

TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances

Tusla I.D.:	TU2015CC299
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Name of Service	Naiscoil Chloch Na gCoillte
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Address of Service:	Bothar Fernhill, Cloch na gCoillte, Cork. P85 YV90
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Email Address:	naiscoilchlochnagcoillte@hotmail.com
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Name of Registered Provider:	Fidelma Ni hUallachain
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Type of Proposed Service:	Full Day Care		Part-Time	√	Sessional	√
	Drop-In		Childminding		Temporary	

Proposed change:	<p>Adding an additional service type from sessional to part time and sessional.</p> <p>Change in number of children from 15 to 22 children</p> <p>Change in hours of operation from 08:45-11:45 and 12:00 to 15:00 to 08:45 -13:45 hours</p> <p>Change in number of staff employed: from 2 to 3</p>
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Proposed Number of Children:	22
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Recommended Change Following Inspection:	<p>Adding an additional service type to part time and sessional.</p> <p>Change in number of children to 22</p> <p>Change in hours of operation 08:45 to 13:45 hours each day Monday to Friday</p> <p>Change in number of staff employed to 3</p>
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Registered change:	<p>Adding an additional service type from sessional to part time and sessional.</p> <p>Change in number of children from 15 to 22 children</p> <p>Change in hours of operation from 08:45-11:45 and 12:00 to 15:00 to 08:45 -13:45 hours</p> <p>Change in number of staff employed: from 2 to 3</p>
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Date of Inspection:	2	0	0	6	2	0	2	5
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Inspection undertaken by:	M O' Reilly
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Title:	Early Years Inspector
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Tusla Early Years Inspectorate Address:	<p>Early Years Department, Child & Family Agency, Hospital Grounds, Coolnagarrane, Skibbereen, Co Cork P81 PD78</p>
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TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances

Rationale for Inspection:

Proposed Change of Circumstance

Note: For Office use only, to be completed by Registration Office

Registration Status:	Registered Part-Time & Sessional Service for 22 Children
Date of Registration	31st July 2025

Authority to Inspect

The Tusla Early Years Inspectorate carries out inspections of Early Years Services under Section 58(D) of the Child Care Act 1991 (as inserted by Section 92 of the Child and Family Agency Act 2013).

Description of Service	Naiscoil Chloch Na gCoillte proposes to operate an additional part time day care as well as a sessional service for children aged between 2 to 6 years of age. It is proposed that the Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) Scheme will operate between the hours of 08:45 and 11:45am. The children attending the part-time day-care service will be in attendance until 13:45 hours. The service will operate each day from 08:45 to 13:45 hours Monday to Friday. The service proposes to accommodate more children in the service, increasing from 15 to 22 children. The service proposes to increase the number of staff from 2 to 3 staff. The service is situated on the outskirts of Clonakilty town in Co Cork.
Premises	The service operates from a prefabricated detached single storey building on the grounds of Gaelscoil Mhichíl Uí Choileáin. For the last few years, the Gaelscoil had access to part of the prefabricated building, but they have now moved out of the premise into the new extension to the Gaelscoil premise. A wall separating the two services has been removed and the playroom has been extended. There is now additional free floor space to accommodate the proposed 7 additional early years children that will attend the naíonra. The extra space in the naíonra has been suitably adapted into an early years service room with two designated children's toilet facilities and an office cum storage area. The adults have access to a staff toilet within the Gaelscoil building. The children have access to a designated outdoor play area beside the premise within the grounds of the Gaelscoil.
Staffing	It is proposed there will be three staff employed in the naíonra to work directly with the children and this includes the registered provider who is the person in charge. The staff who will work directly with the children will have a recognised qualification in Early Childhood Care and Education.
Methodology	The inspection was an announced inspection to assess compliance with the Childcare Act 1991 (Early Years Services) Regulations 2016 and Childcare Act 1991 (Early Years Services) (Amendment) Regulations 2016. The Inspection focused on regulations under the following themes: Governance, Health, Welfare and Development of the child, Safety and Premises.

TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances

	The findings on inspection based on information obtained through examination of documentation, direct observation, and discussion with relevant staff are documented in the inspection report and taken into consideration when making a decision in relation to registering the change in circumstance. 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.
Acknowledgements	The Inspector wishes to acknowledge the cooperation of the registered provider who was 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.

Requirement met:	The requirement has been met. (1)(a) There is a named person in charge for the service and there is named person to deputise as required. This information was displayed in the service.
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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.

Requirement met:	The requirement has been met. (1) The fit for purpose inspection was carried out in the absence of children in the playroom. The service plans on having children in the Naíonra aged between 2 to 6 years with three staff members who will work directly with the children.
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Part V - Care of Child in Pre-school Service

Regulation 20 - Facilities for Rest and Play

- (1) *Subject to this Regulation, a registered provider shall ensure that—*
- (a) *having regard to the number of pre-school children attending the service, their respective ages and the amount of time they spend on the premises, there are adequate and suitable facilities for each child to play indoors and, where required by these Regulations, outdoors, during the day, and*
 - (b) *there are adequate and suitable facilities for a pre-school child to rest during the day, and in the case of an overnight pre-school service, during the day and the night.*
- (2) *A registered provider—*
- (b) *of a full day care service, a part-time day care service, a sessional preschool service or a childminding service that moves premises on or after 30 June 2016, shall ensure that a suitable, safe and secure outdoor space to which the preschool children attending the service have access on a daily basis is provided on the premises.*
- (3) *A registered provider of a full day care service, a part-time day care service or a childminding service, other than such a service to which paragraph (2) applies, shall ensure that—*
- (a) *a suitable, safe and secure outdoor space to which the pre-school children attending the service have access on a daily basis is provided on the premises or*
 - (b) *where no such space is provided, the preschool children attending the service have access on a daily basis to an outdoor service*

Requirement met:

The requirement has been met.

- (1)
- (a) There are low shelves provided in the playroom that are accessible to the children. The shelves are stocked with a selection of age-appropriate activities, equipment and play materials that are all functioning and maintained in good condition. There is an adequate number of age-appropriate tables and chairs in the room suitable for the proposed age group and number of children in attendance each day. The children have access to an outdoor play area located beside the Naíonra.
- (b) There were suitable sleep equipment available for children aged between 2 and 6 years who may require a sleep while attending the service. There is one padded floor bed with suitable bed linen available in the service. There was a designated rest area provided in the playroom consisting of floor mat and cushions.
- (2)(a), (3)(a) There is a designated outdoor play area provided to the rear side of the premise. The outdoor play area is adequately enclosed and will be secured when the children are playing outdoors. The outdoor play area is equipped with activities such as a climbing frame, slide and a covered sand unit with accompanying play equipment.

TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances

The outdoor play area was laid with a hard surface. There were rubber mats under and around the climbing frame and slide.

(3)(b) Not applicable as the children have access to an outdoor play area located beside the room.

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.

Requirement met:

The requirement has been met.

- It is proposed that the parents will provide all the food and drink requirements for the children while attending the service.
- A second nutritional food break will be provided for the children attending the part-time day-care service.
- There will be potable drinking water available in the service.
- The children’s water bottle will be freely available to the children while attending the service.
- The fridge located in the playroom will provide appropriate storage for the children’s perishable snacks and meals.

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.

Requirement met:

The requirements have been met.

- The entrance door leading to the playroom is adequately secured reducing the risk of unauthorised access by a person onto the premises or the leaving of an unsupervised child.
- All the openable windows in the service are at adult height.
- All toys and play equipment in the playroom are safe and in good condition.

TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There were wall hooks available in the playroom to store children’s bags and coats. • There was thermostatically controlled warm water at all wash hand basins in the adult and children’s toilets. There was liquid soap and disposable paper towels available at the wash hand basins for hygienic hand washing and hygienic hand drying in the adult and children’s toilets. • Lidded, foot pedal operated bins, are available throughout the service including in the children’s toilets. • Cleaning equipment and materials are stored in areas that are inaccessible to children. • The first aid box is located at adult height in the playroom. • No electrical cables were visible in the service on the day of inspection. • The emergency fire exit doors were unobstructed at time of inspection.
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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.*

Requirement met:

The requirements have been met:

(1)

The available documentary evidence demonstrates that one of the staff employed at the service holds an up-to-date certification in First Aid Responder (FAR) training. The adult will be available in the service at all times during the hours of operation.

