

Uimhir Aitheantais TUSLA:	TU2015CC284
Ainm na Seirbhíse:	Naíonra Bhaile Mhúirne
Seoladh na Seirbhíse:	Maigh Réidh, Baile Mhic Íre, Magh Chromtha, Co. Chorcaí
Eircode:	P12 YD62
Ainm an tSoláthraí Chláraithe:	Ray Mac Pháidin
Cineál na Seirbhíse	Seisiúnach
Dáta(í) na Cigireachta:	08/05/2023
Líon na leanaí réamhscoile:	AM 20 PM 8
Seoladh Chigireacht na Luathbhlianta	Cigireacht na Luathbhlianta Foirgneamh Riaracháin, Campas Sláinte Mhuire Garrán na mBráthar, Corcaigh T23X440
Cigireacht arna déanamh ag:	M O'Reilly
Teideal:	Cigire Luathbhlianta

Údarás chun cigireacht a dhéanamh

Déanann Cigireacht na Luathbhlianta, Tusla cigireacht ar Sheirbhísí Luathbhlianta faoi Alt 58(J) den Acht um Chúram Leanaí, 1991 (arna chur isteach le hAlt 92 den Acht fán nGníomhaireacht um Leanaí agus an Teaghlach, 2013).

Coinníollacha, má bhaineann le hábhar Ní bhaineann

Cur síos ar an tseirbhís

Osclaíodh Naíonra Bhaile Mhúirne den chéad uair in 2004 agus is seirbhís luathbhlianta sheisiúnach cláraithe é a dhéanann freastal ar leanaí ó 3-6 bliana d'aois a fhreastalaíonn ar an Scéim um Oideachas agus Cúram na Luathóige (ECCE). Bíonn an naíonra ar oscailt idir 8:50 go dtí 11:50, agus ó 12:05 go dtí 15:05 gach lá, Luan go hAoine. Feidhmíonn an tseirbhís as seomra amháin i bhfoirgneamh aon stóir atá lonnaithe ar thailte Chumann Lúthchleas Gael áitiúil i mBaile Mhúirne, sráidbhaile faoin tuath i gCo. Chorcaí. Cuirtear seirbhís chláraithe ar fáil freisin do leanaí in aois scoile i seomra eile in aice leis an Naíonra.

Soláthar foirne

Bhí 4 duine fásta i láthair sa tseirbhís a oibríonn go díreach leis na leanaí an t-am ar fad agus an tseirbhís ar oscailt. Oibríonn triúr ball foirne ann agus oibrí deonach amháin. Tosaíonn ball foirne amháin ag obair san iarnóin a thugann faoiseamh don fhoireann dá sos lóin agus ansin a oibríonn sa tseirbhís cúraim do leanaí in aois scoile um thráthnóna. Níl an soláthraí cláraithe bunaithe sa tseirbhís. Tá mórdhámhachtain i gCúram agus Oideachas Luath-Óige ag foirne go léir.

Modheolaíocht

Is í Cigireacht na Luathbhlianta, Tusla, rialtóir reachtúil neamhspleách ar sheirbhísí luathbhlianta in Éirinn. Sainmhínítear i Rialacháin an Achta um Chúram Leanaí 1991 (Seirbhísí Luathbhlianta) 2016 dualgas an tsoláthraí chláraithe sábháilteacht agus folláine leanaí a chinntiú agus cloí leis na riachtanais seo. Tugann an tAcht seo údarás do Tusla measúnú a dhéanamh ar chomhlíonadh leis na rialacháin. Is é is aidhm le rialáil maidir le seirbhísí óige ná a chinntiú go seastar le cúram, sábháilteacht, agus folláine na leanaí a fhreastalaíonn ar na seirbhísí seo.

Pleanáiltear cigireachtaí ar sheirbhísí luathbhlianta bunaithe ar na pointí seo a leanas:

- Stair chigireachta na seirbhíse
- Eolas ar bith a fhaightear maidir leis an tseirbhís

Tá torthaí na cigireachta bunaithe ar:

- Eolas a fhaightear trí dhoiciméid a imscrúdú
- Breathnú díreach
- Plé le baill foirne ábhartha

Ba chigireacht neamhfhógartha é seo, agus díródh ar rialachas/sláinte, folláine agus forbairt an linbh/sábháilteacht/áitreabh agus saoráidí lena linn. Féadfaidh cigireachtaí díriú ar réimsí eile chomh maith, de réir mar is gá.

