

Early Years Inspectorate Regulatory Report

Pre School

TUSLA Identifier:	TU2015DY101
--------------------------	-------------

Name of Service:	Kids World
-------------------------	------------

Address of Service:	25g Malahide Road, Dublin 5, Co. Dublin
----------------------------	---

Eircode:	D05 PH92
-----------------	----------

Name of Registered Provider:	Jade Boyd, Paula Duffy
-------------------------------------	------------------------

Service type:	Full Day, Part Time, Sessional
----------------------	--------------------------------

Date(s) of Inspection:	11/06/2025
-------------------------------	------------

No of pre-school children:	AM	40	PM	23
-----------------------------------	----	----	----	----

Address of the Early Years Inspectorate:	Early Years Inspectorate 180-189 Lakeshore Drive Airside Business Park Swords Co Dublin
Inspection undertaken by:	M. McDonnell and S. McKenna
Title:	Early Years Inspectors

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).

Conditions if applicable	Not applicable
---------------------------------	----------------

Description of service

Kids World is a privately owned service based in a commercial area in Co Dublin. The service is registered to provide sessional, part-time time and full-day care to children aged 0-6 years old. The service is located on the ground floor of a two-storey building. There are three care rooms, namely the Toddler Room, The Montessori Room and the Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) room. There is a dedicated cot room which is accessed from the Toddler room. There is also a kitchen and sanitary facilities available for children and staff. An outdoor area is located to the rear of the service and is directly accessible from the Toddler and ECCE rooms. There is a registered school-age service in operation on the premises.

Staffing

The service has two registered providers, both of whom work in the service in a supernumerary capacity. The registered employer employs eight staff members. There are six staff members employed to work directly with the children. One staff member is employed to work with the school age children and there is a cook.

Methodology

Tusla's Early Years Inspectorate is the independent statutory regulator of early years services in Ireland. The Child Care Act 1991 (Early Years Services) Regulations 2016 define the duty of a registered provider to ensure the safety and well-being of children and to comply with these regulations. This Act also gives Tusla the authority to assess compliance with the regulations. The purpose of regulation in relation to early years services is to ensure that the care, safety, and well-being of children attending such services is upheld. Inspections of early years services are planned based on the following:

- Previous inspection history
- Any information received in relation to the service

The findings on inspection are based on:

- Information obtained through examination of documentation
- Direct observation
- Discussion with relevant staff

This inspection was unannounced and focused on the area of governance/ health, welfare and development of child/ safety/ premises and facilities. The inspection may also focus on other areas as required.

The inspection focused on an examination of compliance under Regulation 9 Management & Recruitment, Regulation 11 Staffing Levels, Regulation 15 Records of a Toddler Child, Regulation 16 Records in relation to a Toddler service, Regulation 19 Health, Welfare & Development of Child, Regulation 22 Food and Drink, Regulation 23 Safeguarding Health, Safety and Welfare of Child, Regulation 25 First Aid and 29 Premises.

A sampling process was used to assess compliance under regulation, 15,16 and 19 and all care rooms were examined on this inspection.

Inspection findings are documented in the inspection report which is first issued in draft format to the service with an opportunity to respond to any findings. Where statutory requirements are identified as not being met, the registered provider must demonstrate how they have rectified the non-compliance and will prevent any non-compliance from re occurring. The Corrective Action and Preventive Action plan (CAPA) will be used to inform decisions about compliance with regulatory requirements. Where the registered provider fails to meet the statutory requirements an escalation process may be commenced.

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.

Acknowledgments

The inspectors wish to acknowledge the cooperation of the registered provider, staff and children 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,
- (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
- (c) there is a clear management structure in the service that identifies the lines of authority and accountability in the service and the specific roles and responsibilities of each employee and unpaid worker.

(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.

Compliance Information

- (1)(a) One of the registered was on the premises on the inspectors' arrival at the service, and this reflected the roster for the day. A manager was identified as the deputy person in charge to the inspectors.
- (b) A review of the roster for the week of the inspection demonstrated that the designated person in charge and deputy was in the service at all times during operational hours.
- (c) On discussion with staff members and the registered provider, the was a clearly defined person and deputy person in charge to ensure lines of accountability in the event of an emergency.

