

Early Years Inspectorate Regulatory Report

School Age Services

TUSLA Identifier:	TU2023CC020SA
Name of School Age Service:	Club Spraoi Scoil Phadraig Naofa
Name of Registered Provider:	Priscilla McCann
Address of School Age Service:	Foxwood, Rochestown, Co Cork
Eircode:	T12HX79

Date of Inspection:	22 July 2026			
Number of school age children present during inspection:	AM	5	PM	5

Address of the Early Years Inspectorate	2nd Floor, Estuary House, Henry Street, Limerick, V94 XT5F
Inspection undertaken by:	S O'Brien
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:	Club Spraoi Scoil Phadraig Naofa is a privately operated school age care service located in Scoil Phadraig Naofa in Rochestown, Cork. The service caters for children aged 4 to 12 years. The service operates from 7.15am to 8.30am and 1.10pm to 6pm, Monday to Friday during term time. The
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service also operates from 8am to 5.30pm Monday to Friday during non-term time. The service has the use of three classrooms which vary from day to day, a hall, a yard and an astroturf outdoor area. On the day of inspection, the service was operating from one classroom and had use of the astro turf outdoor area to the front of the building. The registered provider operates multiple school age care services.

Staffing:

There are eight staff employed in the service. The registered provider is not based in the service. On the day of inspection, four staff members were present in 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,

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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 and staff who were present on the day of inspection.

Statutory Notices

Notice	Date Served	Detail
Improvement Notice IN 3441	22/07/2026	Evidence of international police vetting was not available for one staff member who was not present in the service on the day of inspection and had access to the children
Status	The registered provider submitted a written response detailing the corrective and preventive actions which were accepted by the inspectorate.	
Improvement Notice IN 3442	22/07/2026	There was no member of staff that held a first aid certificate present and available to the children in the service on the day of inspection.
Status	Action was taken by the registered provider following the service of the notice. The registered provider submitted a written response detailing the corrective and preventive actions which were accepted by the inspectorate.	

Summary of Findings:

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

- Regulation 8(1)(a)(b)(c): Vetting disclosures
- Regulation 9(2): Staffing levels

- Regulation 11(a): Premises

The registered provider was found non-compliant under the following:

- Regulation 8(1)(d)(2): Vetting disclosures
- Section 58(G) as amended by Part 12 of the Child and Family Agency Act, 2013

Conclusion and follow up actions:

The registered providers response and documented evidence was submitted and reviewed by the inspectorate and has met the regulatory requirements. The noncompliance in relation to regulation 8(1)(d) remains outstanding.

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) Eight staff files were reviewed.

(a) Seven of the references available were from a past employer and were validated.

(b) Nine of the references available were from a source other than a previous employer and were validated.

(c) Garda vetting disclosures had been obtained for all eight staff. However, the service did not adhere to the re-vetting timeframes as outlined in the Early Years Inspectorate Regulatory Notice, requiring services to renew Garda vetting every three years in respect of one staff member. Please refer to the information outlined under regulation Section 58(G) as amended by Part 12 of the Child and Family Agency Act, 2013 of this report.

Regulatory Requirement not met

(1)

(d) See statutory Notice in relation to Improvement Notice IN 3441 served.

It is also acknowledged that police vetting disclosures were available in respect of six staff members who had lived outside of Ireland for longer than six consecutive months.

(2) The procedures specified above were not carried out prior to one staff member being appointed, assigned or allowed access to the school age children.

Corrective & Preventive Action Response submitted by the Registered Provider

The registered provider stated in their response:

Corrective action

(2) An application for international Police vetting has been submitted in respect of the one staff member. The employee has been removed from duties involving contact with the children and will return to duties with children once the vetting has been obtained.

Preventive action

(2) A comprehensive written procedure has been developed governing Garda vetting, police vetting and the review of applicants employment and residency history. This procedure was submitted as documented evidence to the inspectorate. Human resource administration has been provided with written guidance on reviewing applicants residency history from the age of 18 to identify countries requiring police clearance.

Summary of Findings

The registered providers response and documented evidence was submitted and reviewed by the inspectorate. Evidence of an application for international police vetting was reviewed; however, a copy of the completed international police vetting has not been submitted for the one staff member to the inspector to date. The registered provider is required to furnish the required documentation to the Inspectorate upon receipt. The noncompliance in relation to regulation 8(1)(d) remains outstanding.

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) In Room 10, there were five children being cared for by two staff members, therefore the minimum adult to child ratios were being adhered to for the duration of the 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) The children had daily access to an astroturf outdoor area located on the 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 not met

1. See statutory Notice in relation to Improvement Notice IN 3442 served.
2. Garda vetting was available for one staff member. However, this vetting disclosure was not dated within the previous three years in adherence with the Early Years Inspectorate Regulatory Notice 'EYI-RN12.3 Renewal of Garda Vetting'
3. The following areas within the service were observed to require maintenance:
 - Ceiling tiles were observed to be missing in the girls and boys sanitary facilities.
 - A ventilation system pipe was observed to be hanging from the ceiling in the boys sanitary facility.
 - On arrival to the service, rubbish was observed on the floor outside the sanitary facilities.

This was at variance with the cleaning records that were available for review. This posed a safety risk to the children.
4. Staff members personal belongings were observed to be easily accessible to the children in the care room. This posed a safety risk to the children due to potential access to unsafe items.

Corrective & Preventive Action Response submitted by the Registered Provider

The registered provider stated in their response:

Corrective action

2. A Garda vetting disclosure was submitted to the inspectorate on 23 July 2026, in respect of the one staff member. Documented evidence was submitted.
3. The service relocated to an alternative classroom within the school which did not contain the maintenance defects identified. Staff were reminded of the importance of maintaining a clean environment throughout the day and ensuring that any rubbish or hazards are removed

immediately rather than waiting until scheduled cleaning times. Documented evidence was submitted in relation to communication with the national school principal in relation to the maintenance issues identified during the inspection. Documented evidence of communication with staff in relation to the outcomes of the inspection was submitted for staff learning and development.

4. The staff member concerned was spoken to directly and reminded of the requirement to store personal belongings securely away from the children. Written guidance was issued to the staff to remind staff to ensure personal belongings are stored out of reach to children.

Preventive action

2. The organisation has reviewed its Garda vetting renewal process, providing one centralised system for monitoring garda vetting applications and renewals. Therefore, ensuring timely follow up actions, application progress and disclosure dates are recorded and reviewed until completion. Documented evidence of the tracker was submitted.

3. The organisation has reviewed its environmental monitoring procedures following the inspection. All staff have been reminded that cleaning records must accurately reflect the work completed and must never be completed in advance or where the required cleaning has not taken place. Senior Management will carry out periodic unannounced visits to undertake spot checks of the environment and verify that cleaning standards and associated records accurately reflect practice. Where maintenance concerns are identified within school premises, these will be reported immediately to school management. Where defects cannot be remedied promptly and have the potential to impact the suitability or safety of the environment, Club Spraoi will assess whether an alternative room within the school should be used until the issue has been resolved.

4. The organisation has reviewed its arrangements regarding the storage of staff personal belongings following the inspection. The play leader handbook will be updated to include a dedicated section clearly outlining the requirement that all staff personal belongings must be stored securely in a designated staff area and remain inaccessible to children at all times. This requirement will also continue to be reinforced during staff induction, supervision and ongoing communications with staff to ensure consistent practice across all Club Spraoi services.

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Summary of Findings

The registered providers response and documented evidence was submitted to the inspectorate and has met the regulatory requirements.