

Tuarascáil Rialála Chigireacht na Luathbhlianta Réamhscoil

Uimhir Aitheantais TUSLA:	TU2015CC287
Ainm na Seirbhíse:	Naíonra Chill na Martra
Seoladh na Seirbhíse:	Cill na Martra, Magh Chromtha, Co. Chorcaí
Éirchód:	P12 DD71
Ainm an tSoláthraí Chláraithe:	Ray Mac Pháidin
Cineál na Seirbhíse	Seisiúnach
Dáta(i) na Cigireachta:	26/10/2023
Líon na leanaí réamhscoile:	AM 14 PM N/Bh

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	N/Bh
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Cur síos ar an tseirbhís

Is seirbhís naíonra pobalbhunaithe é Naíonra Cill na Martra. Tá an naíonra cleamhnaithe le Comhar Naíonraí na Gaeltachta Teoranta. Cuirtear seirbhís luathbhlianta ar fáil do leanaí idir 3 agus 6 bliana d'aois agus do leanaí atá ag freastal ar an Scéim um Chúram agus Oideachas na Luath-Óige (ECCE). Bíonn an tseirbhís ar oscailt idir 9am agus 12pm Luan go hAoine: Is é cur chuige na seirbhíse ná foghlaim trí spraoi trí mheán na Gaeilge. Feidhmíonn an tseirbhís as seomra amháin i bhfoirgneamh aon stóir atá lonnaithe ar thailte Chumann Lúthchleas Gael áitiúil i gCill na Martra, sráidbhaile faoin tuath i gCo. Chorcaí. Tá teacht ag na leanaí ar sheomra eile (seomra cúraim do leanaí in aois scoile) san fhoirgneamh chun dul i mbun spraoi fisiciúil nuair nach mbíonn siad in ann dul amach ag spraoi.

Soláthar foirne

Bhí beirt daoine fásta i láthair sa tseirbhís agus oibríonn siad go díreach leis na leanaí an t-am ar fad agus an tseirbhís ar oscailt. Tá mórdhámhachtain i gCúram agus Oideachas Luath-Óige ó Dhearbhu Cáilíochta agus Cáilíochtaí Éireann ag gach ball foirne a oibríonn go díreach leis na leanaí. Níl an soláthraí cláraithe bunaithe sa tseirbhís.

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 chláráithe 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 díriodh ar rialachas/sláinte, folláine agus forbairt an linbh/sábháilteacht/áitreabh agus saoraidí 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 Gníomh 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 ábhar na tuarascála le chéile.

Buíochas

Is mian leis an gcigire buíochas a ghabháil leis an cinnteoidh soláthraí cláraithe 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 iontaofa 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.

(4) Cinnteoidh soláthraí cláraithe, gan dochar do ghinearáltacht mhír (2) agus faoi réir mhíreanna (5) agus (6), go sealbhaíonn gach fostaí a bhíonn ag obair go díreach le leanaí a fhreastalaíonn ar an tseirbhís, mórdhámhachtain i gCúram agus Oideachas Luath-Óige ar Leibhéal 5 ar an gCreat Náisiúnta Cáilíochtaí nó cáilíocht a mheasfaidh an tAire a bheith coibhéiseach léi sin, ar a laghad.

Faisnéis maidir le Comhlíonadh:

(1)

(a) Bhí duine i bhfeighil ainmnithe sa tseirbhís, chomh maith le duine eile ainmnithe le gníomhú mar ionadaí di 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 ghéarscrúdú a dhéanamh ar na seisear daoine fásta a bhain leis an tseirbhís, lena n-áirítear an soláthraí cláraithe nua a ceapadh ó bhí an chigireacht dheireanach ann, an comhordaitheoir agus an ceathrar ball foirne a oibríonn go díreach leis na leanaí. Is foireann faoisimh iad beirt bhall foirne ainmnithe a oibríonn sa tseirbhís nuair is gá. Rinneadh an chigireacht dheireanach ar an 24 Márta 2021.

(a) Bhí 2 theistiméireacht agus bailíochtú chomhfhreagrach i scríbhinn leo ar taifead ó iarfhostóirí maidir leis na seisear daoine fásta sin.

(b) Bhí 10 dteistiméireacht agus bailíochtú chomhfhreagrach i scríbhinn leo ar taifead ó fhoinsí eile nach iarfhostóir í.

(c) Bhí doiciméid chomhlánaithe um nochtadh grinnfhiosrúcháin an Gharda Síochána ar taifead i ndáil le gach duine de na seisear daoine fásta.

(d) Bhí grinnfhiosrúchán comhlánaithe póilíní ar fáil le haghaidh duine fásta amháin a bhí tar éis cónaí lasmuigh den dlíne ar feadh tréimhse ní b'fhaide ná 6 mhí as a chéile.

(4)

Bhí mórdhámhachtain i gCúram agus Oideachas na Luath-Óige ag cúigear de na seisear daoine fásta a bhí ag obair go díreach leis na leanaí. Níl an soláthraí cláraithe ainmnithe nua bunaithe ar sheirbhís, mar sin níl cáilíocht cúram leanaí riachtanach dó.

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 na cóimheasa seo a leanas idir daoine fásta agus leanaí:

Bhí 14 leanbh i láthair (3-6 bliana d'aois) bhí beirt bhall foirne in éineacht leo.

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

(8)(a)

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 chuí liachta a chur ar an leanbh i gcás éigeandála.

Faisnéis maidir le Comhlíonadh:

Rinneadh athbhreithniú ar shampla beag d'fhoirmeacha clárúcháin na leanaí (12 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) *Cinnteach 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.

