

TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances



Tusla I.D: TU2015LK015

Name of Service: Star Kids Athlacca

Address of Service: Rathcannon, Athlacca, Kilmallock, Co. Limerick.

Email Address: daafterschool@gmail.com

Name of Registered Provider: John Buckley

Type of Proposed Service:	Full Day Care	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Part-Time	<input type="checkbox"/>	Sessional	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Drop-In	<input type="checkbox"/>	Childminding	<input type="checkbox"/>	Temporary	<input type="checkbox"/>

Proposed change: Changing from Part Time Service To Full Day Care Service to operate from 7.30am to 2.30 pm each day.

Proposed Number of Children: 22 (no change)

Recommended Change Following Inspection: Changing from Part Time Service to Full Day Care Service to operate from 7.30am to 2.30 pm each day

Registered change: Change in service type from Part Time to Full Day Care

Date of Inspection: 2 7 0 7 2 0 2 3

Inspection undertaken by: Marie Riordan

Title: Early Years Inspector

Tusla Early Years Inspectorate Address: Tusla, Early Years Inspectorate, Estuary House, Henry Street, Limerick

Rationale for Inspection:
Proposed Change of Circumstance

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

Registration Status:	Registered Full Day Care Service for 22 Children
Date of Registration	2 nd August 2023

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Authority to Inspect

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

Description of Service	Star Kids pre-school is a community sessional and part time pre-school service, located in the rural community of Athlacca, in Co. Limerick. It is located next door to the local primary school in the village. The service offers a morning sessional service from 9.15am to 12.15pm, a part time service up to 2.00pm and a school aged service each afternoon.
Premises	The premises is a purpose-built, single-story building. It contains 2 spacious pre-school rooms with bathroom facilities, a kitchen, a storage room, a disability toilet and a manager's. It has a well-resourced, enclosed outdoor play area to the side and rear of the premises. A modular building located at the end of the outdoor play area is used as a sensory play space and as a room to accommodate school aged children each evening.
Staffing	The registered provider of the service is the chairperson of the Dromin Athlacca Community Childcare Committee. A designated person in charge is appointed to oversee the daily running of the pre-school. There are 5 staff employed to work at the service. All staff hold a major award in Early Childhood Care and Education. There is a staff member trained in first aid available to the children at all times.
Methodology	<p>The inspection was an announced 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 regulations under the following themes; Governance, Health welfare and development of the child, Safety and premises.</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 taken into consideration when making a decision in relation to registering the change in circumstance. 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.</p>
Acknowledgements	The Inspector wishes to acknowledge the cooperation of the registered provider, who was present on the day of the inspection.

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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.

Requirement met:

The requirement has been met.

(1)(a) The registered provider has appointed a designated person in charge who has responsibility for running the service daily. There is an appointed person available to deputise if required.

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.

Requirement met:

The requirement has been met.

(1) The registered provider and the manager of the service will ensure that there will be an adequate number of staff employed to work at 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—

(a) having regard to the number of pre-school children attending the service, their respective ages and the amount of time they spend on the premises, there are adequate and suitable facilities for each child to play indoors and, where required by these Regulations, outdoors, during the day, and

(b) there are adequate and suitable facilities for a pre-school child to rest during the day, and in the case of an overnight pre-school service, during the day and the night.

(2) A registered provider—

(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 30 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

Requirement met:

The requirement has been met.

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- (1)(a) The service has 2 well-resourced preschool rooms for the children to play indoors. The rooms are bright and spacious and well laid out with various equipment and play materials on open, low level shelving units. Children have daily access to an outdoor play area on the premises at the side and rear of the building.
- (b) The service has a designated rest area developed in the room with soft seating and soft furnishings available. Low level beds have also been purchased and are available for use if needed.
- (2) A fully enclosed outdoor area is available to the children. The area is well equipped with age appropriate play equipment.
- (3)(a) This outdoor area is available on the premises.

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.

Requirement Met:

The requirement has been met.

Fresh meals and snacks will be prepared and served each day to the children who will attend the service. Breakfast will be served on arrival. A mid-morning snack will be offered during the sessional service. A hot nutritious snack will be offered to the children staying until 2.30pm. A sample menu is available for parents to view. A healthy eating policy is in place.

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.

Requirement Met:

The requirement has been met.

The front door is locked at all times and staff must allow all children and visitors to gain access to the facility.

All fire emergency exit doors are unobstructed.

Safe storage is provided for each child's personal belongings.

Storage for cleaning materials and equipment is provided in a secure area.

A fridge is provided for the storage of perishable food.

Drinking water is readily available to the children throughout the day.

There is provision for safe storage of medications in the service.

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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 is available to the children attending the pre-school service at all times

Requirement met:

The requirement has been met.

(1) The manager of the service will 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) (b) A fully equipped first aid box is available in the service.

The first aid box is wall mounted in the pre-school room, is readily identifiable and accessible to all staff if needed.

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.

Requirement met:

The requirement has been met.

(1)(a) A record is available of monthly fire drills at the service.

(b) A service record for the firefighting equipment and the smoke alarms is available. A contracted company visits the service to complete this work on an ongoing basis.

(4) A fire assembly point is identified in the outdoor area. Notices of procedures to be followed in the event of a fire are displayed in the service.

Part VI – Safety

Regulation 28 – Insurance

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

Requirement met:

An insurance quotation was submitted to the Registration Team prior to this inspection. The Registered Provider must ensure that adequate insurance is in place prior to the commencement of the change. The change approval is contingent on the registered providers compliance with Regulation 28.

Part VII – Premises and Space Requirements

Regulation 29 – Premises

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

- (a) of sound and stable structure,*
- (b) safe and secure,*
- (c) kept adequately lit, heated and ventilated,*
- (d) cleaned, maintained and repaired, as required, and*
- (e) equipped with adequate and suitable sanitary facilities.*

Requirement met:

The requirement has been met.
 (a) The building appears to be of sound and stable structure. It appears clean and well maintained throughout.
 (b) The entrance door to the service has a secure locking system in place.
 (c) Natural lighting is provided with numerous windows and this is supplemented with artificial lights which are fully encased with protective covers. The windows in each room are openable to provide natural ventilation. All heating appliances are thermostatically controlled to ensure safe surface temperature.
 (d) The rooms in the service are well maintained and clean throughout.
 (e) Sufficient sanitary facilities are provided in the premises with enough toilets and wash hand basins for adults and children provided.

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.*
- (2) A registered provider of a full day care service or a part-time day care service shall ensure that the minimum amount of clear floor space specified in column (3) of Schedule 7 opposite a particular reference number specified in column (1) of that Schedule in respect of the age range of children specified in column (2) thereof at that reference number is available for each child in that age range attending the service.*
- (3) A registered provider of a sessional pre-school service or a pre-school service in a drop-in centre shall ensure that a minimum of 1.818 square metres of clear floor space is available for each child attending the service.*

Requirement met:

The requirement has been met.
 (1) Adequate clear floor space is available in the premises for the work, play and movement of children attending the pre-school service.
 (2) The required minimum amount of floor space determined by the age range of the children is available in the premises. There is above the required space available to accommodate the proposed change of service from a sessional/ part time service to a full day care service.
 (3) The minimum amount of floor space required by the sessional group attending the service is available.