



An Ghníomhaireacht um
Leanaí agus an Teaghlach
Child and Family Agency

Ref: RD2

Ms. Margaret Connell
Teach Leanbh
Longford Road
Soran
Ballinalee
Co. Longford

9th October 2017

Re: Consideration of Registration
Service Name: Teach Leanbh
Tusla ID: TU2015LD013

Dear Ms. Connell

Thank you for your co-operation and support of the inspection of your service on **2nd August 2017**. As we now inspect services under the requirements of the Child Care Act 1991 (Early Years Services) Regulations 2016, a review of each services registration takes place following each inspection.

As you are aware your service was found to be fully compliant with all matters examined during the aforementioned inspection, which is to be commended.

The Panel has made a decision that your service will remain registered pursuant to Article 58 D (5) & (11) of the Child & Family Agency Act 2013. Your certificate of registration will issue to you in due course. Please do not hesitate to contact the registration office if you have any query in respect of this notice.

Yours sincerely,

**Chairperson, National Registration Panel,
Registration & Inspection Services,
Child and Family Agency**

TUSLA REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT



TUSLA Identifier:					
Name of Service:	Teach Leanbh				
Address of Service:	Longford Road, Soran, Ballinalee, Co Longford				
Email Address:					
Date Service Registered:	3 0 0 6 2 0 1 6				
Name of Registered Service Provider:					
Name of Designated Person in Charge:					
Type of Service Registered:	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>Full Day Care</td> <td><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> </table>	Full Day Care	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Full Day Care	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				
Date(s) of Inspection:	0 2 0 8 1 7				
No of Pre-School Children present during Inspection:	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>AM</td> <td>14</td> <td>PM</td> <td>14</td> </tr> </table>	AM	14	PM	14
AM	14	PM	14		
Address of the Early Years Inspectorate:	Early Years Service, Primary Care Unit, St Loman's Campus, Springfield, Mullingar, Co. Westmeath.				
Inspection undertaken by :	Early Years Inspector Early Years Inspector				

Areas which were the subject of this Inspection

Governance	Health Welfare and Development of Child	Safety
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Authority to Inspect

The Tusla Early Years Inspectorate carries out inspections of Early Years Services under Section 58(J) of the Child Care Act 1991 (as inserted by Section 92 of the Child and Family Agency Act 2013).

Description of Service	<p>This Early Years Service is a private based service operating from 08.00 to 18.00 Monday to Friday. The service offers Sessional, Part time and Full day care service. A school aged facility is available. The maximum number of children that can be catered for is 50. The age range of children enrolled in the service is 6 months to 12 years of age.</p> <p>The service's ethos is to provide a play based curriculum linked to Aistear, The Early Childhood Curriculum and Siolta, The National Quality Framework for Early Childhood Education.</p>
Premises	<p>The Early Years Service is located in a single storey, purpose built building and provides three pre-school rooms, a sleep room, kitchen and office. A large outdoor play area is attached to the premises for use by pre-school children. The service is located in a rural area near the village of Ballinalee, Co Longford.</p>
Staffing	<p>The Registered Provider was the designated person in charge on the day of the inspection and there was a designated person available to deputise as required. All staff had completed qualifications in Early Childhood Care and Education.</p>
Methodology	<p>The inspection was an unannounced Focused 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 three themes; Governance, Safety and the Health, Welfare and Development of the Child.</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 presented to the Registration Panel for consideration of a decision in relation to the service receiving continued registration.</p>
Acknowledgements	<p>The Inspectors wish to acknowledge the co-operation of the Registered Provider, staff and children who were present on the day of the inspection.</p>