(2) Following the last inspection on 6 March 2024, a review of the staff roster and staff attendance on the day of inspection the files of seven staff members and one of the registered providers were reviewed. These files were reviewed along with the Garda vetting disclosures for one of registered providers and one staff member working at the last inspection.

(a) The registered provider had two references available for themselves. There were 12 written and validated references available the 7 staff members. Of these references available, six were from a previous employer.

(b) The registered provider had six written and validated references available from a reputable source.

(c) A Garda vetting disclosure was available for all eight staff members and the registered providers. The registered provider demonstrated compliance with the Early Years Inspectorate Regulatory Notice requiring services to renew Garda vetting every three years.

(d) A review of the documentation concerning the staff members' employment history demonstrated that police vetting was not required for six of the staff members. The police vetting required for one staff member was available for review. The staff member requiring police vetting from the last inspection was no longer working in the service. This was confirmed from a review of the roster, the staff in attendance on the day of inspection and through a discussion with the registered provider.

(4) Documentary evidence was available to confirm that eight adults held an appropriate childcare qualification at Level 5 or above on the National Framework of Qualifications, or a qualification deemed by the Minister to be equivalent. One staff member was employed to work only with the school age children, and one staff member was the cook.

Non-Compliance Information

(2)(a)(b) A second written and validated reference was not available in relation to one staff member.

(4) The inspectors reviewed the staff roster and observed staff attendance on the day of inspection. From this information available it was not evident that an adult working with the preschool children between 12.00pm and 2.00pm had a qualification at Level 5 or above on the National Framework of Qualifications, or a qualification deemed by the Minister to be equivalent.

Corrective & Preventive Action submitted by the Registered Provider

Corrective and Preventive Action

(2) The registered providers submitted the required validation for the written reference. To prevent this non-compliance from recurring, the registered provider has stated they have implemented a process to ensure that all

new employees provide two written references. These references will be requested, received, and validated prior to or as early as possible in the recruitment process.

(4) The registered providers stated that the staff member is now completing administrative duties and is not working directly with preschool children. A staff member holding a qualification at Level 5 or above on the National Framework of Qualifications (or an equivalent qualification as deemed by the Minister) is now working directly with the preschool children between 12:00pm and 2:00pm. To ensure compliance going forward, the registered provider has implemented a procedure to verify that all new employees assigned to work directly with children hold the relevant qualifications prior to commencing their duties in the any room.

Supporting documentation submitted

Validated reference

Staff roster

Summary Comment

The action and evidence submitted by the registered providers in their corrective and preventive action plan has addressed the non-compliances identified on inspection.

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) On the inspectors' arrival it is acknowledged that there was an adequate number of adults working directly with the children attending the pre-school service from 9.35am to 12.00pm.

(2) On the inspectors' unannounced arrival, the following adult-to-child ratios were observed:

- In the Toddler room there were 3 staff members 14 children aged between 18 months to 2 years 9 months old all of whom attended on a part time or full day care basis.
- In the ECCE room there was 1 staff member with 7 children aged between 3 years 7 months to 4 years and 11 months old on a morning sessional basis.
- In the Montessori room there were 2 staff members and 19 children aged 3 years 6 months to 4 years 7 months old on a morning sessional basis.

During the inspection, the person in charge was available in a supernumerary capacity.

Non-Compliance Information

(2) Following the conclusion of the sessional hours at 12.00pm the registered provider did not maintain the appropriate adult: child ratio;

- From 12.30pm to 1.15pm there were 2 adults working with 18 children aged 3 years 6 months to 4 years 7 months old on a part time or full day care basis. Three adults were required. This was identified as a non-compliance following the last inspection in March 2024.

Corrective & Preventive Action submitted by the Registered Provider

Corrective and Preventive Action

1. The registered providers stated that they have since addressed this issue and now have three staff members assigned to the preschool room during this period to ensure appropriate cover during lunch breaks. To prevent this from happening again, they will ensure that the required adult-to-child ratios are maintained at all times throughout the day.

Supporting documentation submitted

Staff roster

Summary Comment

The action and evidence submitted by the registered providers in their corrective and preventive action plan has addressed the non-compliance identified on inspection and will be examined on any following inspection.