Leagtar amach torthaí na cigireachta sa tuarascáil maidir leis an gcigireacht a eisítear mar dhréacht-tuarascáil ar dtús chuig an tseirbhís, agus bíonn deis ag an tseirbhís freagra a thabhairt ar thorthaí ar bith a luaitear inti. I gcás go sainaithnítear nach bhfuil ceanglais reachtúla á gcomhlíonadh, ní mór don soláthraí cláraithe léiriú a thabhairt ar an mbealach a réitíodh an neamhchomhlíonadh agus mar a chuirfear cosc ar an neamhchomhlíonadh amach anseo. Úsáidfean an plean um Ghníomh Ceartaitheach agus Gníomh Coisctheach (CAPA) chun bonn eolais a chur le cinntí maidir le comhlíonadh le ceanglais rialála. I gcás nach n-éiríonn leis an soláthraí cláraithe na ceanglais reachtúla a chomhlíonadh, féadfar próiseas géaraithe a thosú.

Forchoimeádann an Chigireacht an ceart chun eagarthóireacht a dhéanamh ar fhreagraí a fhaightear ar chúiseanna éagsúla lena n-áirítear soiléireacht; iomláine; agus chun próisis riaracháin agus dlíthiúla a chomhlíonadh.

Is í an Chigireacht a chuireann an tuarascáil le chéile.

Buíochas

Is mian leis an gCigireacht buíochas a ghabháil leis an duine i bhfeighil, leis an bhfoireann agus leis na leanaí a bhí i láthair ar lá na cigireachta, as a gcomhoibriú.

Cuid III – Bainistíocht agus Foireann

Rialachán 9 – Bainistíocht agus earcaíocht

(1) Cinnteoidh soláthraí cláraithe-

(a) go mbeidh sa tseirbhís duine i bhfeighil ainmnithe agus duine arna ainmniú nó arna hainmniú a bheidh ábalta gníomhú mar ionadaí de réir mar is gá,

(b) go mbeidh an duine i bhfeighil ainmnithe nó an duine arna ainmniú nó arna hainmniú dá dtagraítear i bhfomhír (a) san áitreabh gach tráth le linn na tréimhse ina mbeidh an tseirbhís réamhscoile á seoladh, agus

(2) Cinnteoidh soláthraí cláraithe gur duine oiriúnach inniúil gach fostaí, gach oibrí nach n-íoctar agus gach conraitheoir, agus cineál na riachtanas a bhíonn ar leanaí á chur san áireamh, lena n-áirítear trí na nithe seo a leanas a dhéanamh–

(a) breithniú ar theistiméireacht ó fhostóirí an duine san am a caitheadh, más ann, agus go háirithe ar theistiméireacht ón bhfostóir is déanaí, más ann,

(b) breithniú ar theistiméireachtaí ó fhoinsí iontaoifa i gcás duine nach raibh aon fhostóirí air nó uirthi san am a caitheadh,

(c) breithniú ar an nochtadh grinnfhiosrúcháin a fuarthas ó Bhiúró Náisiúnta Grinnfhiosrúcháin an Gharda Síochána de réir Acht 2012 i leith an duine, agus

d) a chinntiú, a mhéid is indéanta, go soláthróidh duine, i gcás go raibh cónaí ar an duine i stát seachas an Stát ar feadh tréimhse ab fhaide ná 6 mhí as a chéile, grinnfhiosrúchán ag póilíní ó na húdaráis phóilíneachta sa stát sin.

