

Early Years Inspectorate Regulatory Report

School Age Services

TUSLA Identifier:	TU2019DR016SA
Name of School Age Service:	Rosemont Afterschool
Name of Registered Provider:	Helen Hughes
Address of School Age Service:	Enniskerry Road, Sandyford, Dublin 18.
Eircode:	D18 A8N2

Date of Inspection:	14 October 2024
Number of school age children present during inspection:	PM 40
Registration status:	Registered
Conditions (if applicable):	N/A

Address of the Early Years Inspectorate	Brunel Building, Heuston South Quarter, Siant John's Road West, Dublin 8. D08 X01F
Inspection undertaken by:	A. Bradshaw
Title:	Early years inspector

Authority to Inspect

Tusla's 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).

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Description of Service:

Rosemont Afterschool is a school age service based in a post-primary school in Dublin 18. The service has the use of a dedicated room in the school and a large assembly hall. The children use a classroom to complete their homework once the older children's school day is over. There is a large outdoor space directly off the main assembly hall to which the children have access.

The service is registered to accommodate up to 60 children from the ages of 4 up to 15 years old. On the day of the inspection, there were 40 children present. The service is registered to operate from 2:30pm to 6:30pm.

Staffing:

There are a total of eight staff members employed in the service. The registered provider does not work directly with the children. On the day of the inspection, 7 staff members were caring for 40 children.

Additional Information:

The inspector conducted a planned focused inspection of the service.

Legislation

Tusla's Early Years Inspectorate is the independent statutory regulator of School Age Services in Ireland, and its role is to promote and monitor the safety and quality of school age care provision in accordance with the following legislation:

- The Child and Family Agency Act 2013, Part 12.
- Child Care Act 1991 (Early Years Services) (Registration of School Age Services) (Amendment) Regulations 2022.
- The Child Care Act 1991 (Early Years Services) Registration of School Age Services Regulations 2018 (S.I. 575 of 2018).

A school age service means any early years service, play group, day nursery, crèche, day-care or other similar service which:

- caters for children under the age of 15 years enrolled in a school providing primary or post-primary education,
- provides a range of activities that are developmental, educational and recreational in manner, which take place outside of school hours, the primary purpose of which is to care for children where their parents are unavailable, and
- the basis for access to which is made publicly known to the parents and guardians of the children referred to in point (a) above.

It is the responsibility of a registered provider to ensure the safety and well-being of school age children and the above legislation authorises Tusla to assess compliance with the Regulations.

Inspection Methodology:

The inspection is unannounced to assess compliance with the Child Care Act 1991 (Early Years Services) Registration of School Age Services Regulations 2018 (S.I. 575 of 2018), Child Care Act 1991 (Early Years Services) (Registration of School Age Services) (Amendment) Regulations 2022, and the Child Care Act 1991, Section 58 as amended by Part 12 of the Child and Family Agency Act, 2013.

The findings on inspection are gathered through a triangulation method, including:

- Information obtained through examination of documentation.
- Direct observation.
- Discussion with relevant staff.

This inspection aims to determine the extent to which service is appropriate for the care, safety, and wellbeing of children in accordance with the regulations cited above.

Inspection findings are documented in the School Age Services 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 corrected the non-compliance and how they will prevent them 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 CAPA 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.

Acknowledgements:

The inspector wishes to acknowledge the co-operation of the children, the person in charge, and the staff who were present on the day of inspection.

Summary of Findings:

On inspection, the registered providers were found to be compliant in relation to the following:

- Regulation 8(1)(a)(b)(c): Vetting disclosures;
- Regulation 9(1)(2)(4): Staffing levels;
- Regulation 12: Insurance.

On inspection, the registered providers were found to be non-compliant in:

- Regulation 8(1)(d) (2): Vetting disclosures.

Conclusion and follow up actions: The actions and evidence submitted by the registered provider, in their corrective and preventive action plan, have adequately addressed the non-compliance identified on inspection.

Regulation 8: Vetting disclosures

(1) A registered provider of a school age service other than a childminding service 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.

(2) The procedures specified in paragraph 1 shall be carried out prior to any person being appointed, assigned or allowed access to or contact with a child attending the school age service.

Regulatory Requirement Met

(1)(a)(b)(c)

The inspector reviewed eight staff files. The registered provider had ensured that validated references were available and that all staff had current Garda vetting in place. The service also demonstrated compliance with the Early Years Inspectorate Regulatory Notice requiring services to renew Garda vetting every three years.

Regulatory Requirement not met

(1)(d)

Documentation demonstrated that police vetting was required of two staff members however only one police vetting record was available. However, there was evidence to show that police vetting had recently been applied for.

(2)

Files available demonstrated that procedures specified in paragraph 1 had not been carried out prior to staff members being appointed, assigned or allowed access to or contact with children attending the school age service. Police vetting was not available for a staff member prior to commencing employment.

Corrective & Preventive Action Response submitted by the Registered Provider

The registered provider stated that once police vetting is received it will be filed in the staff folder. Moving forward all documents will be sought before employment has commenced and all staff requirements are met before employment.

The amended recruitment policy was submitted to the Agency which includes a procedure to ensure that any new/current staff are aware of the procedure and required documents when applying for a position in the Afterschool.

Summary of Findings

The actions and evidence submitted by the registered provider, in their corrective and preventive action plan, have adequately addressed the non-compliance identified on inspection.

Regulation 9: Staffing levels

- (1) *Subject to this Regulation, a registered provider of a school age service other than a childminding service shall ensure that there is at all times an adequate number of competent and suitable adults on the premises while the service is operating.*
- (2) *Without prejudice to paragraph (1), a registered provider of a school age service other than a childminding service shall ensure that there is a minimum ratio of 1 adult to 12 children at all times while the service is operating.*
- (4) *A registered provider of a school age service shall ensure that the school age children attending the service are appropriately supervised at all times.*

Regulatory Requirement Met

(1)(2)(4)

During the inspection, the registered provider ensured that appropriate staffing levels were maintained. The 40 children attending the service were supervised by 6 adults and the manager. During the inspection, three staff were observed supervising the children during snack time while three others were with the children in the outdoor area.

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Regulation 12: Insurance

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

Regulatory Requirement Met

The service was insured from 17 September 2024 to 16 September 2025 for a maximum of 60 school age children.