement met:

The requirement of the regulation is met.

(1)(a)

The four playrooms provide sufficient space for the children to play. The rooms were warm, clean and lit by natural light. The rooms were set up and equipped with toys and materials suitable to the ages and stage of development of the children using the room.

(1)(b)

Provisions were in place for children to rest and sleep while attending the service. The baby room had a sleep room located close to it with cots for younger children and babies. An identified area in the toddler had sufficient space for sleep beds for the children who needed to sleep or rest during the day.

(3)(a)(b)

The outdoor play area consisted of two large grass areas and an enclosed large shed to the rear of the playschool. The shed had a sandpit and tables and chairs. The area provided additional space and opportunities for children to enjoy time in the outdoors.

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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 parents will supply the food/snacks for the children attending the service. The service will request the parents to provide food and snacks in line with healthy eating policy. All foods/lunchboxes will be stored in a fridge in the kitchen. A supply of additional snacks will be available on the premises in the event a child forgets their lunch or is hungry and requires extra food. The registered provider has registered with the environmental health office.

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 of the regulation is met.

Infection control:

Warm water for hygienic hand washing is available and can be thermostatically controlled not to exceed 43°C. The service and playrooms were clean and well maintained, with cleaning schedules ready.

Administration of medicine:

There is a policy on the safe administration of medications to children attending the service. The registered provider and manager detailed the procedure for the demonstration of medication.

General safety:

The entrance to the service was secured. The registered provider and manager detailed the procedure for drop off and collection and the management of the electric gates to the car park.

Requirement not met:

General Safety:

1. Two areas along the garden boundaries were not fully secured.
2. A tall unit in the toddler room was not secured to the wall and posed a risk of falling over.
3. The hot press and utility room required latches to secure them from children.
4. Two highchairs did not have safety harness straps on them.

Safe Sleep:

5. There was no thermometer in the sleep room.

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	Administration of medicine: 6. A designated area for the storage of medicine was not in place.
Response from Provider:	1. The two areas are secured. 2. The unit has been removed. 3. The presses and utility room are secured. 4. New sleep room thermometers have been purchased. 5. The highchairs have been removed and will be replaced with a lower table. 6. There is an identified area for the safe storage of medicine.
Summary Comment:	The registered provider submitted a response and evidence to meet the requirements of the regulation.

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 of the regulation is met. (1) Documented evidence was available to demonstrate that a staff was currently trained in FAR first aid for children. Additional staff had paediatric first aid. The registered provider has plans in place for additional staff to be trained in FAR. (2)(a)(b) The registered provider had ordered first aid boxes for 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:

(1)(a)

The registered provider was familiar with the requirement to carry out monthly fire drills and had records available on the premises for recording of fire drills.

(b)

Fire detection system, fire-fighting equipment and smoke alarms were present and contracts are in place for the regular service and maintenance of same.

(4)

A notice of procedures to be followed in the event of a fire is displayed in the early years rooms and the fire assembly point was clearly identified.

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 available. 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.

Response from Provider:

Summary Comment:

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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 registered provider stated that the premises appeared to be of sound and stable structure.

(b)

The front entrance door is secured by a key. The registered provider plans to explore alternative options for the front door.

The registered provider stated that the entrance gate to the grounds of the service will be closed once all children and staff have arrived for the day.

(c)

The premises was lit and ventilated by natural light through openable windows on external walls, supplemented by artificial lighting when needed. The service is heated with oil heating. All toilets are ventilated by openable windows.

(d)

The playrooms and premises were clean, well maintained and in good repair. The premises are newly painted. Cleaning schedules were in place.

(e)

The service has adequate sanitary accommodation for the proposed number of children and staff. There are two staff toilets and wash hand basins. There are three toilets and wash hand basins and three nappy changing units and wash hand basins for the children.

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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.

The rooms were measured and can accommodate the following numbers of children.

(1)(2)

There is adequate space available to accommodate the following children.

The baby room: 21.45 sq .metres: can accommodate **6** babies 0 to 2years.

The toddler room: 55.73 sq. metres: can accommodate **18** children aged from 2 to 3years.

The ECCE room 1: 24.3 sq. meters: can accommodate **11** children attending for a sessional service or **8** children attending for full day care.

The ECCE room 2: 21.38 sq. meters: can accommodate **11** children attending for a sessional service or **8** children attending for full day care.

Total number: 46 Sessional 40 Full day care.