

Early Years Inspectorate Regulatory Report

School Age Services

TUSLA Identifier:	TU2020DR020SA
Name of School Age Service:	Templeogue After school Academy
Name of Registered Provider(s):	Ronnie Carroll
Address of School Age Service:	St Judes GAA Club, Wellington Lane, Templeogue, Co. Dublin
Eircode:	D6W KX68

Date of Inspection:	16/04/2026			
Number of school age children present during inspection:	AM	N/A	PM	103

Address of the Early Years Inspectorate	The Brunel Building, Heuston South Quarter, St. John's Road West, Dublin 8.
Inspection undertaken by:	R. Duff A. Byrne
Title:	Early Years Inspector Inspection and Registration Manager

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:

Templeogue After school Academy is in Templeogue, Dublin. It operates from St. Judes GAA complex which is a multi-use premises. The service is registered to accommodate 135 children aged 4 to 10 years. The service operates from an indoor hall within the complex. The outdoor area is located to the side of the premises which consists of an enclosed astro-turf pitch and two partially enclosed areas.

Staffing:

The service employs 13 adults, including the registered provider. On the day of inspection, there were 11 adults present in the service. 10 adults were working directly with the children, and 1 adult was carrying out domestic duties.

Additional Information:

This inspection was triggered by information received by the Inspectorate.

The service was operating outside their registration status. A referral was made to Service's Operating Outside of Registration (SOORs) team within the Early Years Inspectorate. While it is acknowledged that no children were present on the day of inspection in a new location proposed for use by the registered provider, the registered provider stated that the new premises has been used by the children on six different occasions. Please refer to Regulation 7; Notification of change in circumstances (1) for further information.

and

Section 58(G) as amended by Part 12 of the Child and Family Agency Act, 2013 for more information.

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:

- a) caters for children under the age of 15 years enrolled in a school providing primary or post-primary education,
- b) 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
- c) 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 inspectors wish to acknowledge the co-operation of the children, registered provider, person in charge, and staff who were present on the day of inspection.

Statutory Notices

Notice	Date Served	Detail
Immediate Action Notice IAN 0061	16/04/2026	International Police vetting was not available for three adults who were working with the children on the day of inspection.
Status	The registered provider took immediate corrective action which addressed the risk identified. Preventative actions were submitted by the registered provider which were accepted and addressed the statutory notice.	

Summary of Findings:

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

- Regulation 9(2)(3)(4): Staffing levels;

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- Regulation 11(a): Premises.
- Section 58(G) as amended by Part 12 of the Child and Family Agency Act, 2013.

On inspection, the registered provider was found to be non-compliant in relation to the following:

- Regulation 7; Notification of change in circumstances (1)
- Regulation 8(1)(2): Vetting disclosures;
- Section 58(G) as amended by Part 12 of the Child and Family Agency Act, 2013.

Conclusion and follow up actions:

The actions and evidence submitted by the registered provider, in their corrective and preventive action plan for Regulations 7, 8 and Child Care Act 1991, Section 58(G) as amended by Part 12 of the Child and Family Agency Act, 2013, have adequately addressed the non-compliance identified on inspection.

Regulation 7: Notification of change in circumstances

(1) A registered provider of a school age service shall, subject to paragraph (2), notify the Agency in writing of any proposed change in the details in relation to the school age service contained in the register pursuant to section 58C (2) of the Act or Regulation 6(2) or 6(3) at least 60 days before it is proposed that the change would take effect.

(2) Where a registered provider has been unable for good and proper reason to notify the Agency within the time specified in paragraph (1) of a change in the details in relation to the school age service contained in the register pursuant to section 58C (2) of the Act or Regulation 6(2) or 6(3), the registered provider shall notify the Agency in writing of the change as soon as possible thereafter.

Regulatory Requirement not met

(1) The service was operating outside their registration status, while it is acknowledged that no children were present on the day of inspection in an additional premises proposed for use by the registered provider, the registered provider stated that the premises has been used by children on six different occasions. The proposed new premises has not been approved for use by the Inspectorate.

Corrective & Preventive Action Response submitted by the Registered Provider

The registered provider has stated:

The provider was unaware at the time that the premises could not be used prior to formal approval. The premises rental/payment was arranged from 1st April, but the space was used a limited number of times after the Easter period from 13th April. Once the provider became aware that prior approval was required, the use of the premises ceased immediately. The premises are not currently being used for the service.

The registered provider will ensure that any future changes to premises, facilities, or operational arrangements will not be implemented until written approval has been received from the Inspectorate and all regulatory requirements have been fully clarified. Management will review compliance procedures and maintain direct communication with the Inspectorate before using any additional premises in the future.

Summary of Findings

The actions taken by the registered provider have addressed the non-compliance. The regulation has been met.

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) The inspection included a review of the required documentation for eight adults employed in the service since the last inspection dated 12 November 2025 and adults present in the service on the day of inspection from the registered providers' other service. The following documentation was available:
- (a) (b) Of the 16 written and validated references required, 4 were available from a previous employer and 6 were available from a reputable source.
 - (c) Garda vetting disclosures from the National Vetting Bureau of An Garda Síochána were available for 13 adults employed to work in the service including the Registered Provider. Garda vetting disclosures from all adults were assessed to determine compliance with the Early Years Inspectorate Regulatory Notice requiring services to renew Garda vetting every three years.
 - (d) Police vetting was available for 5 out of 8 adults who had been employed to work in the service since the last inspection or present on the day of inspection who had lived outside the state for a period exceeding six months as an adult.

Regulatory Requirement not met

(a)(b)

- Two written and validated references were not available for one adult employed to work directly with the children.
- Although it is acknowledged that two written references were available for two staff members and one written reference was available for one staff member, they were not validated prior to the staff members commencing employment in the service.

