

Early Years Inspectorate Regulatory Report

School Age Services

TUSLA Identifier:	TU2021FL053SA
Name of School Age Service:	Charlies Childcare Tigin
Name of Registered Provider(s):	Ronnie Carroll
Address of School Age Service:	Swords Business Campus, Balheary Road, Swords, Co. Dublin
Eircode:	K67 WY10

Date(s) of Inspection:	28 July 2026
Number of school age children present during inspection:	PM 11

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:	Charlies Childcare Tigin, is one of several school age and preschool services operated by the registered provider. The service provides care for children aged 4 to 12 years old. An afterschool club is provided between 13.00 and
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18:15. Charlies Childcare Tigin, is based in a purpose-built building on a commercial estate. The children have access to a cabin on the grounds of the service, where a preschool service is registered in the main building. There is access to sanitary facilities, a kitchen and outdoor play area on the premises.

Staffing:

The registered provider does not work in the service. The registered provider employs 20 staff members. This includes a Chief Operating Officer, an area manager, three onsite managers, a person in charge, four drivers, a maintenance person, three cooks and six childcare staff members.

Additional Information:

This inspection was triggered by information received by the Inspectorate.

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, Chief Operating Officer, Area Manager, Manager and staff who were present on the day of inspection.

Statutory Notices		
Notice	Date Served	Detail
Improvement Notice IN2261	28/07/2026	Evidence of International Police Vetting was not available for one staff member who did not work directly with the children.
Status	A written corrective and preventive response was submitted which was accepted by the Inspectorate. International Police Vetting has been submitted to the inspectorate.	

Summary of Findings:

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

- Regulation 8(1)(a)(b)(c): 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.

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

- Regulation 8(1)(d): 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

(1)(a)(b)(c)

The files of the registered provider and 20 staff members were reviewed. There were written references available for the registered provider and written and validated references available for the 20 staff members 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 20 staff members and the registered provider. The documentation reviewed demonstrated police vetting was not required for 11 staff members or the registered provider. The police vetting was available, and translated appropriately as required, for eight staff members.

Regulatory Requirement not met

(1)(d) See Statutory notice in relation to Improvement Notice IN2261 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 was one staff member and 11 children attending the service on the day of inspection.

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

Regulatory Requirement Met

(a) Children had access to two outdoor areas within the premises.

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 156 children. The insurance was valid from 27 March 2026 to 27 March 2027.

Regulation 13: Complaints

(1) A registered provider of a school age service other than a childminding service shall ensure that the complaints policy of the service specifies—

- (a) the procedure to be followed by a person for the purposes of making a complaint in relation to the service,*
- (b) the manner in which such a complaint shall be dealt with, and*
- (c) the procedures for keeping a person who makes such a complaint informed of the manner in which it is being dealt with.*

Regulatory Requirement Met

The complaints policy detailed the procedure for making a complaint and how verbal and written complaints would be dealt with. The policy referenced how a complainant would be kept informed of the complaints procedure and specified timelines for responses.

The service had a record of a recent complaint and response to the complainant. This followed the service's complaints policy.

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

During the inspection, the inspector observed the health, safety and welfare of children being supported by the following:

- The registered provider ensured that there were staff members available to provide first aid care to the children. There were six staff member who had a First Aid Responder (FAR) certification.
- Management staff member spoke to the inspector regarding a recent notification submitted to the inspectorate and a previous incident notified to the inspectorate. The staff members had details of their investigation and actions taken by the service. There was written evidence that staff members had undertaken induction training and that

there was evidence that staff had updated training available. There was also evidence of team meetings and staff members who worked directly with the children discussed these regular team meetings. Staff members also discussed changes in practice, following meetings, which supported their work with the children. For example, the use of an outdoor play space, just past the boundary of the service, was no longer in use.

- Staff members were observed to interact kindly with the children. The children were provided with various play opportunities, and they moved between activities of their choice and interacted with staff when they needed help. Staff members were observed to be aware of children's play and movements and interacted with them to ensure good supervision.