

<b>Aitheantóir TUSLA:</b>	TU2015DL081
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<b>Ainm na Seirbhíse:</b>	Naíolann Ghaoth Dobhair
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<b>Seoladh na Seirbhíse:</b>	Áislann Ghaoth Dobhair, Na Doirí Beaga, Leitir Ceanainn, Co. Dún na nGall
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<b>Éirchód:</b>	F92 D60W
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<b>Ainm an tSoláthraí Cláraithe:</b>	Mairín Ní Chonghaile
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<b>Cineál na seirbhíse:</b>	Lá iomlán
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<b>Dáta(i) na Cigireachta:</b>	19/03/2025
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<b>Líon na leanaí réamhscoile:</b>	AM	25	PM	22
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<b>Seoladh na Cigireachta Luathbhlianta:</b>	Cigireacht Luathbhlianta Dhún na nGall Campas Naomh Conaill, Leitir Ceanainn, Co. Dhún na nGall chomh maith. F92 TD92
<b>Cigireacht arna déanamh ag:</b>	S Killeen agus L McGlynn
<b>Teideal:</b>	Cigirí Luathbhlianta

## An tÚdarás chun Cigireacht a dhéanamh

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

<b>Coinníollacha más infheidhme</b>	Neamhbhainteach
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## Cur síos ar an tseirbhís

Is seirbhís réamhscoile neamhbhrabúis í Naíolann Ghaoth Dobhair a chuireann cúram agus oideachas ar fáil do 1 trí mheán na Gaeilge. Tá an tseirbhís cláraithe chun seirbhís réamhscoile lá iomlán a sholáthar do leanaí idir 0 agus 6 bliana d'aois. Is iad na huaireanta oibríochta cláraithe ná 8.00am go 6.00pm. Tá an tseirbhís cláraithe freisin chun cúram leanaí ar aois scoile a sholáthar. Tá an tseirbhís á oibriú ar urlár na talún in áitribh saintógtha atá lonnaithe i bPáirc Gnó Ghaoth Dobhair. Tá trí sheomra réamhscoile ag an tseirbhís. Tá cistin oibríoch ann a úsáidtear chun bia leanaí a ullmhú ar an áitreabh. I measc na saoráidí eile atá ann, tá leithris do leanaí, áiseanna athraithe clúidíní, halla mór, oifig, seomra céadfach agus limistéir stórála choimhdeacha. Tá limistéar súgartha amuigh faoin spéir ar fáil ar an láthair ina bhfuil réimse cineálacha dromchlaí lena n-áirítear pábháil, féar nádúrtha agus dromchlaí boga sintéiseacha.

## An fhoireann

Tá 13 ball foirne ag obair sa tseirbhís faoi láthair. Tá 10 ball foirne a íoctar ag obair go díreach le leanaí sa tseirbhís, lena n-áirítear bainisteoir na seirbhíse. Tá triúr ball foirne breise ag obair sa chistin. Ní bhíonn an soláthraí cláraithe sa tseirbhís go laethúil, tá duine ainmnithe i gceannas, agus leas-duine ainmnithe ann freisin. Lá na cigireachta, d'oibrigh seachtar ball foirne go díreach leis na páistí agus d'oibrigh triúr ball foirne sa chistin.

## Modheolaíocht

Is í Cigireacht Luathbhlianta Tusla an rialtóir reachtúil neamhspleách ar sheirbhísí luathbhlianta in Éirinn. Sainmhíonann Rialacháin an Achta um Chúram Leanaí 1991 (Seirbhísí Luathbhlianta) 2016 dualgas soláthraí cláraithe sábháilteacht agus folláine leanaí a chinntiú agus na rialacháin seo a chomhlíonadh. Tugann an tAcht seo an t-údarás do Tusla measúnú a dhéanamh ar chomhlíonadh na rialachán. Is é cuspóir na rialála maidir le seirbhísí luathbhlianta ná a chinntiú go gcloítear le cúram, sábháilteacht agus folláine na leanaí a fhreastalaíonn ar na seirbhísí sin. Déantar cigireachtaí ar sheirbhísí luathbhlianta a phleanáil bunaithe ar an méid seo a leanas:

