

kids inc

Active kids do better



OUT OF SCHOOL HOURS CARE



DEVELOP
LEARN
GROW

Our Ethos

For 25 years central to the Kids Inc Mission Statement has been the provision of the highest quality of care to children and families. We do this by promoting the safest and most child-centred approach possible to childcare for children of all ages, backgrounds, beliefs, race, ethnicity, class, culture, gender, language, lifestyle and abilities.

Our Commitment to Partnering with our Parents.

We recognise that many children will spend a considerable amount of time in our service. As such we understand that we play an important daily role in supporting parents with:

- Building social skills for their children,
- Creating healthy attitudes to food and mealtimes,
- Developing their children's interests and creativity,
- Supporting homework at an appropriate time
- Allowing time for relaxation and rest at the end of a busy school day.

It is essential that parents are kept up to date on key aspects of our service, and we manage this in personal ways that allow our team to build positive relationships with the parents of the children in their care.

Approach to Provision of Quality Services

The Afterschool Service has its own full time office support team who work closely with the senior managers. We have three specialised Co-Ordinators who focus on a different integral aspect of our service provision; Curriculum, Quality Assurance and Inclusion.

- At Kids Inc our ethos and practice values diversity and promotes equality.
- The individual child is central to our service. The voice of the child is heard and respected and their interests contribute to our programme.
- We aim to provide all enrolled children with the highest standard of care and promote healthy life choices.
- We aim to encourage each child to explore their talents, interests, abilities and nurture their strengths.
- We aim to extend the child's daily learning by involving them in a range of creative and sporting programmes that will positively enhance and stimulate their physical, cognitive, social and emotional well-being.
- We assist children in building their confidence and social skills in a relaxed and fun environment where they are supported to interact and work collaboratively with their peers and staff.
- We aim to make Kids Inc accessible to all members of the community, regardless of race, gender, family status, age, ability, or religious beliefs.
- We aim to work closely with parents/guardians and families; we understand that we have a pre-eminent role in promoting their child's well-being, learning and development.

Food

Food provided to children attending Afterschool should be wholesome and nutritious, varied and well balanced. We ensure that the children attending the Afterschool service receive a nutritious hot meal (dinner) and as well as a mid-afternoon snack.

Kids Inc takes into account the specific eating requirements of individual children pertaining to specific intolerances, allergies and ethnic dietary requirements. Parents are required to provide us with information pertaining to children's allergies and intolerances upon registration. Parents and staff receive our dinner and snack menu monthly highlighting the potential allergens contained in the food.

Environments that Promote Learning and Development

Our standard routine includes time for planned activities, structured child led play, homework, meal-times with a strong focus on outdoor play. We encourage all of our teams to spend the majority of their day outside where possible, and to bring some indoor activities outside.

We provide time and space for child-initiated relaxation and also structured relaxation activities like guided meditation, yoga and story time.

We use our experience as a school-based afterschool provider to ensure that the classroom layouts are transformed into a comfortable and relaxing afterschool space. We typically include cosy corners with a library, construction zones with small worlds, a home corner and table-top activities as areas in our room layouts.

Arts and Crafts

The Arts are an important element of our Afterschool program. Many of our team have qualifications in the Arts, with the majority having experience in arts and crafts, drama and dance camps for children. We encourage our staff to use their artistic skills as a means to explore the emergent interest of the children in their care.

Our Sports Programme

We encourage children of all abilities to take part in our sports programme. We are incredibly proud of Kids Inc commitment to outdoor play and physical activity. Our daily routine consists of at least two structured outdoor physical activities and there is a focus on extended time spent outside.

Our staff have been trained to adapt their planned activities to the needs, interest, dispositions and ability level of the children in their group. Most importantly our sports activities and games are about having FUN, always encouraging, motivating and instilling self-belief in each and every child.

The Benefits of physical play are critical to a child's physical and mental development. Being physically active helps children to:

- Develop strong bones.
- Develop gross and fine motor skills.
- Build strength, endurance and flexibility.
- Build confidence.
- Achieve and maintain a healthy weight.
- Decrease stress levels.
- Improve social skills and concentration.
- Improve posture, balance and coordination.
- Improve sleep.

Behaviour Management Policy

Our Positive Behaviour Policy is implemented across all of our centres and our staff are continuously supported in managing behaviour.

Our behaviour policy is based on the following principles:

- Respect
- Honesty
- Trust
- Responsibility

Inclusion and Additional Needs

It is the policy of Kids Inc to offer equal access to children and their parents inclusive of special educational needs, race, ethnicity, class, culture, gender, language and lifestyle.

We commit to working in close collaboration with parents of children who may require additional social, emotional or cognitive support.

Our Inclusion Co-ordinator has 18 years of experience in supporting children with additional needs and their parents. She works in partnership with parents/ guardians to develop individualised education plans (IEP) for children who may require additional support in our services.

Garda Vetting

In accordance with the Child Care Act 1991 (Early Years Services) Regulations 2016, we will ensure that all staff members are Garda vetted through Early Childhood Ireland (ECI)/ Garda Vetting Unit.