Part IV – Information and Records

Regulation 15 – Record of pre-school child

(1) A registered provider of a pre-school service other than a pre-school service in a drop-in centre or a temporary pre-school service shall ensure that a record in writing is kept in respect of each pre-school child attending the service containing the following particulars:

- (a) the name and date of birth of the child;*
- (b) the date on which the child first attended the service;*
- (c) the date on which the child ceased to attend the service;*
- (d) the name and address of a parent or guardian of the child and a telephone number where that parent or guardian or a relative or friend of the child can be contacted during the hours of operation of the service;*
- (e) authorisation for the collection of the child;*
- (f) details of any illness, disability, allergy or special need of the child, together with all the information relevant to the provision of special care or attention;*
- (g) the name and telephone number of the child's registered medical practitioner;*
- (h) record of immunisations, if any, received by the child;*
- (i) written parental consent for appropriate medical treatment of the child in the event of an emergency.*

Compliance Information

- (1) The registered provider ensured that a record in writing was kept in respect of each pre-school child attending the service. A total sample of 12 child record forms were reviewed, to include children in attendance across all care rooms, and included the required information as detailed at (1) (a) to (i) above.

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:

- (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)
- (j) The registered provider ensured that a record in writing was kept in respect of medication administered within the service. A total sample of 13 record forms were reviewed, to include children in attendance across all care rooms, and included appropriate information to support safe care practices.
- (k) The registered provider ensured that a record in writing was kept in respect of accidents and incidents within the service. A total sample of 20 record forms were reviewed, to include children in attendance across all care rooms, and included appropriate information to support safe care practices.

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, and*

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

- (b) appropriate and suitable care practices are in place in the pre-school service, having regard to the number of children attending the service and the nature of their needs.*

Compliance Information

Basic Needs

The inspectors observed all three care rooms on the day of inspection and children's basic needs were met. All children were provided with outdoor play and staff engaged in games and activities with the children. Transitions back inside, to mealtimes, sleep and home times were observed to be calm. Children were provided with information suitable to their age and stage of development for these transitions. During nappy changing and sleep time, staff engaged in appropriate conversations to engage individual children, provide comfort and support relaxation. The children who could use the toilet by themselves were encouraged to do so, with a staff member remaining close by.

Supporting relationships around children

The staff members were observed to interact kindly with the children in their care. For example, staff members were observed sitting at children's level playing games and playing with toys with different groups of children in the Toddler room. In the ECCE room the staff member was the 'patient' for several children playing with dress up clothes and toy medical equipment. A staff member in the Toddler room was observed providing comfort and positive behaviour management following a minor incident between children over a toy. Children's independence was supported from a child in the Toddler room being praised for getting tissues for their friend to the children in all rooms being able to access activities independently. During circle time in the Montessori room the staff were observed to give adequate time to each child during discussions about feelings, and the conversations observed were child led and fun.

Physical and material environment

Appropriate relaxation areas were available in the care rooms, with cosy areas available in all rooms and an adult chair to provide a nurturing space in the Toddler room. Activities and equipment were available on open shelving at a low level for children to access independently.

In the outdoor area the children had access to small toys and games alongside a plastic playhouse and a climbing and slide set.

Part V - Care of Child in Pre-school Service

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.

Compliance Information

The registered provider had a cook available to prepare onsite meals to the children. A four-week menu was available and on display in the entrance to the service. The children were provided with meals as stated on the menu on the day of inspection. This included a snack of brioche buns and apple for morning snack and pesto pasta for dinner. The weekly menu had a selection of fruit and vegetables. During dinner time children were provided with extra portions as requested and an optional alternative hot meal was available if required. The inspectors observed that children had access to water throughout the day and children were able to access their water independently.

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:

- Blind cords were not accessible to children.
- Cleaning agents and medications were stored out of the reach of children.
- Following the last inspection in March 2024 shelving units in the service were secured.

Infection Control:

- The inspector observed a sample of nappy changing. The procedures observed supported effective infection control, with aprons and gloves being removed before staff re-entered the care room.
- The inspectors observed handwashing at appropriate times in all care rooms. This included after visiting the toilet or nappy changing, before eating and after returning inside from outdoor play.

- The registered provider had no children requiring medication. However, following the last inspection staff were aware that any medication required would be appropriately labelled.
- Children's soothers were observed to be in individually labelled containers.
- The garden area was free of stagnant water.