GOVERNANCE

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,
 - (b) at all times during the period when the pre-school service is being carried on, the designated person in charge or the named person referred to in subparagraph (a) is on the premises, and
- (2) A registered provider shall ensure that each employee, unpaid worker and contractor is suitable and competent taking into consideration the nature of the needs of children, including by—
- (a) consideration of references from the person's past employers, if any, and in particular the most recent employer, if any,
 - (b) consideration of references from reputable sources in the case of a person who has no past employers,
 - (c) consideration of the vetting disclosure received from the National Vetting Bureau of the Garda Síochána in accordance with the Act of 2012 in respect of the person, and
 - (d) ensuring, insofar as is practicable, that where a person has lived in a state other than the State for a period of longer than 6 consecutive months, he or she provides police vetting from the police authorities in that state.
- (4) A registered provider shall ensure that, without prejudice to the generality of paragraph (2) and subject to paragraphs (5) and (6), each employee working directly with children attending the service holds at least a major award in Early Childhood Care and Education at Level 5 on the National Qualifications Framework or a qualification deemed by the Minister to be equivalent.
- (5) Paragraph (4) shall apply—
- (b) on or after the date of registration in respect of all other pre-school services
- (6) Paragraph (4) shall not apply before 1 September 2021 to a person who—
- (a) has signed a declaration on or before 30 June 2016 to the effect that he or she intends to retire from employment in a pre-school service before 1 September 2021, and
 - (b) is in possession of a letter from the Minister confirming that paragraph (4) shall not apply to him or her before that date
- (6A is inserted by S.I. No.632 of 2016 CHILD CARE ACT 1991 (EARLY YEARS SERVICES) (AMENDMENT) REGULATIONS 2016 which states; Regulation 9 of the Child Care Act 1991 (Early Years Services) Regulations (S.I. No. 221 of 2016) is amended - in paragraph (4), by the substitution of "paragraphs (5), (6) and (6A)" for "paragraphs (5) and (6)", and (b) by the insertion of the following paragraph after paragraph (6): "

(6A) Paragraph (4) shall not apply to an employee of a registered provider where - (a) the registered provider receives funding for the employment of the employee pursuant to a scheme funded by the Minister and known as the Access and Inclusion Model, and (b) the employment of the employee is for the purpose of providing support, pursuant to the scheme referred to in subparagraph (a), for a child attending the service to enable the child to participate in the programme known as the Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) funding Programme."

Part III - Management and Staff

Regulation 9 - Management and Recruitment

Compliance Information:

- (1) (a)
The service had a designated person in charge and a named person to deputise as required.
- (b)
The designated person in charge was present during the inspection.
- (2) (a)
The required number of written validated references from past employers were available in respect of all adults.
- (b)
The required number of written validated references from reputable sources were available in respect of all adults.
- (c)
Completed Garda vetting disclosures were available in respect of all adults.
- (d)
Police vetting was not required as no adults working in the service had lived outside the state for a period of longer than 6 consecutive months.
- (4)
All adults working directly with children attending the service held at least a major award in Early Childhood Care and Education at Level 5 on the National Qualifications Framework or a qualification deemed by the Minister to be equivalent.
- (5) (b)
Not applicable, as all employees held a major award in Early Childhood Care and Education at level 5 or higher on the National Framework for Qualifications.
- (6)
Not applicable as no employee had signed a declaration on or before 30 June 2016 to the effect that they intended to retire from employment in a pre-school service before 1 September 2021.
- (6A)
Not applicable, as no employee was working directly with children under the Access and Inclusion Model.

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.*
- (2) *Subject to paragraphs (4) and (5), a registered provider of a full day care service or a part-time day care service shall ensure that at all times the minimum ratio of adults to children specified in column (3) of Part 1 of Schedule 6 opposite a particular reference number specified in column (1) of that Part in respect of the age range of the children specified in column (2) thereof at that reference number is satisfied*
- (8) *Without prejudice to paragraphs (2) to (7)—*
 (a) *a registered provider of a pre-school service other than a child-minding service or a sessional pre-school service shall ensure that there are at least 2 adults on the premises at all times*

Compliance Information:

- (1)
There were thirteen pre-school children and three school age children attending the service being supervised directly by six adults. An adequate number of adults were working directly with the children attending the pre-school service.
- (2)
The minimum ratio of adults to children was adhered to. The adult/child ratio was correct.
- (8)(a)
There were at least two adults present in the premises throughout the inspection.