Faisnéis maidir le Comhlíonadh:

- (1)
- (a) Bhí duine i bhfeighil ainmnithe sa tseirbhís, chomh maith le duine eile ainmnithe le gníomhú mar ionadaí de réir mar is gá.
- (b) Bhí an duine i bhfeighil i láthair sa tseirbhís nuair a tháinig an cigire ar lá na cigireachta agus d'fhan sí ann fad a bhí an chigireacht ar siúl.
- (2)
- Dhírigh an cigire ar ghrinnfhiosrúchán na 3 duine fásta a bhí tar éis tosú sa tseirbhís ó bhí rinneadh an chigireacht dheireanach ar an 13/04/21. I measc na ndaoine fásta, bhí soláthraí cláraithe ainmnithe nua nach bhfuil bunaithe sa tseirbhís, ball foirne amháin agus oibrí deonach amháin a oibríonn leis na leanaí. Dhírigh an cigire ar chomhaid an fhostaí seo le linn na cigireachta.
- (a) Bhí 3 theistiméireacht agus bailíocht chomhfhreagrach i scríbhinn orthu ar taifead ó iarfhóistóirí maidir leis na 3 duine fásta sin.
- (b) Bhí 3 theistiméireacht agus bailíocht chomhfhreagrach i scríbhinn orthu ar taifead ó fhoinse eile nach iarfhóistóir í.
- (c) Bhí doiciméid um nochtadh grinnfhiosrúcháin an Gharda Síochána ar taifead i ndáil le gach duine de na triúir duine fásta.
- d) Níl feidhm aige seo ós rud é nár chónaigh na daoine fásta i gceist lasmuigh den dlínse ar feadh tréimhse ní b'fhaide ná 6 mhí as a chéile.
- (4)
- Tá mórdhámhachtain i gCúram agus Oideachas Luath-Óige ó Dhearbhú Cáilíochta agus Cáilíochtaí Éireann ag an mball foirne a oibríonn go díreach leis na leanaí. I measc na ndaoine fásta nua eile a bhaineann leis an tseirbhís, tá soláthraí cláraithe ainmnithe nua agus oibrí deonach. Ní éilítear ar an soláthraí cláraithe cáilíocht a bheith acu i gcúram leanaí agus tá an t-oibrí deonach i mbun cáilíochta cúraim leanaí a dhéanamh faoi láthair agus áirítear an duine seo sa chóimheas idir daoine fásta agus leanaí.

Cuid III – Bainistíocht agus Foireann

Rialachán 11 - Leibhéal Foirne

(1) Faoi réir an Rialacháin seo, cinnteoidh soláthraí cláraithe go mbeidh gach tráth líon leordhóthanach de dhaoine fásta ag obair go díreach leis na leanaí a fhreastalaíonn ar an tseirbhís réamhscoile.

(3) Faoi réir alt (5), cinnteoidh soláthraí cláraithe seirbhíse réamhscoile seisiúnaí go gcomhlíonfar gach tráth an cóimheas íosta idir daoine fásta agus leanaí a shonraítear i gcolún (3) de Chuid 1 de Sceideal 6 os coinne uimhir thagartha áirithe a shonraítear i gcolún (1) den Chuid sin i leith raon aoise na leanaí a shonraítear i gcolún (2) den Chuid sin ag an uimhir thagartha sin.

(8) Gan dochar do mhíreanna (2) go (7)-

(c) cinnteoidh soláthraí cláraithe seirbhíse réamhscoile seisiúnaí, i gcás go bhfuil an tseirbhís á hoibriú ag an duine i bhfeighil ina aonar nó ina haonar, go mbeidh an dara duine, atá eolach ar seirbhíse agus i riocht cúnamh a thabhairt don duine i bhfeighil chun an tseirbhís a oibriú, i gcóngar gairid don tseirbhís agus ar fáil chun freastal ar an tseirbhís i gcónaí d'fhonn cúnamh a thabhairt don duine i bhfeighil i gcás éigeandála.

Faisnéis maidir le Comhlíonadh:

(1) Léirigh na taifid go raibh líon leordhóthanach daoine fásta ag obair go díreach leis na leanaí i gcónaí.

(3) Ar lá na cigireachta, cloíodh leis an gcóimheas íosta idir daoine fásta agus leanaí laistigh den tseirbhís, mar seo a leanas:

Bhí 20 leanbh i láthair ar maidin, gach duine díobh ní ba shine ná 3 bliana d'aois agus bhí beirt bhall foirne agus oibrí deonach amháin in éineacht leo. Bhí 8 leanbh i láthair sa tráthnóna agus bhí beirt bhall foirne in éineacht leo.

