

# Early Years Inspectorate Regulatory Report

## Pre School

<b>TUSLA Identifier:</b>	TU2021CN001
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<b>Name of Service:</b>	Krafty Kids Daisyhill
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<b>Address of Service:</b>	Daisyhill, Annagh, Ballyconnell, Co. Cavan
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<b>Eircode:</b>	H14HD53
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<b>Name of Registered Provider:</b>	Ciaran McManus
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<b>Service type:</b>	Full Day, Part Time, Sessional
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<b>Date of Inspection:</b>	23/04/2025
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<b>No of pre-school children:</b>	AM	11	PM	11
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<b>Address of the Early Years Inspectorate:</b>	No 18 The Grange Plantation Road Monaghan
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<b>Inspection undertaken by:</b>	S. Skinnader and M. Flood
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<b>Title:</b>	Early Years Inspectors
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### Authority to Inspect

The Tusla 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).

<b>Conditions if applicable</b>	Not Applicable.
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### Description of service

Krafty Kidz Daisyhill has been operating as a community-based childcare service since 2021. The service provides a full day care, part time and sessional service to pre-school children aged 2 - 6 years. The service operates from 07:45 – 17:45 each weekday and caters for a maximum of 54 pre-school children.

The service is conducted from 1 room in a prefabricated building i.e. the bungalow ; with 2 further rooms available in the adjacent 2 story house which are currently closed. It is situated in the town of Ballyconnell Co. Cavan. There are sanitary facilities and a separate kitchen also in the service. The children have access to the outdoor play area directly outside the bungalow.

### Staffing

There are 15 staff employed in the service, 10 of whom including the service manager work directly with the children. One adult is employed directly in an administrative role and 4 other adults are employed through community employment schemes, 1 cook, 2 cleaners and 1 in a supernumerary capacity undertaking childcare training.

Three contracted staff are also working in the service.

### Methodology

Tusla's Early Years Inspectorate is the independent statutory regulator of early years services in Ireland. The Child Care Act 1991 (Early Years Services) Regulations 2016 define the duty of a registered provider to ensure the safety and well-being of children and to comply with these regulations. This Act also gives Tusla the authority to assess compliance with the regulations. The purpose of regulation in relation to early years services is to ensure that the care, safety, and well-being of children attending such services is upheld. Inspections of early years services are planned based on the following:

- Previous inspection history
- Any information received in relation to the service

The findings on inspection are based on:

- Information obtained through examination of documentation
- Direct observation
- Discussion with relevant staff

This inspection was unannounced and focused on the area of governance/ health, welfare and development of child/ safety. The inspection may also focus on other areas as required.

Inspection findings are documented in the 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 rectified the non-compliance and will prevent any non-compliance 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 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.

### Acknowledgments

The inspectors wish to acknowledge the co-operation of the person in charge, staff and children who were present on the day of the inspection.

## Part III – Management and Staff

### Regulation 9 – Management and recruitment

*(1) A registered provider shall ensure that-*

- (a) the service has a designated person in charge and a named person who is able to deputise as required,*
- (b) at all times during the period when the pre-school service is being carried on, the designated person in charge or the named person referred to in subparagraph (a) is on the premises,*

*(2) A registered provider 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.*

*(4) A registered provider shall ensure that, without prejudice to the generality of paragraph (2) and subject to paragraphs (5) and (6), each employee working directly with children attending the service holds at least a major award in Early Childhood Care and Education at Level 5 on the National Qualifications Framework or a qualification deemed by the Minister to be equivalent.*

## Compliance Information

(1)(a) & (b) The service had a designated person in charge and a system in place to designate a named deputy person to deputise as required.

There were 15 staff files and 3 files for contracted workers presented for inspection.

(2)(a) & (b)

- There were 2 written and validated references from a past employer or an alternative source available for 11 members of staff and 1 contracted worker.
- One staff member had 1 written and validated reference.

(c) Garda vetting disclosures had been obtained for all 7 staff members and the service adhered to the re-vetting timeframes as outlined in the Early Years Inspectorate Regulatory Notice, requiring services to renew Garda vetting every three years.

(d) International police vetting was available for 1 of the 3 staff members who had lived outside the Irish jurisdiction for 6 months or more.

International Police vetting was also available for the 3 contracted workers.

(4) Documentary evidence was available to demonstrate that all 10 members of staff who worked directly with the pre-school children held at least the minimum required level 5 Childcare Qualification.

## Non-Compliance Information

(2)(a) One staff member did not have a second written and validated reference.

Three staff members and 2 contracted workers did not have 2 written and validated references.

(d) Following a review of the staff files presented and available on the day of inspection, international police vetting was not available for the 2 staff members who had resided outside the jurisdiction for a period of greater than 6 months as an adult.

## Corrective & Preventive Action submitted by the Registered Provider

### Corrective and Preventive Action

(2)(a) and (b) All references have been received and validated. The registered provider will ensure that staff files are accurate and contain all relevant documentation prior to staff member starting employment.

International Child Protection Certificates have been applied for, for 2 staff members who have resided outside the jurisdiction for a period of greater than 6 months as an adult.

Ensure that Curriculum Vittaes are thoroughly reviewed and applications are complete for ICPC's prior to a staff member commencing employment.

### Supporting documentation submitted

Copies of written and validated references.

## Summary Comment

The Inspectorate have reviewed registered provider's response and supporting documentation. The non-compliances in relation to 9(2)(a) and (b) have been addressed.

The non-compliances in relation to 9(2)(d) remain outstanding and the non-compliance has not been addressed.

The registered provider is obliged to submit the required documentation to the Inspectorate when received.