Sample Weekly Timetable

Times	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
2.10pm – 3.00pm	Settle in, child-led free play e.g. drawing, crafts, toys, board games. Snr Inf homework	Settle in, child led free play e.g. drawing, crafts, toys, board games Snr Inf homework	Settle in, child led free play e.g. drawing, crafts, toys, board games Snr Inf homework	Settle in, child led free play e.g. drawing, crafts, toys, board games Snr Inf homework	Settle in, child led free play e.g. drawing, crafts, toys, board games Snr Inf homework
3.00pm – 3.30pm	Healthy Snack (see below)	Healthy Snack (see below)	Healthy Snack (see below)	Healthy Snack (see below)	Healthy Snack (see below)
3.30pm - 4.30pm	Outdoor Activities and free play e.g. obstacle course, football, basketball	Outdoor Activities and free play e.g. Fish and net game, catch the bacon, hopscotch	Outdoor Activities and free play e.g. Parachute games, skipping, tennis	Outdoor Activities and free play e.g. Number lines, running games, dragon tail	Outdoor Activities and free play e.g. ultimate tag, dodge ball, ship seashore
4.30pm – 5.00pm	Hot meal and homework 1 st – 6 th class	Hot meal and homework 1 st – 6 th class	Hot meal and homework 1 st – 6 th class	Hot meal and homework 1 st – 6 th class	Hot meal and homework 1 st – 6 th class
5pm – 6.00pm	Arts/crafts and indoor activities e.g. Paper plate face masks, free drawing/painting	Arts/crafts and indoor activities e.g. Grass heads, bracelets making,	Arts/crafts and indoor activities e.g. Model making Musical statues/chairs	Arts/crafts and indoor activities e.g. Science activity, indoor dodge ball	Arts/crafts and indoor activities e.g. Paper-Mache making, quiz on themed subjects
6.00pm – 6.30pm	Wind down/tidy up	Wind down/tidy up	Wind down/tidy up	Wind down/tidy up	Wind down/tidy up

Sample Snack Menu

Days	Menu
Monday	Wraps (contains wheat) with Tuna, cheese (contains milk) and corn
Tuesday	Pitta bread (contains wheat), humus (contains sesame seeds) cucumber and apples
Wednesday	Yogurt (contains milk) with banana and rice cakes
Thursday	Apples, raisins with oatcakes and cream cheese (contains milk)
Friday	Bagels (contains wheat) with butter (contains milk), cooked chicken, cucumber, pear

School Reference



To Whom It May Concern,

The Board of Management decided to enter into an arrangement with KidsInc to run an after school care club on the school premises, as they were impressed by the staff/child ratios, professionalism and standard of care offered. Alongside the proposal of a varied programme of activities, KidsInc promised excellent staff and highly nutritious dinners and snacks.

KidsInc have delivered. Parents are extremely happy and the children do not want to go home! The children particularly enjoy the vast range of sports and activities taught in a caring, relaxed environment.

From the school's perspective, other than some carefully stored equipment, there has been no disruption and we often forget they are here! Their excellent staff members are extremely respectful of the school, teachers, and rooms they use.

I have consistently found KidsInc to be contactable and flexible; this has been of huge importance given the unpredictable, changing nature of school life.

Please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any questions.

Yours sincerely,

Cian Gleeson (Principal)

Parent References

St Christophers Primary School Dublin 4

Kids Inc has been a very welcome addition to our lives! The transition from full time creche to school is an adjustment for children, but also for working parents, and the support Kids Inc has brought to this new stage of my son's life has been great. The staff are approachable, clearly all very well chosen and trained, and the correspondence is always prompt and helpful. I was worried the day might be too long for my 5 year-old son, but he always skips out of Kids Inc in great form.

I can safely say I don't know what I'd do without them! Maia Dunphy

St Christophers Primary School Dublin 4

Our 8 and 7yo kids started this year (2020-2021) at Kids Inc , Saint Christopher's Primary School. We are extremely happy and grateful for the care, kindness and fun the incredible staff and onsite manager provide to our kids. Beyond the homework that are carefully done and the nutritious meals, the kids have a blast. They spend tons of time outside playing balls or different games organized by the team. Each week has a theme that goes with fun, innovative and creative activities, from art to sport. (A weekly newsletter keeps us updated!) Thank you to the incredible team who goes above and beyond for the children. Fun fact: When I pick up the kids 10 min before it closes, they always tell me I am too early. It says it all!. - Julie, December 2020

Harcourt Terrace ETNS Dublin 6

"I am so happy with the Kids Inc service based at our school... I have a nervous girl and the team have totally taken her under their wings to build up her confidence. I have to prise her out of there every day and she is always so proud of the artwork she's created with the staff. In particular, it took her a while to get used to the hot meals in the service, but the team were extremely patient and encouraging with her, which I appreciated, and which has really given her a boost. Very happy to recommend the service. " Claire

Harcourt Terrace ETNS Dublin 6

We couldn't be happier with the care our son receives at Kids Inc. He always enjoys himself immensely and has made lots of friends. The food is varied and healthy and the kids have so many activities to keep them busy. The carers are very sweet and professional. Thank you so much for all your hard work. Parent'



We offer the same quality afterschool services under both Kids Inc & Lyons Den trading names.

Welcome to Kids Inc

At Kids Inc we offer a professional wraparound 'Out of School Hours' service and sports programme for primary children aged 4 – 12 years. We pride ourselves in delivering high quality care in a safe environment where children can relax, unwind and experience a broad range of activities. Our team of highly qualified staff and sports coaches use their skills and expertise by encouraging children to discover their own abilities and develop their interests.

We are a wholly Irish owned business providing childcare services and after school programmes throughout Dublin for over 20 years.

Call us on 01 621 5790 to find out how we can provide this high quality service in your local community.

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