Le linn na cigireachta, coinníodh an cóimheas idir an fhoireann agus leanaí de réir na rialachán.

(8)(c)

Níl feidhm aige seo ós rud é nach bhfuil an tseirbhís á feidhmiú ag duine aonair.

Cuid IV – Faisnéis agus Taifid

Rialachán 15 – Taifead ar leanbh réamhscoile

(1) Cinnteoidh soláthraí cláraithe seirbhíse réamhscoile seachas seirbhíse réamhscoile i lárionad buail isteach nó seirbhís réamhscoile shealadach go gcoimeádfar taifead i scríbhinn i leith gach linbh réamhscoile a fhreastalaíonn ar an tseirbhís ina mbeidh na sonraí seo a leanas:

- (a) ainm agus dáta breithe an linbh;
- (b) an dáta a d'fhreastail an leanbh ar an tseirbhís den chéad uair;
- (c) an dáta a scoir an leanbh de bheith ag freastal ar an tseirbhís;
- (d) ainm agus seoladh tuismitheora nó caomhnóra leis an leanbh agus uimhir theileafóin lena féidir dul i dteagmháil leis an tuismitheoir nó leis an gcaomhnóir sin nó le gaol nó le cara leis an leanbh le linn uaireanta oibríochta na seirbhíse;
- (e) údarú chun an leanbh a bhailiú;
- (f) mionsonraí aon bhreiteachta, aon mhíchumais, aon ailléirge nó aon riachtanais speisialta ar an leanbh, mar aon leis an bhfaisnéis go léir is iomchuí maidir le cúram nó aire speisialta a sholáthar;
- (g) ainm agus uimhir theileafóin lia-chleachtóir cláraithe an linbh;
- (h) taifead ar imdhíontaí, más ann, a fuair an leanbh;
- (i) toiliú i scríbhinn ó thuismitheoir chun cóireáil chúí liachta a chur ar an leanbh i gcás éigeandála.

Faisnéis maidir le Comhlíonadh:

Rinneadh athbhreithniú ar shampla d'fhoirmeacha clárúcháin na leanaí (15 fhoirm) agus fuarthas go raibh an fhaisnéis riachtanach go léir orthu mar a éilítear i Rialachán 15 (a) go (i), an dá phointe sin san áireamh.

Cuid V - Cúram Linbh i Seirbhís Réamhscoile

Rialachán 19 - Sláinte, leas agus forbairt linbh

(1) Cinnteoidh soláthraí cláraithe, le linn dó nó di a bheith ag soláthar seirbhís réamhscoile—

(a) go ndéanfar foghlaim, forbairt agus leas gach linbh a urasú laistigh de shaol laethúil na seirbhíse réamhscoile trí na gníomhaíochtaí cuí, an idirghníomhaíocht chuí, na hábhair chuí agus an trealamh cuí a sholáthar, ag féachaint d'aois agus do chéim forbartha an linbh, agus

Faisnéis maidir le Comhlíonadh:

- Bhí polasaí á chur chun cinn ag an tseirbhís maidir le bia sláintiúil agus chonacthas go raibh an bia agus na deochanna a cuireadh ar fáil ag na tuismitheoirí/caomhnóirí do sneaic na maidine sláintiúil agus cothaitheach.
- Rinneadh freastal ar riachtanais leithris na leanaí go pras agus go tuisceanach. Spreagadh na leanaí chun an leithreas a úsáid go neamhspleách. Chonacthas na baill foirne ag maoirsiú agus ag cabhrú le gach leanbh de réir mar ba ghá agus iad ag ní agus ag triomú a lámha, agus tugadh tacaíocht agus spreagadh do na leanaí é a dhéanamh roimh ithe agus tar éis dóibh an leithreas a úsáid.
- Chonacthas go raibh na leanaí gléasta go cuí agus iad ag súgradh amuigh san áit spraoi lasmuigh.

CAIDRIMH THACAÍOCHTA MÓRTHIMPEALL AR NA LEANAÍ:

- Chonacthas na baill foirne ag labhairt leis na leanaí le linn am sneaice agus an t-am sin á úsáid mar dheis chun caidreamh sóisialta leis na leanaí a fheabhsú, rud a chothaigh atmaisféar suaimhneach.
- Tá spás scíthe ar fáil do na leanaí chun a scíth a ligean ann dá mba rud é gur mhian leo leabhar a léamh nó gan a bheith páirteach i ngníomhaíochtaí ar leith agus iad sa tseirbhís.

