

Early Years Inspectorate Regulatory Report

Pre School

TUSLA Identifier: TU2015MO103

Name of Service: Roundfort Kreative Kidz

Address of Service: Roundfort, Hollymount, Co. Mayo

Eircode: F12 VW53

Name of Registered Provider: Ardil Jennings

Service type: Full Day

Date of Inspection: 15/01/2026

No of pre-school children:	AM	13	PM	7
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Address of the Early Years Inspectorate:	Early Year's Inspectorate, TUSLA, Child and Family Agency, 2nd Floor, St. Mary's HQ., Castlebar, Co. Mayo.
Inspection undertaken by:	B Lavin
Title:	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).

Conditions if applicable	Not applicable
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Description of service

Roundfort Kreative Kidz is registered to provide full day care, part-time and sessional services to children aged from 2 to 6 years of age. The service operates from a purpose-built premises beside a primary school in the village of Roundfort in county Mayo. There are two playrooms in the building, one of which is used by the preschool service, in addition to sanitary facilities, an office and a kitchenette. A large enclosed outdoor play area accessible from the playroom is provided for the children to the rear and side of the building.

Staffing

There were four staff working in the service at the time of the inspection.

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 and 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 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 deputy person were on the premises and facilitated the inspection.
- (2) Following a review of the service files and discussion with the person in charge, it was confirmed that there were nine members of staff employed in the service including the registered provider who did not work directly with the children.
- (a) There were 15 written and appropriately validated references available from their most recent employer.
- (b) There were three written and appropriately validated references available from a source other than recent employer for three adults working in the service.
- (c) Garda vetting disclosures were available for all the staff working in the service. The service did adhere to the re-vetting timeframes as outlined in the Early Years Inspectorate Regulatory Notice, requiring services to renew garda vetting every three years.
- (d) A police vetting disclosure was available for 1 adult working in the service that had lived outside the jurisdiction for a period of over 6 months when aged over 18 years.
- (4) Five adults working directly with the early years children have obtained an award in Early Childhood Care and Education from Level 5 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.*
- (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) There were three adults working directly with children on the day of inspection.
- (2) The minimum adult to child ratios were provided on the morning of inspection in accordance with the required ratios considering the ages of the children and the length of time each child spent in the service as outlined below:
- Preschool room: Three adults cared for 13 children aged 3 -4 years of age.
- (8) (a) The registered provider demonstrated that a minimum of two adults were on the premises during the operational hours of the service.

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

Basic Needs

- Drinking water was available to all children in individual beakers throughout the day.
- Children were observed eating their snack which consisted of fruit, yogurt, cheese, bread sticks and sandwiches. Children were supported during mealtimes with opening food items when needed. Independence was encouraged with self-help skills.
- Children sat at tables and chairs which were appropriate for their height and/or stage of development.
- The staff were observed sitting at the child's level and chatted in a respectful manner.
- The privacy and dignity of each child was respected during toileting.
- Appropriate rest facilities were available in the care room in the form of soft couches.
- Appropriate rest facilities were available within the care room should a child require a sleep during the day. Two children who required a nap had the opportunity to sleep on individual sleep mats with individual bed linen.

- Children had easy access to the outside areas throughout the day. Children moved freely between indoors and outdoors and vice versa.
- The adults working with the children were sensitive and responsive in promoting positive behaviours and supported children to find positive solutions to sharing toys and equipment.
- Children had plenty of opportunities to move themselves, to practice and improve their emerging skills, such as co-ordination and balance.

Supporting relationships

- The staff members demonstrated warmth and sensitivity in their interactions with the children. The staff members helped the children choose activities and allowed choice over activities. The staff members helped the children set up play and offered assistance and encouragement, communicating using soft gentle tones.
- Staff supported children to engage positively with one another. The children were encouraged to engage in play activities that required turn taking and sharing. Staff members were heard encouraging children to be mindful of the feelings of those around them which promoted an ethos of friendship and working together.
- The service provided parents and guardians with daily information, including significant events or activities involving their child, for example, verbal communication at drop of and collection times and through email and online messaging.
- The staff were observed helping children to find solutions, supporting them and talking to the children in a variety of ways- discussing, learning from their environment and developing language skills.

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

- There was a healthy eating policy. The person in charge advised that healthy eating was promoted within the service by visual aids and adherence to best practice guidelines.
- In the morning before 09.00, the children had access to a selection of oat and wheat-based cereals, with milk and toast.
- At 11.30, the children had their snacks provided by parents and guardians which included cheese, bread sticks, crackers, rice cakes, sandwiches, fruit pieces and yogurt.
- At 13:00, the children had their main meal. On the day of inspection, the main meal was chicken, mashed potatoes and sweetcorn.
- At 15:00, the children had snacks provided by parents and guardians which included raisins, cheese, crackers, rice cakes, sandwiches, wraps, breadsticks, vegetables/fruit pieces and yogurt. There were additional snacks available within the service if the children required more.
- Cutlery and plates were offered for children’s snack/mealtimes, appropriate to the age and stage of development of the children.
- Clean and safe drinking water on low-level tables was available and accessible to children in each playroom.
- There was a designated fridge for the safe storage of perishable foodstuffs from children’s lunch boxes for their snack times.

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) On the day of inspection, the three staff members on duty were trained in first aider response (FAR) training and were available to children attending the preschool service.

(2) (a) (b).

A fully stocked first aid box was safely stored in a conspicuous position and available to the children.