## Part III – Management and Staff

### Regulation 11 - Staffing levels

- (1) Subject to this Regulation, a registered provider shall ensure that there is at all times an adequate number of adults working directly with the children attending the pre-school service.*
- (2) Subject to paragraphs (4) and (5), a registered provider of a full day care service or a part-time day care service shall ensure that at all times the minimum ratio of adults to children specified in column (3) of Part 1 of Schedule 6 opposite a particular reference number specified in column (1) of that Part in respect of the age range of the children specified in column (2) thereof at that reference number is satisfied.*
- (8) Without prejudice to paragraphs (2) to (7)-*
- (a) a registered provider of a pre-school service other than a child-minding service or a sessional pre-school service shall ensure that there are at least 2 adults on the premises at all times*

### Compliance Information

- (1) On the day of inspection there were an adequate number of adults working directly at all times with the children attending the early years' service.
- (2) When the inspectors arrived for an unannounced inspection, the adult to child ratios were correct. The following adult to child ratios were observed on the day of inspection. In the Preschool Room there were 11 children aged between 3 – 5 years being cared for by 4 staff members. The service manager was also present throughout the inspection.
- (8) The registered provider ensured that 2 staff members were on the premises at all times.

## Part V - Care of Child in Pre-school Service

### Regulation 19 - Health, welfare and development of child

(1) A registered provider shall, in providing a pre-school service, ensure that-

(a) each child's learning, development and well-being is facilitated within the daily life of the pre-school service through the provision of the appropriate activities, interaction, materials and equipment, having regard to the age and stage of development of the child, and

#### Compliance Information

There was one room in operation on the day of the inspection namely The Preschool Room. The recently renovated building has not commenced operating to date.

(1)(a) The following examples demonstrate how the registered provider ensured that children's learning, development, and well-being was facilitated in the service:

#### BASIC NEEDS:

- The children had free movement in the care room and had a large period of time outside.
- All food was provided by the service and the children had access to their drinks. Assistance was given to children to open food products. The children were afforded plenty of time to finish their food and staff sat with the children while they were eating. The potatoes and vegetables were prepared on site and the chicken was delivered from the sister service. Extra portions were available.
- All children who were toilet trained were encouraged to be independent with toileting and step ups were provided. Discreet supervision was also provided by staff as required as the children were brought out to the sanitary accommodation outside the care room. Gentle handwashing reminders were given to the children after toileting.
- Handwashing was also encouraged after being outside and before lunchtime.
- A plan was in place for a child that required additional medical support.

#### Supporting relationship around children

- The staff were observed to interact with the children in a warm and supportive manner. Soft tones, positive and respectful language were observed in interactions between the children and staff members and the children were observed to actively seek out the staff.
- A key worker system was in operation in the room.
- Transitions between activities were smooth and minor behavioural issues were dealt with swiftly and did not escalate. The service used a "super listener" board and a "jobs board".

- Communication between the parents and staff was informally at drop off and pick-up and an electronic application the “app” was also in use.
- The staff reported regular meetings to plan and discuss care practices and activities in the Preschool room. They also use a small messaging service to support communication within the staff group.

### Physical and Material Environment

- A variety of age-appropriate toys and equipment were available in the room and accessible to the children on low level shelving which promoted independence and facilitated choice for the children.
- There were defined interest areas in the care room which were supported with toys and equipment.

### Programme of Activities

- There were individual “All about me – a book of my favourite things” scrapbooks and ‘a floor journal’ that included photographs of activities in the room.
- An ECCE planning board, Daily Routine and observation wall were also on display.

## Part V - Care of Child in Pre-school Service

### Regulation 20 – Facilities for rest and play

(1) Subject to this regulation, a registered provider shall ensure that-

(b) there are adequate and suitable facilities for a pre-school child to rest during the day, and in the case of an overnight pre-school service, during the day and the night.

(2) A registered provider-

(a) of a full day care service, a part-time day care service, a sessional preschool service or a childminding service that is registered for the first time on or after 30 June 2016, shall ensure that a suitable, safe and secure outdoor space to which the preschool children attending the service have access on a daily basis is provided on the premises.

### Compliance Information

(1)(b) A comfortable area within the care room consisted of a floor mat and 2 child sized sofas plus a stack of cushions where a child could sit, lie and relax on or take a break from an activity. A second small area was a designated sensory area with lighting and cushions and was situated over beside the gate into the room.

A number of fold-out bed mats were available for those children who still required a rest or sleep.

(2)(a) There was an enclosed outdoor area surrounding the bungalow, part of which was sectioned off and out of use due to a climbing frame in the area being broken. The area was secured, fenced and gated. It consisted of an

artificial grass surface with tabletop activities set up, a picnic table with chairs, plastic balance steps, gravel pit and building site pit, a mud kitchen and supplies. The children were also able to bring out toys from the care room. The children also had access to the community garden where they could take walks along the pathway and had access to a polytunnel for activities.

### Non-Compliance Information

(1)(b) There were no sheets available to put on the fold-out sleep mats and the children had to lie directly onto the plastic covering, this was confirmed by the staff members.

### Corrective & Preventive Action submitted by the Registered Provider

#### Corrective and Preventive Action

Individual sheets and blankets are available for sleep mats. They are clearly labelled and stored to prevent cross contamination. Sheets and blankets will be available to all children; this will ensure comfort and warmth during their rest period.

#### Supporting documentation submitted

Photographic evidence.

### Summary Comment

The Inspectorate have reviewed the registered provider's response and supporting evidence. The non-compliance has been addressed.

## Part VI - Safety

### Regulation 28 - Insurance

*A registered provider shall ensure that the pre-school service is adequately insured.*

### Compliance Information

There was adequate insurance cover in place to cover up to a maximum of 22 children which expires on the 27/3/2026.