Cuid V - Cúram Linbh i Seirbhís Réamhscoile

Rialachán 22 – Bia agus Deoch

Cinntoidh soláthraí cláraithe go mbeidh bia agus deoch atá leordhóthanach oiriúnach agus taoisleannach éagsúil ar fáil do gach leanbh réamhscoile a fhreastalaíonn ar an tseirbhís réamhscoile.

Faisnéis maidir le Comhlíonadh:

- Ar lá na cigireachta, chonacthas go raibh an bia a chuir na tuismitheoirí/caomhnóirí ar fáil le haghaidh sneaic lár na maidine sláintiúil agus cothaitheach le méideanna bia éagsúil a bhí oiriúnach d’aois na leanaí, mar shampla torthaí úrghearrtha mar sútha talún, ceapairí, agus iógart le huisce nó bainne a ól.

Faisnéis maidir le Neamhchomhlíonadh

- Níor cuireadh bia somheata na leanaí arna chur ar fáil ag na tuismitheoirí agus na caomhnóirí le haghaidh sneaic lár na maidine i gcuiseoir na seirbhíse, rud a chuir an bia i mbaol a mhilleadh.

Gníomh Ceartaitheach & Gníomh Coisctheach arna seoladh isteach ag an Soláthraí Cláraithe

Gníomh Ceartaitheach agus Gníomh Coisctheach

- Cinntoidh an fhoireann go stóráilfear lóna somheata na leanaí sa chuisneoir sa seomra ranga. Cinntoidh an duine an duine i bhfeighil gach lá go gcuirfear lóna na leanaí sa chuisneoir nuair a shroicheadh siad an tseirbhís.

Doiciméid Tacaíochta Curtha isteach

- Cuireadh isteach fianaise i bhfoirm ghrianghraif de lóna na leanaí agus iad stóráilte sa chuisneoir seirbhíse agus measadh go raibh sé sásúil.

Nóta Tráchtacha Achomair

- Rinneadh imscrúdú ar an gcomhfhreagras agus ar na taifid a fuarthas agus measadh gur chomhlíon siad ceanglais Rialachán 22 de na Rialacháin fán Acht um Chúram Leanaí, 2016.

Cuid VI - Sábháilteacht

Rialachán 23 - Sláinte, sábháilteacht agus leas linbh a chosaint

Cinnteoídh soláthraí cláraithe go ndéanfar gach beart réasúnach chun sláinte, sábháilteacht agus leas linbh réamhscoile a fhreastalaíonn ar an tseirbhís a chosaint agus cinnteoídh sé nó sí go mbeidh timpeallacht na seirbhíse sábháilte.

Faisnéis maidir le Comhlíonadh:

Sábháilteacht Ghinearálta

- Bhí an príomhdhoras isteach sa tseirbhís faoi ghlas chun cosc a chur ar dhaoine neamhúdraithe teacht isteach, agus chun a chinntiú nach n-éalódh páistí ina n-aonar.
- Bhí na doirse éalaithe éigeandála saor ó bhac.
- Bhí an áit spraoi lasmuigh daingnithe go cuí fad is a bhí na leanaí ag súgradh amuigh.

Rialú Ionfhabhtuith

- Bhí na seomraí spraoi agus na spásanna comhchoiteanna aeraithe a dhóthain agus fuinneoga inoscailte sa seomra spraoi agus sna leithris.
- Cuireadh dramhaíl phearsanta lena n-áirítear ciarsúir pháipéir agus an dramhaíl glantacháin go léir sna boscaí bruscair troitheánacha a bhí ar sa tseirbhís.
- Bhí teacht ag na leanaí ar go leor leithreas agus báisíní níos álainn.
- Bhí soláthar de leacht gallúnaí, tuáillí páipéir agus uisce te faoi rialú teirmeastatach agus boscaí bruscair le haghaidh tuáillí páipéir salacha ar fáil sa tseirbhís.
- Chonacthas na leanaí ag ní a lámha nuair a tháinig siad isteach sa tseirbhís, roimh sneaic lár na maidine agus i ndiaidh dul go dtí an leithreas.

