

Early Years Inspectorate Regulatory Report

Pre School

TUSLA Identifier:	TU2015DY377
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Name of Service:	Krazy Kids & Co t/a Creative Kids & Co
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Address of Service:	The Haven, St James' Primary School, Basin Lane, Dublin 8
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Eircode:	D08 EC96
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Name of Registered Provider:	Bronagh Mooney
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Service type:	Full Day, Part Time, Sessional
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Date of Inspection:	18/03/2026
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No of pre-school children:	AM	25	PM	11
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Address of the Early Years Inspectorate:	Early Years Inspectorate, Floor 7 Brunel Building, Heuston South Quarter, St John's Road West, Kilmainham, D08 X01F
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Inspection undertaken by:	JA. Mc Kimm and N. Ruddy
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Titles:	Early Years Inspector and Inspection and Registration Manager.
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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).

Conditions if applicable	Not applicable
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Description of service

The service is located in the Haven building which is on the grounds of St James's primary school. This is one of three services run by the registered provider.

The service consists of 2 childcare rooms, named the Red room and the Yellow room, a kitchen, an administration office and sanitary facilities on the ground floor. The outdoor play area is on the grounds of the school and there is a large, covered area alongside an area which has an all-weather surface.

The service provides childcare to children aged from 2 to 5 years old and offers full day, part-time and sessional childcare operating from 8.00am to 6.00pm daily. The service participates in the Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) scheme.

School aged children are catered for from 1.10 to 6pm daily.

Staffing

The registered provider works in the service in a supernumerary capacity. There are sixteen members of staff employed in the service including two persons in charge, a deputy person in charge and a cook. The service also employs three adults under the access and inclusion model (AIM) to work daily in the service. In addition, there are two students on college work placement providing support in a supernumerary capacity in both care rooms.

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 an examination of compliance under:

- Regulation 9 Management and Recruitment,
- Regulation 11 Staffing levels,
- Regulation 19 Health, Welfare and Development of child,
- Regulation 23 Safeguarding health, safety and welfare of child,
- Regulation 25 First Aid
- Regulation 26 Fire Safety.

However, on inspection additional non-compliances were identified under Regulation 29 Premises. These findings are outlined within the relevant regulation within this report.

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, persons in charge, 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.

(3) The procedures specified in paragraph (2) shall be carried out prior to any person being appointed, assigned or allowed access to or contact with a child attending the pre-school service.

(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) A review of the roster showed either the person in charge or the deputy person in charge were rostered to be present during the operational hours of the service.
 - (b) The person in charge was present during the inspection. The registered provider arrived to the service during the inspection.
 - (c) Staff were clear around their roles and responsibilities and reporting structures within the service.

- (2) The files of fourteen adults and two students were reviewed as part of the inspection and the following checks were completed.
- (a) There were twenty-three written and validated references available from a past employer in relation to the twelve adults employed in the service.
 - (b) There were nine written and validated references available from a reputable source in relation to five adults employed in the service.
 - (c) Garda vetting disclosures had been obtained for the registered provider and sixteen adults. The service also demonstrated compliance with the Early Years Inspectorate Regulatory Notice requiring services to renew Garda vetting every three years.
 - (d) Police vetting was available for one adult who had lived in a country other than Ireland for a period of six months or more as an adult.
- (3) Evidence was available to demonstrate that the procedures specified in paragraph (2) were carried out in relation to sixteen adults before employment commenced.

Non-Compliance Information

- (4) There was no documentary evidence available that the qualification of one of the staff members who worked directly with the children was equivalent to at least a major award in Early childhood Care and Education at Level 5 on the National Qualifications Framework. Evidence of qualification was available for all other staff as required.

Corrective & Preventive Action submitted by the Registered Provider

Corrective and Preventive Action

An application for recognition of qualification was submitted by service.

Supporting documentation submitted

Email confirmation of this has been received.

The service is awaiting confirmation of qualification eligibility.

Summary Comment

The registered provider demonstrated action taken in the aftermath of the inspection. However as this is ongoing the finding remains non-compliant and will be assessed again on next 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.*

Compliance Information

- (1) The registered provider ensured that staffing levels were adequate to respond to the individual needs of the children throughout the inspection. There were eleven adults caring for twenty-five children in the morning and three staff members caring for eleven children in the afternoon on the day of inspection.
- (2) The minimum ratio of adults to children was exceeded at all times throughout the inspection. Staff were aware of the required ratios for the age range of children.

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*

Compliance Information

- (1) (a) The following activities, interactions, materials and equipment was observed to support children's learning and development

Basic Needs

- On the day of inspection children were observed to begin their day playing outdoors. Staff described how this has become routine practice as they recognised the benefits it offered to the children. This supported their social, cognitive, gross and fine motor development. In addition, one section of the outdoor play area was sheltered. This provided children with shelter and protected them from harsh weather conditions such as rain and direct sunlight.

- The presence of a visual daily routine on display provided the children with a sense of stability, security, and predictability. In addition, staff were observed to give children verbal reminders in advance of moving from one activity to the next activity. The transition from activity time to snack time and outdoor play was smooth, and the children appeared familiar with this routine.
- A health promoting ethos was evident in the service supporting children to develop healthy routines. Regular tooth brushing was encouraged promoting good oral health. Each child had an individually labelled toothbrush in the service.
- Children were provided with regular meals and snacks, the food served was reflected in the service menu. On the morning of the inspection children were served a snack of crackers, ham, cheese and sweetcorn. Staff described how they are implementing the Bia Blásta programme with children attending the ECCE programme and the positive impact this has had. A hot meal was prepared and served to children in yellow room. Children's drinks of water were accessible to them throughout the day.

