

Early Years Inspectorate Regulatory Report School Age Services

TUSLA Identifier:	TU2020DY019SA
Name of School Age Service:	Peek A Boo Club
Name of Registered Provider(s):	Sylwia Sheehan
Address of School Age Service:	All Saints Road Raheny Co Dublin 5
Eircode:	D05 WF44

Date(s) of Inspection:	19 March 2024
Number of school age children present during inspection:	PM 22
Registration status:	Registered
Conditions (if applicable):	Not applicable

Address of the Early Years Inspectorate	Early Years Inspectorate 180-189 Lakeshore Drive Airside Business Park Swords Co Dublin
Inspection undertaken by:	M. McDonnell
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:

Peek A Boo Club is based on the first-floor of a Gaelic Athletic Association (GAA) club in Co Dublin. The school age service caters for children aged 4-10 years old. The service is open Monday to Friday for a breakfast club from 7.30 to 9.00 am and from 1.30 to 6.00pm for afterschool care. There are sanitary facilities and an outdoor space for use by the school age children are located on the premises.

Staffing:

The registered provider works in the service in a supernumerary capacity. The registered provider employs four staff members who directly work with the school age 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, registered provider, person in charge, and staff 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:

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

On the day of the 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 addressed the non-compliances 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)(c)

A Garda vetting disclosure, dated within the last three years was available for the registered provider and the four staff members. The service had therefore demonstrated compliance with the Early Years Inspectorate Regulatory Notice requiring services to renew Garda vetting every three years.

(1)(d)

The documentation reviewed demonstrated that police vetting was not required for four staff members.

Regulatory Requirement not met

(1)(a)(b)

The inspector reviewed the staff files of the four staff members and the registered provider. There was only one validated reference available for each staff member, whilst two were

required. It is acknowledged that there were two references available for the registered provider.

(1)(d)

The documentation reviewed demonstrated that police vetting was required for one adult as they had resided outside of the State for more than six months continuously. The required police vetting was not available.

(2)

Due to the absence of the second references required or the police vetting the registered provider had not ensured that the full vetting procedures were carried out prior to all staff members being appointed, assigned or allowed access to or contact with the children attending the service.

Corrective & Preventive Action Response submitted by the Registered Provider

(1)(a)(b)

The registered provider submitted the required validated references. The registered provider stated they were unaware of the requirement for two validated references and will obtain them for all staff going forward.

(1)(d)

The registered provider submitted the required translated police vetting. The registered provider stated they were unaware of the requirement for this and will obtain them for all staff going forward.

(2)

The registered provider stated they will ensure that all vetting procedures are completed before new staff members are employed in the service.

Summary of Findings

The actions and evidence submitted by the registered provider, in their corrective and preventive action plan, have addressed the non-compliances 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)

There were 3 staff members working directly with the 22 children who attended the service on the day of the inspection.

(4)

The inspector observed appropriate supervision of the children during the inspection. Staff were observed supporting children with their homework, playing games with the children and helping them with art activities.

Regulation 12: Insurance

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

Regulatory Requirement Met

The service was insured from 28 March 2023 to 27 March 2024 for a maximum of 22 children. On the day of the inspection, there were 22 school age children in attendance.