Cuid VI - Sábháilteacht

Rialachán 25 - Garchabhair

(1) Cinnteoidh soláthraí cláraithe go mbeidh duine atá oilte ar gharchabhair do leanaí ar fáil láithreach i gcónaí do na leanaí a fhreastalaíonn ar an tseirbhís réamhscoil.

(2) Cinnteoidh soláthraí cláraithe go mbeidh bosca garchabhrach do leanaí a

bhfuil an trealamh cuí ann—

(a) stóráilte go sábháilte in áit fheiceálach san áitreabh ar féidir teacht air gan dua, agus

(b) ar fáil i gcónaí do na leanaí a fhreastalaíonn ar an tseirbhís réamhscoile.

Faisnéis maidir le Comhlíonadh:

(1) Bhí teastas deimhnithe um oiliúint do Fhreagróirí Garchabhrach ag beirt bhall foirne.

(2) (a) Bhí bosca garchabhrach feistithe go leordhóthanach mar is cóir ar fáil sa tseirbhís, agus bhí sé stóráilte go sábháilte as raon láimhe na leanaí.

(b) An t-am ar fad agus an tseirbhís á feidhmiú, bhí soláthairtí garchabhrach ar fáil do na daoine fásta ar eagla go mbeadh cóir leighis de dhíth ar leanbh.

Cuid VI - Sábháilteacht

Rialachán 26 - Bearta maidir le sábháilteacht ó dhóiteán

(1) Cinnteoidh soláthraí cláraithe go gcoimeádfar taifead i scríbhinn—

(a) ar aon druil dóiteáin a dhéantar san áitreabh, agus

(b) ar líon, cineál agus taifead cothabhála an trealaimh chun dóiteán a chomhrac agus na n-aláram deataigh san áitreabh.

(4) Déanfar fógra i dtaobh na nósanna imeachta a bheidh le leanúint i gcás dóiteáin a chur ar taispeáint in áit fheiceálach san áitreabh.

Faisnéis maidir le Comhlíonadh:

(1)

(a) Bhí taifead ar fáil maidir leis na druileanna dóiteáin míosúla a rinneadh, agus de réir na dtaifead, rinneadh an ceann deireanach ar an 18/04/23.

(b) Bhí taifead á choinneáil maidir le huimhir, cineál agus taifead cothabhála an trealaimh chun dóiteán a chomhrac. De réir na dtaifead, rinneadh an trealamh comhraicthe dóiteáin a sheirbhísiú don uair dheireanach ar an 27/9/2022 agus rinneadh an córas aláraim dóiteáin a sheirbhísiú agus a thástáil go deireanach ar an 05/01/23.

(4)

Bhí nós imeachta aslonnaithe na seirbhíse i gcás dóiteáin ina raibh an nós imeachta a bhí le leanúint i gcás dóiteáin luaite ar taispeáint sa tseirbhís.

Cuid VI - Sábháilteacht

Rialachán 28 - Árachas

Cinnteoídh soláthraí cláraithe go mbeidh an tseirbhís réamhscoile faoi árachas leordhóthanach.

Faisnéis maidir le Comhlíonadh:

Léirigh an cumhdach árachais go raibh cumhdach ag an tseirbhís le haghaidh 22 leanbh ar an iomlán.

Rachaidh an cumhdach árachais in éag ar an 27/11/2023.

Early Years Inspectorate Regulatory Report

Pre School

TUSLA Identifier: TU2015CC284

Name of Service: Naionra Bhaile Mhúirne

Address of Service: Maigh Réidh, Baile Mhic Íre, Magh Chromtha, Co. Cork

Eircode: P12 YD62

Name of Registered Provider: Ray Mac Phaidin

Service type: Sessional

Date(s) of Inspection: 08/05/2023

No of pre-school children:	AM	20	PM	8
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Address of the Early Years Inspectorate: Early Years Inspectorate
Administration Building
St Mary's Health Campus
Gurrabraher
Cork
T23X440

Inspection undertaken by: Ms. M O'Reilly

Title: Early Years Inspector

Authority to Inspect

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).

