

# Early Years Inspectorate Regulatory Report

## Pre School

<b>TUSLA Identifier:</b>	TU2015GY029
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<b>Name of Service:</b>	Wiz Kidz Childcare Limited
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<b>Address of Service:</b>	Belclare N.S., Belclare, Tuam, Co. Galway
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<b>Eircode:</b>	H54 NY03
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<b>Name of Registered Provider:</b>	Sarah Grogan
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<b>Service type:</b>	Part Time, Sessional
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<b>Date of Inspection:</b>	18/02/2025
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<b>No of pre-school children:</b>	AM	16	PM	7
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<b>Address of the Early Years Inspectorate:</b>	Early Years Inspectorate, Quality and Regulation Directorate, Child and Family Agency, Clinical & Administration Building, Block A (1st Floor- Green Corridor), Merlin Park, Galway.
<b>Inspection undertaken by:</b>	F Kelly.
<b>Title:</b>	Early Years Inspector.

### 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).

<b>Conditions if applicable</b>	Not Applicable
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### Description of service

The service is located in the National School in Belclare, county Galway. It offers a part time and a sessional day care service to children aged between 2 and 6 years of age. The sessional service operates from 9:20 am to 12:20 pm, and a part time service from 09:20 am to 2:00 pm, Monday to Friday. The service consists of two playrooms with both adult and children's sanitary areas. The outdoor play area is located to the front of the building.

### Staffing

There are four adults employed to work in the service. The registered provider does not work in the service on a daily basis.

### 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. The inspection may also focus on other areas as required.

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 inspector wishes to acknowledge the cooperation of the 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*

*(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) The manager was the designated person in charge and there was a named person who was able to deputise as required.
- (b) During the period of inspection, the deputy manager was in charge and facilitated the inspection.

Following a review of the service files and discussion with the deputy manager, it was confirmed that there were five staff employed in the service which included a registered provider that does not work in the service on a daily basis.

These files were reviewed on the day of inspection.

- (2)(a) The 10 required written and appropriately validated references available were from the adult's most recent employer.
- (b) Not applicable, as all written validated reference were from previous employers.
- (c) Garda Vetting disclosures were available for the staff working in the service. The service demonstrated compliance with the Early Years Inspectorate Regulatory Notice requiring services to renew garda vetting for staff members every three years.
- (d) Police vetting was not required as the adults working in the service had not lived for a period longer than six consecutive months outside the jurisdiction.
- (4) All adults working directly with children have obtained an award in Early Childhood Care and Education ranging from Level 5 to level 8 on the National Qualifications Framework.

### 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) During the period of inspection there were an adequate number of adults working with the pre-school children attending the service.
- (2) On the day of inspection, the following care rooms was in operation.
  - At 10.15 am, there were 3 adults working with 16 preschool children
  - At 12.40 pm, there was 3 adults caring for 7 preschool 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

##### **SUPPORTING RELATIONSHIPS AROUND CHILDREN.**

- The service supports children in forming and sustaining positive relationships, they do so by assigning a key worker to each child. Each staff member was assigned six children, they developed close links with each child and they were responsible for doing regular observations on the children, so their interests and experiences were taken into account when developing the curriculum plans.
- Each child was given the opportunity to be a helper for a day. This child was responsible to carry out various tasks during the session such as helping at circle time, being responsible for getting the lunch

tables ready for snack time, being first in the line to go outside and first to wash their hands prior to snack time.

- The service provided opportunities for the children to play in small and larger group activities. This was observed on the day when four children wanted to play with the small sand table. Due to space limitations only three children could play at any time with the sand. The children were observed to negotiate between themselves on taking turns with the help of a sand timer.
- The transition of children within the service was observed to be seamless and comfortable for the children, for example when it was time to tidy up and move on to another activity the staff member introduced a three-minute sand timer. The children were aware of the routine and took part in singing the “tidy up time song” without any prompt from the staff.
- There was strong evidence of teamwork in the service, a record of regular formal meetings was available for inspection.