- Stair chigireachta roimhe seo
- Aon fhaisnéis a fhaightear maidir leis an tseirbhís

Tá torthaí na cigireachta bunaithe ar na nithe seo a leanas:

- Faisnéis a fhaightear trí dhoiciméadacht a scrúdú
- Breathnóireacht dhíreach
- Plé leis an bhfoireann ábhartha

# Tuarascáil Rialála na Cigireachta Luathbhlianta Réamhscoil

Ní raibh an chigireacht seo réamhfhógartha agus bhí sí dírithe ar réimsí an rialachais, na sláinte, agus leasa agus forbartha leanaí, chomh maith leis an tsábháilteacht. Féadfaidh an chigireacht díriú ar réimsí eile freisin de réir mar is gá.

Bhí an chigireacht dírithe ar scrúdú ar an gcomhlíonadh faoi rialacháin 9, 11, 19, 22 agus 28. Tá na torthaí seo leagtha amach sna rialacháin iomchuí sa tuarascáil seo.

Déantar torthaí na cigireachta a dhoiciméadú sa tuarascáil chigireachta a eisítear den chéad uair i ndrénachtfhormáid chuig an tseirbhís agus deis ann freagra a thabhairt ar aon torthaí. Nuair a shainithnítear ceanglais reachtúla mar cheanglais nach bhfuil á gcomhlíonadh, ní mór don soláthraí cláraithe a léiriú conas a cheartaigh sé an neamhchomhlíonadh agus cuirfidh sé cosc ar aon neamhchomhlíonadh tarlú arís. Úsáidfear an Plean um Ghníomhaíocht Cheartaitheach agus um Ghníomhaíocht Choisctheach (CAPA) chun bonn eolais a chur faoi chinntí maidir le comhlíonadh na gceanglas rialála. Sa chás go dteipeann ar an soláthraí cláraithe na ceanglais reachtúla a chomhlíonadh, féadfar tús a chur le próiseas maidir le géarú.

Forchoimeádann an chigireacht an ceart chun eagarthóireacht a dhéanamh ar na freagraí a fhaightear ar chúiseanna lena n-áirítear soiléireacht, iomláine agus comhlíonadh na bpróiseas riaracháin agus dlíthiúil.

Is é an comhlacht cigireachta a thiomsaíonn ábhar na tuarascála.

## Admhálacha

Ba mhian leis na cigirí buíochas a ghabháil as an gcomhoibriú a fuair sé ón duine atá i mbun údaráis, ón bhfoireann agus ó na leanaí a bhí i láthair ar lá na cigireachta.

## 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,

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

(c) go bhfuil struchtúr bainistíochta soiléir sa tseirbhís ina saináithnítear na línte údaráis agus cuntasachta sa tseirbhís, agus róil agus freagrachtaí sonracha gach fostaí agus oibrí neamhíoctha freisin.

#### (2) Cinnteoidh soláthraí cláraithe go mbeidh gach fostaí, oibrí gan phá agus conraitheoir oiriúnach agus inniúil agus cineál na riachtanas atá ag leanaí á chur i gcuntas, lena n-áirítear-

(a) breithniú ar theistiméireachtaí 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.

### Faisnéis maidir le comhlíonadh

#### (1)

(a) Ba é an bainisteoir an duine ainmnithe a bhí i gceannas agus bhí duine ainmnithe ann le gníomhú ina ionad nó ina hionad i gcás é nó í gan bheith i láthair.

(b) Léirigh an clár foirne go raibh an duine ainmnithe nó na leas-dhaoine ainmnithe i láthair i gcónaí le linn oibriú na seirbhíse.

(c) Cuireadh faisnéis ar fáil le linn na cigireachta faoi struchtúr bainistíochta na seirbhíse inar saináithníodh línte údaráis, róil agus freagrachtaí na bhfostaithe.