Conditions if applicable Not Applicable

Description of service

Naionra Bhaile Mhúirne first opened in 2004 and is a registered early years sessional service that caters for children from aged three to six years and attending the Early Childhood Care and Education Scheme (ECCE). The opening hours are from 8:50 to 11:50am and from 12:05 to 15:05 each day Monday to Friday. The service operates from one room in a single storey building located in the local GAA grounds in the rural village of Ballyvourney Co Cork. A registered school age service is also provided in a separate room located beside the Naíonra.

Staffing

The service had four adults in attendance in the service who work directly with the children at all times while the service is in operation.. They have three staff and one volunteer. One staff member commences in the afternoon and relieves staff for their lunch break and then works in the school aged care service in the evening The registered provider is not service based. All staff hold a major award in Early Childhood Care and Education.

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 unannounced and focused on the area of governance/ health, welfare and development of child/ safety/ premises and facilities. The inspections may also focus on other areas as required.

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 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

(1) A registered provider shall ensure that-

- (a) the service has a designated person in charge and a named person who is able to deputise as required,*
- (b) at all times during the period when the pre-school service is being carried on, the designated person in charge or the named person referred to in subparagraph (a) is on the premises, and*

(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.

Compliance Information

(1)

(a) There was a named designated person in charge and a named person to deputise as required.

(b) The person in charge was present when the inspector arrived on the premises on the day of the inspection and remained for the duration of the inspection.

(2)

The Inspector concentrated on vetting the three new adults associated with the service since the last inspection carried out at the service on the 13/04/21. The adults included a new named registered provider not serviced based, one staff and one volunteer working with the children. The inspector focussed on this sample of files during the inspection.

(a) There were three references with a corresponding written validation on file from past employers in respect of the three adults.

(b) There were three references with a corresponding written validation on file from a source other than a previous employer.

(c) A completed Garda vetting disclosure was received for each of the three adults.

(d) Not applicable as the adults had not worked outside the jurisdiction for a period of longer than six consecutive months.

(4)

The staff member that is working directly with the children holds a major award from Quality and Qualifications QQI in Early Childhood Care and Education. The remaining new adults associated with the service included a new named registered provider and a volunteer. The registered provider is not required to have a childcare qualification and the volunteer is currently in the process of completing a childcare qualification and is not included in the adult child ratio.

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.*
- (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)-*
- (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) The person in charge ensured that there were an adequate number of adults working directly with the children at all times.

(3) On the day of the inspection the minimum ratio of adults to children within the service, was adhered to as follows:

There were 20 children in attendance in the morning aged 3 years plus with two staff and one volunteer in attendance. There were 8 children in attendance in the evening with two staff in attendance.

During the period of inspection, the ratio of staff to children was maintained as per the regulations

(8)(c)

Not applicable as the service was not operating single-handedly

Part IV – Information and Records

Regulation 15 – Record of pre-school child

(1) A registered provider of a pre-school service other than a pre-school service in a drop-in centre or a temporary pre-school service shall ensure that a record in writing is kept in respect of each pre-school child attending the service containing the following particulars:

- (a) the name and date of birth of the child;*
- (b) the date on which the child first attended the service;*
- (c) the date on which the child ceased to attend the service;*
- (d) the name and address of a parent or guardian of the child and a telephone number where that parent or guardian or a relative or friend of the child can be contacted during the hours of operation of the service;*
- (e) authorisation for the collection of the child;*
- (f) details of any illness, disability, allergy or special need of the child, together with all the information relevant to the provision of special care or attention;*
- (g) the name and telephone number of the child’s registered medical practitioner;*
- (h) record of immunisations, if any, received by the child;*
- (i) written parental consent for appropriate medical treatment of the child in the event of an emergency.*

Compliance Information

A sample portion of 15 children’s registration forms. were reviewed and found to contain the elements of information as required by Regulation 15 (a) to (i) inclusive.

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

- The service promoted healthy eating and the food and drink provided by the parents and guardians for the mid-morning snack was observed to be healthy and nutritious.
- Children's toileting and hygiene needs were promptly and sensitively attended to. Independent use of the toilet was encouraged. The staff members were observed to supervise and assist where required each of the children when hand washing and hand drying, and the children were supported and encouraged prior to eating and post toileting.
- The children were observed appropriately dressed while playing in the outdoor play area.