Supporting relationships

- Staff were observed to speak to each other in respectful and warm manner.
- Children's artwork, photographs, family walls and birthday charts were displayed throughout the service, supporting the children's sense of identity and links between home and the service. In addition, children had their own individually labelled coat hooks.
- Staff were observed to interact continuously with the children. For example, activity times and snack times were observed to be a sociable event and staff chatted amicably with the children.
- Staff discussed how parents are welcomed into the service. The inspector observed staff to chat with parents at collection time. Staff spoke confidently and knowledgeably about the children in their care and their wider families.

Physical and Material Environment

- The furniture provided in the care rooms was low level and appropriate for children attending with toys, equipment and play materials easily accessible and visible to the children on low-level units which nurtured independence and facilitated choice.
- There was a range of equipment available including mark making, a home corner with associated props to facilitate imaginative play experiences, stacking, building, connecting and threading toys to facilitate

creative play, cars and tracks for transporting and books to facilitate language and early literacy development.

- Outdoor play equipment included a hammock swing, a climbing frame, an outdoor kitchen and a range of toys enhancing gross and fine motor skills.

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:

- On the unannounced arrival at the service by the inspectors, the entrance door leading into the premises was appropriately secured with keypad access to prevent the children from exiting unsupervised and to restrict unauthorised persons from gaining access to the premises throughout the inspection.
- Internal doors were secured with high handles ensuring children could not exit the rooms unsupervised.

Infection Control:

- An ambient temperature of 18-22°C was maintained in the care rooms, and the windows were open to allow fresh circulation of air.
- The sanitary accommodation was equipped with warm running water, liquid soap, and hand drying facilities. Both staff and children were observed to show familiarity with routine handwashing after toileting, before mealtimes and outdoor play.
- Foot operated pedal bins were in use for the appropriate disposal of waste in the care rooms and sanitary facilities.

Administration of Medication:

- No children were on prescribed medication on the day of inspection. The service had a medication administration policy should medication be required to be administered to a child.

Fire Safety:

- Emergency and fire exits were signposted and unobstructed. The children's attendance book was monitored to ensure staff knew how many children were present in the care room and during outdoor play. This supported planning for safe evacuation of the children in the event of an emergency.

Non-Compliance Information

General Safety

- Although most of the route to the outdoor area was securely fenced, a section of the walkway was open which allowed for access to the car park, the wider campus and the road. Staff described how they care for some children for whom this can present a risk as they may get away from staff on the short walk into the service. It is acknowledged that staff demonstrated physical and procedural measures they had implemented to minimise this risk but remained concerned about the possibility of a child being able to access the road.

Corrective & Preventive Action submitted by the Registered Provider

Corrective and Preventive Action

Gate has been erected to allow parents and service users enter the building safely

Supporting documentation submitted

Photographic evidence submitted.

Summary Comment

The inspector has reviewed the corrective and preventive actions and evidence submitted. The non-compliance identified under Regulation 23 have been addressed.

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

(2)

- (a) The first aid equipment was safely stored, and unobstructed if needed to access quickly.
- (b) A suitably equipped first aid box was always available to the adults caring for children attending the service. Staff were observed to take a first aid backpack with them on each visit to the outdoor area.

Non-Compliance Information

(1) The registered provider did not ensure that a staff member trained in First Aid Response (FAR) was immediately available to the children at all times during the service opening hours. Records indicated that two staff members were previously trained in First Aid Response however the certificate for one member of staff had expired. This meant that there was approximately one hour per day where there was no staff available with First Aid Responder training. sufficient number of adults must be trained with First Aid Responder training and available to the children at all times should a medical emergency arise. It is acknowledged that all staff had paediatric first aid.

Corrective & Preventive Action submitted by the Registered Provider

Corrective and Preventive Action

Staff members registered to attend a First Aid Responder training course.

Supporting documentation submitted

First Aid Responder training certificates for staff were submitted to early years inspector.

Summary Comment

The inspector has reviewed the corrective and preventive actions and evidence submitted. The non-compliance identified under Regulation 25 has been addressed.

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.

Compliance Information

(1)

- (a) Fire drills were completed monthly. The last fire drill completed was recorded on 27 February 2026.
- (b) A record was maintained when the firefighting equipment and smoke alarm system were serviced in November 2025.

Part VII - Premises and Space Requirements

Regulation 29 - Premises

A registered provider shall ensure that the premises of the service are-
(d) cleaned, maintained and repaired, as required, and

Non-Compliance Information

(d) On the day of inspection there was evidence of waste materials in the outdoor play area which posed an infection risk to children.

Corrective & Preventive Action submitted by the Registered Provider

Corrective and Preventive Action

(d) The yogurt carton found in the leaves was immediately removed and a full overhaul of the outdoor area was completed on 19 March 2026. A caretaker has been employed in the mornings prior to using the garden to clean, tidy and ensure no debris is in the play area.

Supporting documentation submitted

Photographic evidence submitted.

Summary Comment

The inspector has reviewed the corrective and preventive actions and evidence submitted. The non-compliance identified under Regulation 29 has been addressed.