Part IV – Information and Records

Regulation 16 - Record in relation to Pre-school Service

(1) *A registered provider shall ensure that a record in writing is kept of the following information in relation to the service*

- (g) *the policies, procedures and statements the service is required to maintain in accordance with Regulation 10;*
- (h) *details of attendance by each pre-school child on a daily basis;*
- (i) *details of staff rosters on a daily basis;*
- (j) *details of any medication administered to a pre-school child attending the service with signed parental consent;*
- (k) *details of any accident, injury or incident involving a pre-school child attending the service*

Compliance Information:

(1)(g)

The policies and procedures presented by the Registered Provider were reviewed and the content was found to be in keeping with the requirements of Regulation 10.

- Behaviour Management including Managing Challenging Behaviour Policy.
- Administration of Medication Policy.
- Infection Control Policy.
- Accident & Incident Policy.
- Healthy Eating Policy.
- Safe Sleep Policy.
- Outings Policy.

(h)

The service maintained details of attendance of each pre-school child on a daily basis.

(i)

Details of the staff rosters were available.

(j)

The administration of medication documentation was reviewed and written parental consent was available in the child record should medication be required.

(k)

The service maintained a record of any accident, injury or incident involving a pre-school child attending the service.

HEALTH WELFARE & DEVELOPMENT OF CHILD

Part V - Care of Child in Pre-school Service

Regulation 19 - Health, Welfare and Development of Child

(1) A registered provider shall, in providing a pre-school service, ensure that—

(a) each child's learning, development and well-being is facilitated within the daily life of the pre-school service through the provision of the appropriate activities, interaction, materials and equipment, having regard to the age and stage of development of the child

Compliance Information:

(1)(a)

Basic needs of Infants & Children

The children were supported to be self caring, suitable to their age and stage of development including: self feeding, hand washing, toileting, caring for their belongings and dressing for outdoor play.

The Healthy Ireland Smart Start programme was evident in the pre-school service that included health and safety, physical activity, emotional well being and oral health. Healthy eating was encouraged and the three week menu demonstrated that healthy meals and snacks were provided for the children.

The children enjoyed tuna bake with potatoes for dinner with milk and water to drink. The children were given plenty of time to enjoy the whole food experience. Staff sat at tables with the children during meals promoting conversation and interactions. Self service and a family style dining experience using plates, beakers, cutlery and table cloths was observed.

Babies and toddlers were given the opportunity to sleep on an individual basis and checked every 10 minutes.

All pre-school children were observed enjoying freedom of movement within the pre-school room and in sheltered outdoor play area.

Supporting Relationships around children

A key worker system was in operation in each pre-school room. Staff present spoke to all children in a positive way and listened attentively to each child. Staff were observed offering choices to children, using the child's name, making eye contact and speaking in a positive tone to the children. Staff engaged with the children and allowed children to lead activities.

Staff were observed to offer support to each child as they worked individually, in pairs or as part of a group activity. Staff praised each child present for their involvement in activities.

Babies and toddlers were content with their carers and were observed to receive hugs and cuddles during the inspection.

Staff were familiar with each child and their personalities in the pre-school rooms. Good teamwork was observed and minutes of monthly staff meetings were available.

Photographic evidence was available to show how the service linked to the community as a farmer with a lamb and a dental nurse had visited the service.

Physical & Material Environment

The physical and material environment fully supported children's development as the pre-school rooms were bright, attractive and arranged to engage each child

Part V - Care of Child in Pre-school Service

Regulation 19 - Health, Welfare and Development of Child

present. Toys, equipment and materials were freely available and accessible to the children. Fully developed areas of defined interest included sand play, dress up, a construction area and home corner with a single bed, cooker, utensils, table and chairs.

A full range of developmentally appropriate, challenging, creative and enriching experiences were available for all children. Materials included Montessori equipment paint, books, dolls, puzzles, blocks, trucks, animals and fine motor skill toys including pegboards, jigsaws and shape sorters.

Photographs and children’s displays were noted in the pre-school rooms documenting activities that included “Famhoir ag teacht” and “who’s who”.

Programme of Activities and its Implementation

A programme of care and education was displayed in each pre-school room documenting the weekly programme plan, including discussion topics, children’s interests, songs, poems and stories. A learning journal was available showcasing the children’s activities throughout the pre-school term.

Children enjoyed a relaxed play based summer curriculum and activities were child led. Child development observations were documented on each child.