SUPPORTING RELATIONSHIPS AROUND CHILDREN:

- The staff members were observed speaking with the children during snack time and using it as an opportunity to enhance social interaction with the children which promoted a relaxed atmosphere.
- There was a rest area for the children to relax should they wish to read or opt out of activities while attending the service.

Part V - Care of Child in Pre-school Service

Regulation 22 – Food and drink

A registered provider shall ensure that adequate and suitable, nutritious and varied food and drink is available for each pre-school child attending the pre-school service.

Compliance Information

- On day of inspection the food provided by the parents/guardians for the mid-morning snack were observed to be healthy and nutritious with age-appropriate size quantities of different food for example freshly cut fruit such as strawberries, sandwiches, and yogurts with water or milk to drink.

Non-Compliance Information

- The perishable foods provided by the parents and guardians for the mid-morning snack were not refrigerated in the service refrigerator increasing the potential the risk of food spoilage.

Corrective & Preventive Action submitted by the Registered Provider

Corrective and Preventive Action

- Staff will ensure that all children's perishable lunches are stored in the fridge located in the classroom. The person in charge will take charge each day of making sure that on the children's arrival to the service all children's lunches are refrigerated.

Supporting documentation submitted

- Photographic evidence of the children's lunches stored in the service refrigerator was submitted and deemed satisfactory.

Summary Comment

- Correspondence and records received were examined and deemed to meet the above requirements of Regulation 22 of the Child Care Act 1991 (Early Years Services) Regulations 2016.

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:

- Access to the main entrance door was adequately secured that prevented unauthorised access by an unauthorised person or exit by a child.
- Emergency fire exit doors were unobstructed.
- The outdoor play area was adequately secured while the children were playing outdoors

Infection Control:

- Playrooms and communal areas were adequately ventilated with openable windows in the playroom and toilet facilities.
- Personal waste including used tissues and all cleaning waste was appropriately disposed of in foot operated pedal bins in the service.
- The children had access to sufficient toilets and wash hand basins.
- A supply of liquid soap, paper towels and thermostatically controlled hot water and bins for disposal of paper towels were available in the service.
- Children were observed washing their hands on arrival to the service, prior to mid-morning snack and after toileting.

Part VI - Safety

Regulation 25 - First aid

(1) A registered provider shall ensure that a person trained in first aid for children is, at all times, immediately available to the children attending the pre-school service.

(2) A registered provider shall ensure that a suitably equipped first aid box for children-

(a) is safely stored in an easily accessible and conspicuous position on the premises, and

(b) is available to the children attending the pre-school service at all times.

Compliance Information

(1) Two staff members held a certified, First Aid Responder (FAR) training certificate.

(2) (a) There was a sufficiently stocked first aid box available in the service, which was safely stored out of reach of children.

(b) At all times when the service was in operation, first aid supplies were accessible to the adults if in the event that a child may require treatment.

Part VI - Safety

Regulation 26 - Fire safety measures

- (1) A registered provider shall ensure that a record in writing is kept of-*
- (a) any fire drill that takes place in the premises, and*
 - (b) the number, type and maintenance record of fire fighting equipment and smoke alarms in the premises.*
- (4) A notice of the procedures to be followed in the event of fire shall be displayed in a conspicuous position in the premises.*

Compliance Information

- (1)
- (a) A record of monthly fire drills carried out was available and indicated that the last fire drill took place on the 18/04/23.
 - (b) A record of the number, type and maintenance record of firefighting equipment was maintained. It was recorded that the fire equipment was last serviced on the 27/9/22 and the emergency fire alarm system was last tested and serviced on the 05/01/23.
- (4)
- The fire evacuation procedure for the service which contained details in relation to the procedure to be followed in the event of a fire was displayed in the service.

Part VI - Safety

Regulation 28 - Insurance

A registered provider shall ensure that the pre-school service is adequately insured.

Compliance Information

The service had certification to confirm insurance cover for a total of 22 children.

Insurance cover expires on the 27/11/2023