(2) Tráth na cigireachta, dheimhnigh an duine i gceannas go raibh 13 ball foirne ag obair sa tseirbhís. Agus tagairt á déanamh do na heilimintí thuasluaite de Rialachán 9, rinneadh athbhreithniú ar thaifid earcaíochta na 13 ball foirne agus bhí an méid seo a leanas ar fáil.

- (d) (b) Bhí tagairtí scríofa agus bailíochtaithe ar chomhad do 12 bhall foirne ó iar-fhostóir nó, i gcásanna nárbh ann d'aon iar-fhostóirí, ó fhoirse seachas iar-fhostóir.
- (c) Fuarthas nochtuithe grinnfhiosrúcháin Garda i ndáil le gach ball foirne. Léirigh an tseirbhís freisin gur comhlíonadh an Fógra Rialála Cigireachta Luathbhlianta lena gceanglaítear ar sheirbhísí grinnfhiosrúcháin ón nGarda Síochána a athnuachan gach trí bliana.
- (d) Bhí grinnscrúdú idirnáisiúnta póilíní ar chomhad i ndáil le triúr ball foirne a raibh gá acu leis.
- (4) Bhí fianaise ar chomhad go raibh dámhachtain mhór i gCúram agus Oideachas Luathbhlianta ar leibhéal 5 nó os a chionn ar an gCreat Náisiúnta Cáilíochtaí nó cáilíocht a mheas an tAire a bheith coibhéiseach, i gcás 10 mball foirne a raibh gá acu leis sin.

## Faisnéis maidir le Neamhchomhlíontacht

(2) (a) (b)

1. Ní raibh aon tagairtí ar chomhad i ndáil le haon bhall foirne amháin.
- (d) Ní raibh grinnscrúdú idirnáisiúnta póilíneachta ar chomhad i gcás ball foirne amháin a léirigh a thaifead fostaíochta go raibh cónaí orthu lasmuigh den dlíne ar feadh tréimhse níos mó ná sé mhí.

## Gníomh Ceartaitheach & Coisctheach curtha isteach ag an Soláthraí Cláraithe

### Gníomhaíocht cheartaitheach agus choisctheach

(2) (a) (b)

1. Fuarthas dhá theistiméireacht i ndáil leis an mball foirne. Ag dul ar aghaidh, cinnteoidh an bhainistíocht go mbeidh dhá thagairt ar chomhad roimh an dáta tosaithe.
- (d) Fuarthas grinnscrúdú póilíní idirnáisiúnta i ndáil leis an mball foirne. Déanfaidh an lucht bainistíochta seiceáil i leith gach oideachasóir luath-óige agus i leith na baill foirne eile lena chinntiú nach bhfuil siad ag obair lasmuigh den tír ar feadh níos mó ná sé mhí. Cuirfear seo san áireamh mar cheist ar an bhfoirm ionductaithe freisin.

### Doiciméid tacaíochta curtha isteach

Cuireadh teistiméireachtaí agus doiciméid grinnscrúdaithe póilíní isteach.

## Léirmheas Achomair

Tá athbhreithniú déanta ar an bhfaisnéis a chuir an soláthraí cláraithe isteach agus meastar go gcomhlíonann sí ceanglas Rialachán 9.

## Cuid III – Bainistíocht agus Foireann

### Rialachán 11 - Leibhéal foirne

(1) *Faoi réir an Rialacháin seo, áiritheoidh soláthraí cláraithe go mbeidh líon leordhóthanach daoine fásta i gcónaí ag obair go díreach leis na leanaí atá ag freastal ar an tseirbhís réamhscoile.*

(2) *Faoi réir mhíreanna (4) agus (5), cinnteoidh soláthraí cláraithe seirbhíse cúraim lae iomláin nó seirbhíse cúraim lae pháirtaimseartha 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 uimhreach tagartha 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.*

