

# Early Years Inspectorate Regulatory Report

## Pre School

<b>TUSLA Identifier:</b>	TU2024FL008		
<b>Name of Service:</b>	School Kids Aloud		
<b>Address of Service:</b>	64 Luttrellstown Way, Luttrellstown, Carpenterstown, Dublin 15, Co. Dublin		
<b>Eircode:</b>	D15 V220		
<b>Name of Registered Provider:</b>	Jade Singh		
<b>Service type:</b>	Part Time, Sessional		
<b>Date of Inspection:</b>	02/12/2024		
<b>No of pre-school children:</b>	AM	4	PM N/A
<b>Address of the Early Years Inspectorate:</b>	Early Years Inspectorate, Child and Family Agency, Unit 4&5 Nexus Building Block 6A, Blanchardstown Corporate Park, Dublin 15		
<b>Inspection undertaken by:</b>	Á Dunne		
<b>Title:</b>	Early Years Inspector		
<b>Authority to Inspect</b>			
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.		

### Description of service

School Kids Aloud is located in Dublin 15. A part time or sessional service is provided to children aged between 2 to 6 years. The service is open from Monday to Friday 9.00 am to 2.00pm. On the day of inspection, children were attending a sessional service only, from 9.00am to 12.00pm. There are three care rooms, the main room to the side of the premises with sanitary facilities, the small room off the main room and the sun room to the rear of the premises. Access to an enclosed outdoor area to the rear of the premises is from the main room.

### Staffing

The registered provider, who does not work in the service, employs two staff within the service to include the person in charge and the deputy person in charge. The registered provider, the office manager and the person in charge attended the feedback meeting at the end of the inspection, at 12.06pm.

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

The inspection focused on an examination of compliance under regulations as follows:

Regulation 9 Management and recruitment (2)(a)(b)(c)(d), (4)

Regulation 11 Staffing Levels (1)(2)(3)(8)(a)(c)

Regulation 19 Health Welfare and Development of Child (1)(a)

Regulation 23 Safeguarding Health, Safety and Welfare of child

A sampling process was used to assess compliance under Regulation 23 Safeguarding Health, Safety and Welfare of child. The scope of the inspection was the main care room and the sunroom of the service. It did not include the small care room off the main care room.

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 inspector wishes to acknowledge the cooperation of the registered provider, 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

*(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

(2) The files of the two staff working in the service were reviewed.

(a) Two validated written references were available for the one staff employed from past employers.

(b) Two validated written references were available for the one staff employed from a source other than a past employer.

(c) Garda vetting disclosures had been obtained for the two staff employed within the service. The service also demonstrated compliance with the Early Years Inspectorate Regulatory Notice requiring services to renew Garda vetting every three years.

(d) Police vetting for one staff member who had resided outside of the state for six months or more as an adult was available for inspection.

(4) Two staff members employed within the service to provide direct care to the children had evidence to confirm they held a major award in Early Childhood Care and Education at Level 5 or above on the National Framework of Qualifications.

### 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.*

*(3) Subject to paragraph (5), a registered provider of a sessional pre-school service shall ensure that at all times the minimum ratio of adults to children specified in column (3) of Part 2 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) therefore 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,*

*(c) a registered provider of a sessional pre-school service shall ensure that, where the person in charge operates the service single-handedly, a second person familiar with the operation of the service and in a position to provide assistance to the person in charge in operating the service is, at all times, within close distance of the service and available to attend the service to assist the person in charge in the event of an emergency.*

#### Compliance Information

(1)(2)(3) There were an adequate number of adults working directly with the children, as there were two adults working with four children for the morning session, ensuring ratios were maintained on the day of inspection.

(8)(a)(c) The registered provider ensured that two adults were present on the premises during the operation of the early years' service.

### 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

##### (1)(a) Basic Needs:

- The inspector observed that the children's learning, development, and well-being was supported by the staff and the environment.
- Lunchtime at 10.40am, was observed as a relaxed and sociable event, with children given time to sit at low tables appropriate to their ages. Children were observed to self-feed, but staff were on hand to help as required, supporting independence and wellbeing. The childrens water bottles were available in the main care room for the children to drink.

##### Supporting Relationships:

- Language development was supported by the adults through conversation, singing and reading books.
- The inspectors observed the staff interacting warmly with the children, engaging positively, and supporting them with their care, work, and play.
- It was evident the service had ongoing engagement with the children's families to support children's identity and belonging through the presence of a family and community displays.
- Staff informed the inspector that as well as speaking with parents/guardians at drop off/collection times they communicate with a monthly newsletter.

##### Physical Environment:

- The rooms were bright and laid out in an inviting manner to enable children to independently explore their environment.
- There were clearly defined learning areas in the care rooms including a home area; (with a play kitchen and supporting equipment, dolls and doll accessories, cash registers, hairdressers sets,) building and construction areas; (wooden building blocks, small and large plastic bricks, stickle bricks, clicks, magnetics, links, trains and train tracks ), Tabletop activities (threading, wooden puzzles and jigsaws, colouring and arts and crafts), Small world play; (dinosaurs, animals, sea animals, garage, trucks, cars, doctors set, dolls house with supporting equipment).

- Artwork was present on the walls of the main carer room, for example, woolly hats and winter mittens, hedgehogs and Autumn scene with autumn leaves were displayed.
- Rest areas with soft matting, a child sofa, cushions, and books, for rest and relaxation were available to the children.
- The children spent time in the outdoor area and had the opportunity to play with a range of toys and equipment to support full-body movement and activities such as ride on tractor, a climbing frame with slide, balls, hoopla hoops and a mud kitchen with supporting equipment.

### Part VI - Safety

#### Regulation 23 - Safeguarding health, safety and welfare of child

*A registered provider shall ensure that all reasonable measures are taken to safeguard the health, safety and welfare of a pre-school child attending the service and that the environment of the service is safe.*

#### Compliance Information

##### General Safety:

- The external door of the service was secure with a buzzer system monitored by the staff to prevent a child from exiting the service unsupervised and to prevent an unauthorised person from entering the building. The outdoor play area was secure, while children played outside.
- Attendance records were present, completed and accurate.
- The play equipment and materials observed in use by the children on the day of inspection were safe and in good working order.
- The temperature of the main care room was recorded as 19.7°C at 10.31am within the recommended ambient temperature of 18 - 22 °C.
- The kitchen of the service was not accessible to the children.

##### Infection Control:

- Thermostatically controlled warm water, liquid hand soap and dispensed handtowels were available in the sanitary facilities for effective handwashing.
- Children were observed to wash their hands after toilet visits, before lunch, after activities and after outdoor play.
- Children lunches which were brought from home were refrigerated to prevent spoiling of perishable items.
- Pedal operated bins were available for disposal of contaminated items.

# Early Years Inspectorate Regulatory Report

## Pre School

- The service was maintained in a clean and hygienic condition throughout, with the premises and equipment observed to be visually clean.