(1)(d) See Statutory Notice section in relation to Immediate Action Notice IAN 0061 served.

(2) Documentation reviewed evidence that the procedures specified above under 8 (1)(a)(b)(d) had not been carried out prior to six adults commencing employment in the service

- (a)(b) Two written and verified references for four adults were not in place prior to them commencing employment in the service.
- See Statutory Notice section in relation to Immediate Action Notice IAN 0061 served.

Corrective & Preventive Action Response submitted by the Registered Provider

The registered provider has stated:

The registered provider acknowledges that two written and validated references were not available for one staff member employed to work directly with children. This staff member has been employed within the service for a significant period of time, and the original references could not be located during the file review process. The staff member has been requested to provide the references again. Until the required documentation is received and validated, the staff member will not work directly with children.

The provider also acknowledges that, in some cases, references were not validated prior to staff commencing employment. These recruitment processes were managed under previous management arrangements. A full review of staff files is currently being carried out to ensure all documentation is complete and compliant.

The registered provider has implemented strengthened compliance procedures to ensure that all police clearance documentation, including certified English translations where necessary,

will be obtained, reviewed, and verified prior to staff commencing employment within the service.

A recruitment and compliance checklist will be maintained for all staff files, and regular audits will be carried out by management to ensure ongoing compliance with Tusla regulatory requirements.

Management will implement a recruitment checklist and regular staff file audits to ensure ongoing compliance with Tusla requirements. No staff member will be permitted to work directly with children unless all required recruitment documentation has been obtained, reviewed, and verified in advance.

Summary of Findings

The actions taken by the registered provider have addressed the non-compliance. The regulation has been met. This regulation will be assessed 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)

During the inspection, the registered provider ensured that appropriate staffing levels were maintained. The 103 children attending the service were supervised directly by 10 members of staff.

There were an adequate number of adults available during the inspection to meet the needs of the children present. The staff members were observed to work with groups of children for the afternoon. The groups rotated as the afternoon progressed. For example, members of staff organised turn taking basketball games indoors, other staff supervised block play and colouring

activities. Staff members also took groups of children outside to the astro-turf areas used to play football or racing games.

Throughout the inspection, the children were supervised through sight and sound. The adults were observed to move to different areas of the service and observe the children from a reasonable distance.

Regulation 11: Premises

A registered provider of a school age service shall ensure that-

- (a) an outdoor space to which the school age children attending the service have access on a daily basis is provided on the premises, or*
- (b) where no such space is provided, the school age children attending the service have access on a daily basis to an outdoor space.*

Regulatory Requirement Met

- (a) The service has access to a fully enclosed outdoor astro-turf pitch and two partially enclosed areas. The person in charge stated that the fully enclosed area and one of the partially enclosed areas are specifically allocated to the service while the third space is occasionally available but can be used by members of the sports club throughout the day. The children were observed to use the two allocated outdoor areas throughout the inspection.

Child Care Act 1991, Section 58(G) as amended by Part 12 of the Child and Family Agency Act, 2013

It shall be the duty of every person providing an early years service to take all reasonable measures to safeguard the health, safety and welfare of children attending the service and to comply with regulations made by the Minister under this Part.

Regulatory Requirement Met

During the inspection, the inspectors observed the health, safety and welfare of children being supported by the following:

The staff used a rotational system to organise children's activities throughout the day. The main hall was split into two, with tabletop activities such as colouring and block play on one side and sports games on the other. Children spent time outdoors throughout the day in two defined outdoor spaces and staff were observed to coordinate and play games and activities with the children during this time

Children were given advance warnings by staff members to support the transitions to different activity, locations and for mealtimes. The service provided the children with a hot meal on arrival from school and a light snack in the later part of the afternoon. On the day of inspection, the hot meal provided was a chicken curry with rice followed by a biscuit, cheese and fruit for snack.

Regulatory Requirement not met

1. In discussion with inspectors, the registered provider informed inspectors that children were being accommodated in a neighbouring premises which is not registered by the Early Years Inspectorate. Inspectors assessed the unregistered premises which was nearby the current premises and found it was a safety risk to children. For example :

The registered provider told inspectors that the premises will be inaccessible to unauthorised individuals during the service's operational hours. However, at 2pm on the day of inspection a member of the public was observed to enter the service through the front door; they walked through the entrance hall to the sanitary facilities which the registered provider proposes will be used by children.

The inspectors were told by the registered provider that the children had been to this premises on six separate occasions for arts and crafts even though this premises is not registered by the Early Years Inspectorate for use.

Corrective & Preventive Action Response submitted by the Registered Provider

The registered provider acknowledges the concerns raised regarding the use of the neighbouring premises which is not currently registered by the Early Years Inspectorate. The premises is no longer being used by children.

On the day of inspection, the registered provider was not present inside the premises at the time the member of the public entered the building. During operational use of the premises, the entrance door is secured and locked internally while children are present. The provider can supply photographic evidence of the locking system in place.

The registered provider also confirms that, if approved for future use, a staff member will remain stationed at the entrance/reception area at all times during operational hours to ensure that no unauthorised individual can access the premises or areas used by children. The registered provider will not use any additional premises unless and until formal approval has been granted by the Early Years Inspectorate. A risk assessment and operational safety review will be completed for any future premises prior to use.

Additional security measures will include:

- Maintaining controlled access with internally secured doors during operational hours.
- Assigning a staff member to monitor the entrance area at all times.
- Ensuring that unauthorised individuals cannot access areas used by children.
- Reviewing supervision and safety procedures regularly to ensure continued compliance with Tusla requirements.

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Summary of Findings

The actions taken by the registered provider have addressed the non-compliance. The regulation has been met. This regulation will be assessed on the next inspection.