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.
- Chabhraigh an fhoireann leis na páistí comhroinnt a aithint agus a thuiscint. Chonacthas ar lá na cigireachta gur léiríodh dóibh conas oibriú le chéile mar ghrúpa nuair a bhí na páistí páirteach i ngníomhaíochtaí éagsúla trí mheán na Gaeilge. Chonacthas na leanaí ag fanacht lena seal, ag baint taitneamh as an eispéireas le chéile, bhí plé grúpa acu mar shampla, fuair gach leanbh seans a chur in iúl don ghrúpa cén feisteas a bhí roghnaithe acu le caitheamh ag an gcóisir Oíche Shamhna a bhí le teacht. I rith an tseisiúin, tugadh faoi deara gur chothaigh na gníomhaíochtaí seo muinín na bpáistí i bhforbairt teanga trí chaint agus trí amhráin éagsúla a chanadh.

Cuid V - Cúram Linbh i Seirbhís Réamhscoile

Rialachán 22 – Bia agus Deoch

Cinnteoídh 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 shneaic na maidine sláintiúil agus cothaitheach. Bhí méid an bhia oiriúnach d’aois na leanaí agus bhí torthaí úrghearrtha mar sútha talún acu, chomh maith le ceapairí agus iógart, agus uisce nó bainne le hól.

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 neamhúdairithe teacht isteach, agus chun a chinntiú nach n-éalódh páistí ina n-aonar.
- Bhí na doirse éalaithe éigeandála saor ó bhac.

Rialú Ionfhabhtuithe

- 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 roimh shneaic na maidine agus tar éis dóibh dul go dtí an leithreas.
- Bhí taifead glantacháin i scríbhinn ar fáil a léirigh go raibh áiteanna ardtheagmhála á nglanadh gach lá i ndiaidh gach seisiún.
- Cuireadh bia somheata i gcuisneoir na seirbhíse.

Cuid VI - Sábháilteacht

Rialachán 26 - Bearta maidir le sábháilteacht ó dhóiteán

- (1) *Cinntoidh 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 taispeánt 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 i mí Deireadh Fómhair 2023.
 - (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 agus an córas aláraim dóiteáin a sheirbhísiú agus a thástáil go deireanach i mí na Samhna 2022.
- (4)
- Bhí nós imeachta aslonnaithe na seirbhíse i gcás dóiteáin ina raibh an nós imeachta a bhí le leanúint i gcás dóiteáin luaite ar taispeánt sa tseirbhís.

Cuid VI - Sábháilteacht

Rialachán 28 - Árachas

Cinntoidh 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:	TU2015CC287		
Name of Service:	Naíonra Chill na Martra		
Address of Service:	Cill na Martra, Magh Chromtha, Co. Cork		
Eircode:	P12 DD71		
Name of Registered Provider:	Ray Mac Phaidin		
Service type:	Sessional		
Date(s) of Inspection:	26/10/2023		
No of pre-school children:	AM	14	PM N/A
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	N/A
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Description of service

Naíonra Cill na Martra is a registered community based naíonra service. The naíonra is affiliated to Comhar Naíonra na Gaeltacha Teoranta. An early years service is provided to children aged between 3 and 6 years and for children attending the Early Childhood Care and Education Scheme (ECCE). The service is open between 9am and 12pm Monday to Friday: The approach of the service is learning through play in the medium of the Irish language. The service operates from one playroom located on the local GAA grounds in the rural village of Killnamartha, Co Cork. The children have access to a second room (school aged care room) in the facility for physical play when the children are unable to play outdoors.

Staffing

The service had two adults who work directly with the children at all times while the service is in operation. All staff that work directly with the children hold a major award in Early Childhood Care and Education. The registered provider is not service based.

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 registered provider, 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.*

(4) A registered provider shall ensure that, without prejudice to the generality of paragraph (2) and subject to paragraphs (5) and (6), each employee working directly with children attending the service holds at least a major award in Early Childhood Care and Education at Level 5 on the National Qualifications Framework or a qualification deemed by the Minister to be equivalent.

Compliance Information

- (1)
- (a) There was a named designated person in charge and a 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 six adults associated with the service this included the new registered provider since the last inspection and the co-ordinator and the four staff that work directly with the children. Two staff are named relief staff for the service when required. The last inspection was carried out on the 24th March 2021.
- (a) There were two references with a corresponding written validation on file from past employers in respect of the six adults.
- (b) There were ten references with the required written validation on file from a source other than a previous employer.
- (c) A completed Garda vetting disclosure was received for each of the six adults.
- (d) A completed police vetting record was available for the adult that had worked outside the jurisdiction for a period of longer than six consecutive months.
- (4)
- Five of the six adults worked directly with the children held a major award in Early Childhood Care and Education. The new named registered provider is not serviced based therefore a childcare qualification is not required.

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 following adult child ratios were observed

There were 14 children aged three to six years with two adults in attendance.

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

(8)(a)

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

(1) A sample portion of 12 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.

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.
- Staff helped children to recognise and understand sharing and working together as a group as seen on day of inspection when children were involved in various activities through the medium of the Irish language. The children were observed waiting their turn, sharing the experience, they had a group discussion for example, each child got the opportunity to tell the group the outfit they planned on wearing for the upcoming Halloween party. The activities fostered the children's confidence in language development through speech and singing various songs as observed throughout the session.

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 food for example freshly cut fruit such as strawberries and sandwiches, and yogurts with water to drink.

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.

Infection Control:

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.
- Hand washing was observed prior to mid-morning snack and after going to the toilet.
- A written cleaning record was available where high contact areas were cleaned daily after each session.
- Perishable foods were refrigerated in the service refrigerator.

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 in October 2023
 - (b) A record of the number, type and maintenance record of firefighting equipment was maintained. It was recorded that the fire equipment and the emergency fire alarm system was last tested and serviced in November 2022
- (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