

Early Years Inspectorate Regulatory Report School Age Services

TUSLA Identifier:	TU2019KE007SA
Name of School Age Service:	Krafty Kidz Afterschool Club
Name of Registered Providers:	Jennifer Keane Susan Adams
Address of School Age Service:	Kill GAA Club, Greenhills, Kill, Co. Kildare
Eircode:	W91 XP95

Date of Inspection:	7 November 2024			
Number of school age children present during inspection:	AM	N/A	PM	56
Registration status:	Registered			
Conditions (if applicable):	N/A			

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:

Krafty Kidz Afterschool Club is owned and operated by two registered providers. It is based in Kill Gaelic Athletic Association (GAA) clubhouse in the village of Kill, Co. Kildare. The service has the use of the club's large amenity hall, the football grounds and the playground.

The service is registered to accommodate up to 60 children from the ages of 4 up to 12 years of age. On the day of the inspection, there were 56 children in attendance.

The service is open from 7.30am to 8.30am and 1pm to 6 pm during the school term and from 7.30 am to 6 pm outside of the academic year.

Staffing:

There are a total of nine staff employed including both registered providers.

The registered providers do not work directly with the children but are available for support if required. On the day of the inspection, there were 7 staff caring for 56 children.

Additional Information:

The inspector carried out 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, registered providers, person in charge, and 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)(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)(a)(b)(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 all but one of the non-compliances identified on inspection. The action to address Regulation 8(1)(d) remains incomplete and will be inspected in the next 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)(c)

The inspector reviewed nine staff files including the two registered provider's files. Nine 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)(a)(b)

Of the nine staff files reviewed, validated references were not available for four staff members.

(d)

Documents reviewed demonstrated that police vetting was required for one staff member who had resided outside of the state for six months or longer. This police vetting was not available on the day of the inspection.

(2)

On a review of the staff files, evidence demonstrated that vetting disclosures were not completed before the staff members worked directly with the children.

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The following was noted:

- Validated references for all staff were not available;
- Police vetting was not available;
- Two staff members' Garda vetting was dated after their start date of employment.

Corrective & Preventive Action Response submitted by the Registered Provider

(1)

(a)(b)

The registered provider submitted the outstanding validated references for the staff.

(d)

Evidence of an application for police vetting was submitted to the inspectorate. The registered provider has stated as there is no embassy in Ireland the staff member had to apply to the country in question and this may take time to complete.

The registered provider has stated that the staff induction sheet has been updated to reflect the requirement for the validation of references. In addition, the recruitment policy has been updated to include the necessity for staff, who have lived outside of the state for six months or more, to have police vetting before they begin their employment

(2)

The registered provider has stated that all vetting disclosures will be in place before staff commence employment in their service.

Summary of Findings

The actions and evidence submitted by the registered provider, in their corrective and preventive action plan for Regulation 8(1)(a)(b)(2), have adequately addressed the non-compliance identified on inspection. However, the action to address Regulation 8(1)(d) remains incomplete and will be inspected in 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)

During the inspection, the registered provider ensured that appropriate staffing levels were maintained. The 56 children attending the service were supervised directly by 7 adults.

Regulation 12: Insurance

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

Regulatory Requirement Met

The service was insured for afterschool only from 28 March 2024 to 27 March 2025 for a maximum of 60 school age children.