Safe Sleep:

- Children over 2 were provided with low level beds for sleep.
- Staff members supervising the children for sleep conducted 10-minute sleep checks on the children and recorded information on a child's breathing, position and colour.
- The ambient temperature whilst children slept was maintained at 18-22°C for those over 2. Staff members were aware of measures required should the temperature increase.

Non-Compliance Information

General Safety:

The registered providers did not ensure that the risk of injury in the garden was adequately managed.

1. The inspectors observed that there were gaps in the safety flooring of the garden area that presented a possible fall or trip risk to the children.
2. A metal pole did not have any covering and presented a possible risk of injury should a child bump or run into it.

Infection Control:

3. The registered providers did not ensure that adequate measures to reduce cross contamination were in place. The children in the Toddler room were not provided with crockery from which to eat their morning snack of apple and brioche bun. The food was placed directly onto the table for the children to eat.

Corrective & Preventive Action submitted by the Registered Provider

Corrective & Preventive Action

General Safety:

1. The registered providers acknowledged the concern raised regarding gaps in the safety flooring in the garden area. They confirmed that the back garden safety flooring has now been repaired, and there are no longer any gaps present. To prevent this a regular garden risk assessment is being completed.
2. The registered providers stated the pole is now securely covered with protective pole foam to eliminate any risk to the children. To prevent this a regular garden risk assessment is being completed.

Infection Control:

- The registered providers since ensured that all rooms are now provided with appropriate crockery for all meal and snack times. To reinforce this practice, the issue during the most recent monthly staff meeting, reminding all team members that children must be always given suitable crockery during meals. These steps have been taken to prevent any recurrence and to maintain high standards of hygiene and care.

Supporting documentation submitted

General Safety:

Photograph of outdoor area

Summary Comment

The action and evidence submitted by the registered providers in their corrective and preventive action plan has addressed the non-compliances identified on inspection and will be examined on any following 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

- The registered providers ensured that a person trained in a First Aid Responder (FAR) course was available to the children attending the Toddler service. It is acknowledged that three staff members had FAR training and other staff members had valid training in paediatric first aid.
- The first aid equipment available in the service provided adequate resources in the event of a first aid emergency.

Part VII - Premises and Space Requirements

Regulation 29 - Premises

A registered provider shall ensure that the premises of the service are-

- (b) safe and secure,*
- (c) kept adequately lit, heated and ventilated*
- (d) cleaned, maintained and repaired, as required, and*

Compliance Information

- (b) The service had a secure entrance to the service with a buzzer system in place. This prevented any unauthorised access to the service and exit from the service by children.
- (c) Following the previous inspection in March 2024 the inspector observed appropriate mechanical ventilation in the Montessori room. Ventilation and heating were observed to be appropriate in the other areas of the service. Lighting could be adjusted as required, for example the sleep room was appropriately dimmed for children's sleep.

Non-Compliance Information

- (d) The registered providers had not ensured that rooms occupied by the children were appropriately cleaned and maintained.
1. There was an area of dry growth in the corner of the ECCE room on the wall mounted unit.
 2. An area of the wall in the ECCE room children's toilets had had peeling paint with stains surrounding the damaged area. This staining resembled mould.
 3. There was a thick layer of dust on the unit in the Toddler room.
 4. The floor in the Montessori room was damaged with the porous surface exposed.
 5. The children's sofa in the Montessori room required repair as it could not be adequately cleaned. The back was torn and there was exposed foam.

Corrective & Preventive Action submitted by the Registered Provider

Corrective and Preventive Action

1. The area has been thoroughly cleaned, and the dry growth has been removed. Regular maintenance inspections have been implemented.

2. The area has been thoroughly cleaned, and repainted. Regular maintenance inspections have been implemented.
3. The unit has been thoroughly cleaned. This has been added to the classroom cleaning schedule.
4. The area has been repaired. Regular maintenance inspections will be more thorough.
5. The children's sofa in the Montessori room has now been removed and replaced with easily maintainable cushions.

Supporting documentation submitted

Photographs of all repaired and replaced areas and items.

Summary Comment

The action and evidence submitted by the registered providers in their corrective and preventive action plan has addressed the non-compliances identified on inspection.