

Early Years Inspectorate Regulatory Report School Age Services

TUSLA Identifier:	TU2019TY001SA
Name of School Age Service:	Terryglass After-School Club
Name of Registered Provider:	Lisa Molloy
Address of School Age Service:	Scoil Colmain Naofa, Terryglass, Nenagh, Co. Tipperary.
Eircode:	E45 T671

Date of Inspection:	25 September 2024			
Number of school age children present during inspection:	AM	Not applicable	PM	12
Registration status:	Registered			
Conditions (if applicable):	Not applicable			

Address of the Early Years Inspectorate	Early Years Inspectorate Tusla Primary Care Centre Church Avenue Tullamore Co Offaly R35K1W4
Inspection undertaken by:	A Spain
Title:	Early years inspector

Early Years Inspectorate Regulatory Report

School Age Services

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).

Description of Service:

Terryglass After-School Club is located in a rural school setting in north Tipperary. The service cares for children in the age range 4 to 12 years. A breakfast club is offered between the hours of 8.00 and 9.00am. The service cared for children in attendance in the school between the hours of 1.30 and 6.00pm. Rooms available to the service include the school resource room, a canteen area for snacks and sanitary accommodation close to the service. The service has access to the enclosed school yard and a green area for outdoor play.

Staffing:

The service is staffed by one adult. Both a relief staff member and an emergency contact person are available for the service.

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 and the person in charge who were present on the day of inspection.

Summary of Findings:

On the day of inspection, the registered provider was found to be compliant in relation to:

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

Conclusion and follow-up actions:

On the day of inspection, the service was deemed compliant with the regulations inspected under the Registration of School Age Services Regulations 2018.

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)(d)

The service had two references from either past employers or reputable sources in respect of all three staff members. One reference was sourced from a past employer and five references were sourced from reputable sources. References were validated as required. A Garda vetting disclosure was held on file in respect of all staff members. The service also demonstrated compliance with the Early Years Inspectorate Regulatory Notice requiring services to renew Garda vetting every three years. Employment histories confirmed that Police vetting was not required as none of the staff had lived outside of the state for over six consecutive months as adults.

(2)

Vetting procedures were conducted prior to appointment of staff to assist in the service.

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.*
- (3) Without prejudice to paragraph (1), a registered provider of a school age service shall ensure that, where the person in charge operates the service singlehandedly, a second person familiar with the operation of the service and in a position to provide assistance in operating the service to the person in charge is, at all times, within close distance of the service and available to attend the service to assist the person in charge or the registered provider of the childminding service in the event of an emergency.*
- (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)(3)

One adult was caring for six children on arrival of the inspector. One adult cared for a total of twelve children after school hours in the service. A review of the children's attendance records for both 24 September 2024 and the week of 16 September 2024 confirmed that the maximum number of children present on two days during this period was 12 children with one adult. The service had two adults available to both provide assistance in the service or to assist in the event of an emergency if required. The registered provider advised that one of the adults lived within close proximity of the school building.

(4)

Children were observed to be appropriately supervised as they arrived from the school classrooms to sit for a prepared snack in the canteen room in the service. Children were also observed to be appropriately supervised in the playroom in the service. Assistance was offered with homework as requested. Children were encouraged to engage in colouring and card making activities, making jigsaws and continuing the construction of the "lego village" on a large table set up for that purpose.

Early Years Inspectorate Regulatory Report School Age Services

Regulation 12: Insurance

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

Regulatory Requirement Met

The service had insurance cover for a maximum of 20 children in daily attendance in a school age service. Insurance was valid from the 4 September 2024 to the 27 March 2025.