

# Early Years Inspectorate Regulatory Report

## Pre School

<b>TUSLA Identifier:</b>	TU2015GY267		
<b>Name of Service:</b>	Wiz Kidz Childcare Limited		
<b>Address of Service:</b>	Kilconly Community Centre, Kilconly, Tuam, Co. Galway		
<b>Eircode:</b>	H54 C526		
<b>Name of Registered Provider:</b>	Sarah Grogan		
<b>Service type:</b>	Part Time, Sessional		
<b>Date of Inspection:</b>	12/09/2025		
<b>No of pre-school children:</b>	AM	15	PM 4
<b>Address of the Early Years Inspectorate:</b>	Early Years Inspectorate, 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		
<b>Authority to Inspect</b>			
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		

### Description of service

This service is in a rural setting in Kilconly, Tuam, county Galway. It offers a sessional service from 09.20 to 12.20 and a part-time service from 09.00 to 14.00 Monday to Friday. The service operates from an upstairs room in the local Community Hall.

### Staffing

There were 4 staff present on the day which included service manager. 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 and premises. 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 person 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.*

*(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) There was a designated person in charge and there was a named person who was able to deputise as required.

- (b) During the period of inspection, the person in charge and was on the premises and facilitated the inspection. At 11.10 am the service manager arrived at the service and helped to facilitate the inspection.
- Following a review of the service files and discussion with the person in charge, it was confirmed that there were 6 staff members working in the service, which included the registered provider and a service manager. These files were reviewed on the day of inspection.
- (2) (a) Of the 12 references required, all references were sourced from past employers and were validated.
- (b) Not applicable as all references were sourced from past employers.
- (c) Garda vetting disclosures had been obtained for all 6 staff. The service adhered to the re-vetting timeframes as outlined in the Early Years Inspectorate Regulatory Notice, requiring services to renew garda vetting every 3 years.
- (d) Police vetting disclosures were available for 3 adults working in the service that had lived outside the jurisdiction for a period of over 6 months.
- (4) All adults working directly with children have obtained an award in Early Childhood Care and Education from Level 5 to a 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 adequate numbers of adults working with the pre-school children attending the service. On the morning of the inspection there were 15 pre-school children attending the morning session.
- (2) At 10.10 on the day of inspection one playroom was in operation.
- Playroom- there were 3 adults caring for 11 children ages between 2 years 9 months and 4 years of age.

## 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

- When the inspector arrived at the service the children were observed playing with different play activities around the playroom which included the following:
  - Sensory play which included water and sand play.
  - Creative play which included the junk art table, where children were observed colouring and using stickers. Children were also seen painting on an easel, using play dough and listening to stories been told or just looking at picture books in the quiet area.
  - Imaginative play which included the home corner and the transport area.
  - Role playing where children dressed up in costumes.
  - Constructive play, using various sizes and types of building blocks.
- The play environment was organised so the children could move freely from one play activity to another. The staff facilitated the play rather than taking the lead role.
- Storytelling in the soft seated area was a very popular activity. A staff member was observed reading various books to a small group of children. The children listened attentively when the story was being told then asked questions of the staff member.
- When it was time to tidy up and move to another activity, the staff introduced a sand timer to help the children transition to another task or activity. The children were observed happily singing and tidying up before they move to the outdoor play area. The staff were heard asking questions as they sang the tidy up song. They asked the children "Could anyone tell me where this goes". This helped keep the children engaged and the children answered with enthusiasm.
- The staff were heard praising and encouraging the children throughout the sessions. The staff used phrases such as "you are doing a super job" and "well done."
- The children played in the outdoor play area for a period before they had their snack time.

- A large table was set up in one section of the playroom. The table was cleaned and was laid with a tablecloth. The children could decide when they would sit to eat their lunch. Children were observed firstly deciding where they wanted to sit by putting down their place mat on the table, then washed their hands, then retrieved their snack from the fridge. The children were given enough time to eat their lunch. When they were finished, they returned their lunch boxes to their bags. They were then free to continue with the next activity they decided to engage in.
- The snack was not for a specific timeframe, the children could decide when they wanted to eat. Children were observed eating their snack at various times throughout the session.
- The staff sat and ate their lunch with the children also and were heard chatting and engaging with the children. The staff monitored each child to ensure that all children ate their lunch at some stage during the session. If children were attending the part time session, they brought in a separate lunch box for their second lunch.

### 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) The registered provider ensured that a person trained in first aid was immediately available to the preschool children attending the service. There were 3 adults trained in First Aid Responder available to the children and 3 adults had received training in First Aid for Children.

(2)(a) There was suitably equipped first aid box available to the children, the contents were checked on a regular basis by a staff member.

(b) The first aid box was conveniently located at the playroom area of 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 firefighting 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) Written records of the fire drills undertaken in the service were kept by staff with the last fire drill recorded as having been undertaken on the 29/08/2025.
- (1)(b) A certificate of the number, type and maintenance of the firefighting equipment and the smoke alarms was dated for the 11/09/2025 and was available for inspection.
- (4) Notices of the procedures to be followed in the event of a fire were conspicuously displayed in the lobby area and adjacent to the fire exits.

### 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.

#### Compliance Information

- (1) Adequate floor space was provided in the playroom for the free movement of children to play and explore. The overall floor measurement of this space was 44.408m<sup>2</sup>.