

Early Years Inspectorate Regulatory Report School Age Services

TUSLA Identifier:	TU2021MH025SA
Name of School Age Service:	Jiggle 'n' Jump
Name of Registered Provider(s):	Julie O'Donohue
Address of School Age Service:	The Corner Shop, Summerhill Road, Trim, Co. Meath.
Eircode:	C15 H932

Date(s) of Inspection:	24 September 2024
Number of school age children present during inspection:	PM 24
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:

Jiggle n' Jump is a school age service located in a converted commercial premises in Co Meath. The service is registered to provide care to children aged 4 to 12 years old. There are two large rooms a, small kitchen area and sanitary areas available to the children and staff members. There is no outdoor space available on site however children have access to outdoor space in the vicinity of the premises.

Staffing:

The registered provider works in the service directly with the school age children. There are four staff members employed to work with the registered provider.

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

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

- Regulation 8(a)(b)(d)(2): Vetting disclosures;

Conclusion and follow up actions:

The actions and evidence submitted as part of the registered provider's corrective and preventive action plan have addressed the non-compliance identified on (1)(a)(b) and (2).

However, while it is acknowledged that the registered provider is in the process of obtaining the outstanding police vetting, this remains outstanding as these vetting have not been received.

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 registered provider had five Garda Vetting disclosures available for review. All the Garda Vetting disclosures were dated within the last three years.

Regulatory Requirement not met

(1)(a)(b) The registered provider had four references available for two adults and these were validated where required. However, in relation to five adults, the following was identified;

- Two staff members only had one of the two required references available.
- Validation was required for four of the available references.

(1)(d) Whilst it is acknowledged that police vetting was available for two staff members, there were two other staff that did not have police vetting on file as required by legislation.

(2) The registered provider had not ensured that vetting procedures had been fully completed prior to staff commencing employment and working directly with children.

Corrective & Preventive Action Response submitted by the Registered Provider

(1)(a)(b) The registered provider submitted the outstanding documentation concerning the references. The registered provider stated they will ensure two validated references are obtained before staff members work in the service.

(1)(d) The registered provider has taken actions taken to try and obtain the police vetting. The registered provider submitted risk assessments in the absence of police vetting.

(2) The registered provider will ensure that all staff will have two validated references and any necessary police clearance before working in the service.

Summary of Findings

The actions and evidence submitted as part of the registered provider's corrective and preventive action plan have addressed (1)(a)(b) and (2).

However, while it is acknowledged that the registered provider is in the process of obtaining the outstanding police vetting, this remains outstanding as these vetting have not been received.

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.*
- (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)(2)(4)

There were 5 staff members working with 24 children. Staff were observed helping children with their homework, playing games and chatting with them about their day. Children were also given the opportunity to play independently while staff provided appropriate supervision.

Regulation 12: Insurance

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

Regulatory Requirement Met

The service was insured to provide care for to up to 35 children. The insurance was valid from 2 August 2024 to 27 March 2025.