#### Faisnéis maidir le comhlíonadh

- (1) Léirigh athbhreithniú ar thaifid láithreachta na foirne agus na bpáistí go raibh líon leordhóthanach daoine fásta ar an rolla chun a bheith ag obair leis na leanaí i gcónaí.
- (2) Ar maidin na cigireachta bhí 25 leanbh ag fáil cúraim i dtrí sheomra cúraim, agus seisear ball foirne á thabhairt.
- I seomra Na Réalta Beaga, thug beirt bhall foirne aire do sheisear leanaí a bhí idir 1 ½ to 2 bhliain d'aois.
- I seomra Na Bumbáin, bhí 10 leanaí idir 3-5 bliana d'aois faoi chúram beirt bhall foirne.
- I Seomra na Féileacán, thug beirt bhall foirne aire do naonúr leanaí idir 2 ½ agus 3 bliana d'aois.
- San iarnóin, bhí seisear ball foirne ag tabhairt aire do 22 leanbh i dtrí sheomra cúraim.

## Cuid V - Cúram Leanaí sa tSeirbhís Réamhscoile

### Rialachán 19 - Sláinte, leas agus forbairt leanaí

(1) *Cinnteoidh soláthraí cláraithe, le linn seirbhís réamhscoile a sholáthar-*

*(a) go ndéantar gach uile leanbh a chur ar a chumas a chuid foghlama, forbartha, agus folláine a shásamh le linn an lá laethúil sa tseirbhís réamhscolaíochta trí gníomhartha, idirghníomhaíochtaí, ábhair agus fearas atá oiriúnacha a chur ar fáil, ag féachaint d'aois an linbh agus don chéim forbartha ag a bhfuil sé.*

#### Faisnéis maidir le comhlíonadh

Chuir an tseirbhís ithe sláintiúil chun cinn le bia agus sneaiceanna a d'ullmhaigh an tseirbhís. Bhí an beartas um réim bia sláintiúil i bhfeidhm agus plean biachláir trí seachtaine i bhfeidhm. Freastalaíodh béilí ag eatraimh éagsúla agus chonaic na cigirí páistí ag baint taitnimh as an bpríomhbhéile - mairteoil mhionaithe i ngraibh, prátaí, arbhar,

brocaillí agus cairéid. Bhí roghanna malartacha ar fáil freisin. Tairgeadh deochanna uisce agus bainne le béilí. Bhí deis ag leanaí óga iad féin a bheathú de réir a n-aoise agus a gcéime forbartha agus tugadh tacaíocht don fhoireann nuair a bhí gá leis.

Rinneadh athrú naipcíní go rialta agus breathnaíodh go raibh sé i gcomhréir leis an nós imeachta seirbhíse. Chuir an fhoireann in iúl don chigire go n-athraíodh na naipíní trí huair sa lá nó níos minice más gá. Breathnaíodh go ndearnadh an t-athrú clúidíní ar bhealach dearfach agus an fhoireann ag caint leis na leanaí faoina laethanta saoire, lena gcairde sa bhaile agus ag canadh amhrán. Breathnaíodh ar leanaí sna seomraí níos sine á dtacaíocht agus iad ag dul chuig an leithreas. Nigh na leanaí a lámha sula bhfágfaidís a seomraí sannta dóibh le haghaidh bia. Bhí leideanna amhairc ar taispeáint i gcóiríocht shláintiúchá na bpáistí chun tacú le níochán lámha éifeachtach.

Freastalaíodh ar riachtanais codlata aonair na bpáistí óga, agus breathnaíodh é seo nuair a bhí na leanaí ag codladh ag eatraimh éagsúla. I gcás leanaí nach raibh codladh de dhíth orthu, bhí limistéir scíthe cuí ar fáil agus breathnaíodh ar leanaí ag baint úsáide astu. Breathnaíodh leanbh amháin ag ligean a scíth i limistéar pubaill le cúisíní i Na Realta Beaga.

Breathnaíodh ar na leanaí ag aistriú trí ghnáthaimh an lae go héasca agus go eolach agus iad ag dul idir na seomraí cúraim, an limistéar itheacháin agus an limistéar lasmuigh i rith an lae. Breathnaíodh ar leanaí ag caitheamh tréimhsí fada ama amuigh faoin aer. Bhí rochtain dhíreach ó dhá cheann de na seomraí go dtí an limistéar súgartha lasmuigh. Bhí neart spáis sna seomraí agus sna limistéir súgartha lasmuigh do leanaí chun bogadh go saor agus breathnaíodh ar leanaí ag déanamh amhlaidh i rith an lae.

