

Early Years Inspectorate Regulatory Report

School Age Services

TUSLA Identifier:	TU2021MH041SA
Name of School Age Service:	Lilliputs Afterschool Service
Name of Registered Provider(s):	Marie Daly
Address of School Age Service:	5 Strand Haven, Laytown, Co. Meath
Eircode:	A92 D378

Date(s) of Inspection:	27 May 2026
Number of school age children present during inspection:	PM 10

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).

Description of Service:	Lilliput's Afterschool Service is one of several school age care services operated by the registered provider in the Meath and Dublin areas. Lilliput's Afterschool Service is located in a converted two-storey building in Co Meath. The children have access to a large room downstairs and two
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smaller rooms on the first floor. The service provides care for children aged 4 to 12 years old. An afterschool club is provided from 1.30 to 5.30pm. The children have access to an outdoor play area at the rear of the premises. There are sanitary facilities and a kitchen onsite.

Staffing: The registered provider does not work in the service. There are five staff members employed in the service. There is a person in charge and an area manager who may work directly with the children. Two staff members work directly with the children on a daily basis and there is a cook. A student was being provided with a work experience opportunity in the service.

Additional Information: This was 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 commence.

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.

Statutory Notices		
Notice	Date Served	Detail
Immediate Action Notice IAN1204	27/05/2026	A Garda Vetting disclosure was not available for a student working in the service.
Status	The corrective action submitted addressed the notice served.	

Summary of Findings:

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

- Regulation 8(1)(a)(b)(d): Vetting disclosures.
- Regulation 9(2): Staffing levels.
- Regulation 11: Premises.
- Child Care Act 1991, Section 58(G) as amended by Part 12 of the Child and Family Agency Act, 2013 in relation to first aid certification.

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

- Regulation 8(1)(c): Vetting disclosures;

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.*

Regulatory Requirement Met

The files of the registered provider, five staff members and student were reviewed. There were written references available for the registered provider and written and validated references available for the five staff members and student from a previous employer or source other than a previous employer. A Garda Vetting disclosure, dated within the last three years, was available for the five staff members and the registered provider. The documentation reviewed demonstrated police vetting was not required for any staff member, the student or the registered provider.

Regulatory Requirement not met

(1)(c) See Statutory notice in relation to Immediate Action Notice IN1204 served.

Regulation 9: Staffing levels

(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.

Regulatory Requirement Met

(2) There were 2 adults and 3 children attending the service between 2.00 and 2.30pm. Older children then attended the service and there were 3 adults providing care to 10 children.

Regulation 11: Premises

A registered provider of a school age service shall ensure that-

(a) an outdoor space to which the school age children attending the service have access on a daily basis is provided on the premises, or

(b) where no such space is provided, the school age children attending the service have access on a daily basis to an outdoor space.

Regulatory Requirement Met

(a) The children had access to an outdoor space at the rear of the school age premises.

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

There were four staff members who had a certificate in First Aid Responder (FAR) training.