(2)

(a) The first aid box in the service was stored in a conspicuous location at adult height.

(b) The first aid box was adequately stocked and readily accessible by staff.

TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances

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.

Requirement met:	<p>The requirement has been met.</p> <p>(1)</p> <p>(a) The requirement is met in relation to the provision of a form for recording monthly fire drills. The last monthly fire drill took place in the playroom on the 11 June 2025.</p> <p>(b) A record of the number and type of firefighting equipment and wired smoke alarm were available on file. It was recorded that the fire equipment and the smoke alarm system was last serviced on the 07 August 2024.</p> <p>(4) A fire evacuation notice is displayed in the service.</p>
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Part VI – Safety

Regulation 28 – Insurance

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

Requirement met:	<p>The requirement has been met.</p> <p>A record of the insurance cover for 22 children in a part time service was available on file and the insurance cover will commence on the 25 August 2025 and expire on the 27 March 2026.</p>
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TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances

Part VII – Premises and Space Requirements

Regulation 29 – Premises

A registered provider shall ensure that the premises of the service are—

- (a) of sound and stable structure,
- (b) safe and secure,
- (c) kept adequately lit, heated and ventilated,
- (d) cleaned, maintained and repaired, as required, and
- (e) equipped with adequate and suitable sanitary facilities.

Requirement met:

The requirement has been met.

The provider proposes to operate a sessional and part-time day-care service in a facility that has been adapted to provide an early years service.

(a) From a visual assessment, the premises appears to be of sound and stable structure. No mould or cracks are visible.

(b) The entrance door leading to the early years service is adequately secured to prevent access by an unauthorised adult or exit by a child.

(c)

- There are openable windows at adult height, in the proposed playroom and in the children’s toilets.
- There are an adequate number of fluorescent lights in the care room and toilet facilities supplied by a combination of natural light and ceiling lights, with protective covers.
- The premise is heated by electric wall mounted heaters with radiator covers.

(d) The required daily and weekly cleaning schedules templates were available that included the playroom, play equipment, outdoor play equipment, toilet areas.

(e) There are two separate toilets and two wash hand basins available for use in the children’s toilet. The staff have access to an adult toilet located in the main Gaelscoil building beside the preschool. There are an adequate number of adult and children’s toilets in the service.

The premise is serviced by a public sewage system and the water source is from a public supply.

Part VII – Premises and Space Requirements

TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances

Regulation 30 – Minimum Space Requirements

- (1) Subject to paragraphs (2) to (6), a registered provider shall ensure that adequate clear floor space is available in the premises for the work, play and movement of children attending the pre-school service.
- (2) A registered provider of a full day care service or a part-time day care service shall ensure that the minimum amount of clear floor space specified in column (3) of Schedule 7 opposite a particular reference number specified in column (1) of that Schedule in respect of the age range of children specified in column (2) thereof at that reference number is available for each child in that age range attending the service.
- (3) A registered provider of a sessional pre-school service or a pre-school service in a drop-in centre shall ensure that a minimum of 1.818 square metres of clear floor space is available for each child attending the service.

Requirement met:

(1) +(2)

The measurement of the playroom is 62.39m². The playroom is spacious and adequate floor space is available in the proposed playroom for the work, play and movement for a maximum of 22 children in the room aged between 2 years 8 months and 6 years attending the sessional service. Adequate floor space is available in the proposed playroom for a maximum of 22 children in the room aged between 2 years 8 months and 6 years attending the part time day care. The room has sufficient space to accommodate 22 children at 2.30m² per child attending the part-time day-care service. The adult child ratio for part time day care is 1 adult to 8 children aged between 2 years 8 months to 6 years.

(3)

The floor space of 1.818m² applies per each early years child attending the sessional service. (ECCE) Therefore, the playroom has adequate space to allow up to a maximum of 22 early years children attending the sessional service each day The adult child ratio for sessional (ECCE) is 1 adult to 11 children aged between 2 years 8 months to 6 years.