Language, communication, social and emotional development resources were available and language development activities were observed through discussion, during story time and at outdoor games.

Part V - Care of Child in Pre-school Service

Regulation 19 - Health, Welfare and Development of Child

(2) *A registered provider shall ensure that no corporal punishment is inflicted on a pre-school child whilst attending the service.*

(3) *A registered provider shall ensure that no practices that are disrespectful, degrading, exploitive, intimidating, emotionally or physically harmful or neglectful are carried out in respect of a pre-school child whilst attending the service.*

Compliance Information:

(2)

It was observed that children were being positively encouraged by adults during the inspection.

(3)

All adults working with children were observed to be respectful towards children in their care. A positive behaviour management policy was in place in the service.

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-
- (b) There are adequate and suitable facilities for a pre-school child to rest during the day.
- (2) A registered provider of-
- (a) a full day care, a part time service, a sessional preschool service, or a childminding service that is registered for the first time on or after 30th June 2016 or
- (b) of a full day care service, a part-time day care service, a sessional preschool service or a childminding service that moves premises on or after the 30th 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 (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 or
- (b) where no such space is provided, the preschool children attending the service have access on a daily basis to an outdoor service

Compliance Information:

(1)(b)

A separate sleep room was provided equipped with four standard cots. A sleep log was available showing recorded physical checks of sleeping children every 10 minutes. In addition electric sleep monitors were in use. Viewing panels were provided in the sleep room. Low level beds were available for children over two years of age requiring rest or sleep.

Child size couches, mats and cushions provided suitable and adequate rest facilities in the pre-school rooms.

(2)(a)

Not applicable as the pre-school service was registered before 30th June 2016.

(b)

Not applicable as the service has not moved premises on or after June 30th 2016.

(3)(a)

Suitable and secure outdoor spaces were available for use by pre-school children on a daily basis. No safety hazards were noted on the day of the inspection.

A large and spacious outdoor play area adjacent to the service was equipped with a tunnel, 2 slides, 2 picnic benches and a play house on a grassed area.

A tarmac area was available for children to ride on bikes, trikes and tractors.

The "hive" was noted beside the outdoor play area which gave children an opportunity to explore trees and other sensory elements in the area.

A new colourful sheltered area had been recently developed with toys and materials and included a kitchen and absorbent surface.

(b)

Not applicable as an outdoor space was provided on the premises.

SAFETY

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.

Compliance Information:

General Safety

The entry to the service was secure to ensure the safety of the children within. The service met the necessary safety requirements in respect of the indoor environment, toys and equipment and the safe storage of cleaning agents.

Infection control

There was an infection prevention and control policy to inform practice. Shoe covers were available for staff and visitors for the baby area in the Willow room. Children washed their hands before meals, after toileting and after outdoor play. Hand sanitisers were in place outside each pre-school room for staff and visitors to use on entering the premises and in the pre-school rooms. A staff and children's exclusion policy was available stating the 48 hour exclusion requirement for staff and children with vomiting and diarrhoea.

Safe sleep

A sleep log was maintained noting the colour, position and breathing of sleeping children.

Administration of medication

No medicine was administered at the time of the inspection. Parental consent was available for medicine administration on the child records.

Outings

No outing was carried out during the inspection.

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.

Compliance Information:

(1)

A person qualified in Paediatric First Aid was available on the premises.

(2)(a)

First aid boxes were safely stored in a conspicuous location out of the reach of pre-school children in the pre-school rooms.

(b)

A first aid box was readily available in the service.

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

Compliance Information:

(1)(a)

A written record was available of the fire drills. The last fire drill was recorded as being carried out on the 6th July 2017.

(b)

The number, type and maintenance record of fire fighting equipment and smoke alarms on the premises was available. The certificates were dated 27th April 2017.

(4)

The fire drill procedure was displayed in the premises.

Part VI - Safety

Regulation 28 - Insurance

A registered provider shall ensure that the pre-school service is adequately insured.

Compliance Information:

There was evidence of current insurance cover for the number of children attending the service and the expiry date noted was the 31st of December 2017.

TUSLA REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

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

Registration Status:	Registration
Conditions If Applicable	Not Applicable
Date of Registration	25 th September 2017