

Early Years Inspectorate Regulatory Report School Age Services

TUSLA Identifier:	TU2021WX017SA
Name of School Age Service:	JM Bumblebee School Services
Name of Registered Provider:	Jade Murphy
Address of School Age Service:	St Endas National School, Ballycanew, Gorey Rd, Ballycanew, Gorey, Co Wexford.
Eircode:	Y25 Y6W8

Dates of Inspection:	05 February 2026			
Number of school age children present during inspection:	AM	n/a	PM	36
Registration status:				
Conditions (if applicable):	Non-Applicable			

Address of the Early Years Inspectorate	Primary Care Centre, Castle Park, Arklow, Co Wicklow
Inspection undertaken by:	L O' Connor
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).

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Description of Service:

JM Bumblebee School Services is located in Ballycanew, Co Wexford. The service operates from the grounds of St. Enda's National School. It is registered to cater for up to 60 children aged 4 to 12 years old. The service operates 52 weeks of the year. During term time, the service operates from 6am to 9am and from 1.30pm to 6.45pm Monday to Friday. Outside term time, the service operates daily from 8am -4:30pm.

The children have access to the library, and one main care room. There is a kitchenette within the room. Within the building, children also have access to a library, a sensory room, and a ball pit room.

The children are provided with an outdoor area on the school premises. This includes a basketball court, a playground and a football pitch.

Staffing:

There are five adults employed within the service, including the registered provider. The registered provider does not work directly with the children.

On the day of inspection, there were four adults present in 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:

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

Summary of Findings:

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

- Regulation 8(1)(2): Vetting disclosures;
- Regulation 9(1)(2)(4): Staffing levels;
- Regulation 12: Insurance.
- Section 58(G) of the Child Care Act 1991 as amended

Conclusion and follow up actions:

The registered provider was compliant with the regulations assessed on the day of inspection under 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)(2)

In discussion with the person in charge, it was confirmed that there were no new staff employed by the service since the previous inspection on 18 September 2024. It was demonstrated that 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. Four vetting disclosures were required for renewal and were available for review.

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)

The adult to child ratio was maintained throughout the inspection. On the day, there were four adults present with 36 school age children. There were an adequate number of adults working with the children. Throughout the inspection, the children were appropriately supervised by the four staff members through sight and sound. The staff members were responsive in their supervision strategies based on the needs of the children. For example, when the older children arrived two staff members positioned themselves in the main area of the care room. And at 3.30pm, the staff members were observed in various areas including sitting with the children to support them with their homework.

Regulation 12: Insurance

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

Regulatory Requirement met

The service was insured for 60 children to attend at any one time. The policy was dated from 28 March 2025 to 27 March 2026.

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

The interactions between the staff members and children were observed to be calm and respectful. The staff members engaged calmly with the children and were familiar with the children needs of individual children. Staff explained to the inspector times of the day which individual children may require additional support. For example, with specific subjects of homework. The staff members were respectful in providing this support and assured children that they were close-by if they needed any help. Staff members were attuned to when individual children sought support from them. For example, one child looked around for the staff member. This was immediately noticed by the staff member who approached the child asking how they were getting on and discreetly sat next to them. Other strategies used included verbally checking in with children and remaining within a close distance to provide support.

The children were provided with choice and autonomy. The person in charge explained that the routine for the older children was to complete their homework, get food and they could play games in the evening. In arriving to the room, the children appeared familiar with the routine and independently sat at the tables to complete their homework. For children who did not have homework, the person in charge explained they could choose what they would like to do. Many of the children engaged in different activities, for example one child asked for paper and scissors. They explained to the staff member that they were going to make a puppet. Another child was

colouring and excitedly showed the staff member a picture which took them two days to complete. During this time, other children played board games, had conversations with their peers or played with action figures/dinosaurs. The staff members were familiar with the children's individual interests and needs.

In discussion with the staff members, they explained that a fire drill was carried out on a monthly basis and outlined the location of the fire assembly point. On review of the records, the service carried out a fire drill on 26 January 2026. The staff members showed the inspector a display which was developed since the previous inspection which outlined the procedures to follow in the event of an emergency. The display was child friendly, and it was displayed at a low level where children could engage with it too. Supporting documentation was available to demonstrate that staff members engaged in fire safety training.

There were two children attending the service who required emergency medication. Staff members were familiar with the symptoms which the children may display and the location of the care plans which described the procedures to follow in the event of an emergency.

The attendance records were maintained throughout the inspection and were reflective of the children present. The person in charge explained to the inspector that there were two records, one for the collection of children and another record which was completed when the children arrived in the care room.