

Early Years Inspectorate Regulatory Report School Age Services

TUSLA Identifier:	TU2019DS010SA
Name of School Age Service:	Coach Approach Sports and Fitness Limited
Name of Registered Provider:	Lee Moroney
Address of School Age Service:	Solas Christ National School, Belgard, Tallaght, Dublin 24
Eircode:	D24 C621

Date of Inspection:	11 April 2024
Number of school age children present during inspection:	PM 51
Registration status:	Registered

Address of the Early Years Inspectorate	Brunel Building, Heuston South Quarter, Saint 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).

Early Years Inspectorate Regulatory Report

School Age Services

Description of Service:

Coach Approach Sports and Fitness Limited is one of two school age services owned by the registered provider. It is based at Solas Chríost National School in Belgard, Tallaght, Dublin 24. The service temporarily has the use of the general-purpose hall in the school during major renovations to the main school building.

The service is registered to accommodate up to 84 children at any one time between the ages of 4 and 15 years old.

The service is registered to operate from 8.15am to 9.00am and from 1.10pm to 5.30pm. The service is registered to operate from 8.30am to 5.30pm outside of the school term.

The children have access to two schoolyards and a grassed playing pitch.

Staffing:

There are a total of eight staff members employed in the service. On the day of the inspection, there were 6 staff caring for 51 children. The registered provider does not work directly with the children but is available to offer support if required.

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 provider was 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 provider was 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 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. Ten validated written references from past employers, and six from reputable sources were available. Eight Garda vetting disclosures were on file. 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)

Records demonstrated that one staff member required police vetting and this was not available on the day of the inspection.

(2)

This evidence demonstrated that relevant vetting disclosure procedures had not been carried out before a staff member worked directly with the children.

Corrective & Preventive Action Response submitted by the Registered Provider

(1)(d)

The registered provider submitted evidence to demonstrate that police vetting had been applied for. A copy of the outstanding police vetting was received on the 6th June 2024.

A copy of the updated recruitment policy was also submitted.

(2)

The registered provider has stated that going forward all vetting disclosure will be in place before a staff member is employed.

Summary of Findings

The actions and evidence submitted by the registered provider, in their corrective and preventive action plan, have addressed the non-compliance identified on inspection and will be reviewed on the next 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)

The registered provider ensured that appropriate staffing levels were maintained during the inspection. The 51 children attending the service were supervised directly by 6 adults. Discussion with staff members and a review of the staff and children's attendance records from 8 April 2024 to 11 April 2024 demonstrated the minimum ratio of 1 adult to 12 children was maintained during this period.

During the inspection, staff were observed to engage with children. Three staff supervised and managed a table quiz for 32 children who were observed to actively participate. Meanwhile, another staff member worked with the younger children doing arts, crafts, and jigsaws.

Regulation 12: Insurance

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

Regulatory Requirement Met

The service was insured for a breakfast club and afterschool care from 28 March 2024 to 27 March 2025. The cover was for a maximum of 48 children to attend the morning breakfast club and up to 84 children to attend the after school service.