Breathnaíodh go raibh an fhoireann freagrúil do riachtanais na leanaí agus iad ag tairiscint sóláis nuair a bhí siad trína chéile nó tuirseach. Chuidigh an fhoireann leis na leanaí súgradh le chéile i ngrúpaí agus iad ag spreagadh na bpáistí eile a bhí i mbun gníomhaíochtaí níos uaigní. Breathnaíodh ar an bhfoireann ag gabháil do chomhrá duine le duine leis na leanaí i rith an lae ag léiriú teasa agus íogaireachta. Spreagadh na leanaí chun sealanna a ghlacadh agus idirghníomhú go dearfach lena chéile. Bhí córas oibríthe ríthábhachtacha i bhfeidhm agus chomhairligh an fhoireann don chigire gur úsáideadh amanna titime agus bailithe mar dheiseanna chun cumarsáid a dhéanamh le tuismitheoirí agus caomhnóirí faoi riachtanais foghlama, forbartha agus cúraim a linbh.

Bhí an timpeallacht laistigh compordach agus taitneamhach, leagtha amach chun freastal ar riachtanais na leanaí uile sa suíomh. Bhí na seomraí mór le seilfeanna oscailte rud a thug rochtain saor in aisce do leanaí ar ábhair súgartha. Bhí suíocháin de mhéid leanaí agus boird a bhí oiriúnach d'aoisphróifíl na bpáistí a bhí ag freastal ar na seomraí sonracha i ngach seomra réamhscoile. Bhí limistéir spéise sainithe i ngach ceann de na seomraí chun tacú le súgradh samhailteach leanaí, lena n-áirítear limistéir bhaile/cistine, cúram bábóg/leanaí, tógáil, siopa agus feirme. Bhí earraí súgartha a bhí sonracha do riachtanais foghlama na bpáistí ar fáil i ngach seomra, lena n-áirítear acmhainní chun tacú le comhordú láimhe agus súl amhail cláir fídléireachta atá suite ar an mballa agus sórtálaithe cruthanna do pháistí óga agus míreanna mearaí agus bloic phlaisteacha do leanaí níos sine. Stóráladh earraí súgartha ionramhála ar nós maighnéid agus cláir bioráin ar sheilfeanna oscailte sna seomraí. Cuireadh uirlisí ceoil ar fáil i ngach seomra agus cuireadh forbairt chruthaitheach na leanaí chun cinn tuilleadh le hábhair ealaíne ar nós péint, criáin agus cláir chailce. Bhí deiseanna ann le haghaidh eispéiris chéadfacha le tráidirí móra gainimh. Cuireadh cathaoir uilleach do dhaoine fásta ar fáil i Na Réalta Beaga chun go mbeadh na daoine fásta a bhí ag obair leis na leanaí in ann suí agus na páistí a chompord. Labhair an fhoireann leis na cigirí faoi sheilf leabhar mór ar rothaí a d'fhéadfaí a thabhairt isteach i ngach ceann de na seomraí le leabhair atá oiriúnach don aois chun teanga agus forbairt a chur chun cinn.

Chuir an limistéar mór lasmuigh, atá roinnte, athrú timpeallachta ar fáil do na leanaí. Bhí cuid mhór faoi dhíon in aice leis an bhfoirgneamh a cheadaigh súgradh amuigh faoin aer i ngach cineál aimsire. Bhí cistin láibe sa limistéar seo a raibh doirteal agus micreathonnán ann agus bhí sí fairsing go leor le go bhféadfaí earraí breise a thabhairt amach ón taobh istigh. Bhí réimse míreanna agus trealamh a bhí oiriúnach ó thaobh forbartha de i limistéar níos mó, gan chlúdach. Bhí aonad mór dreapadóireachta agus sleamhnáin ar fáil le haghaidh súgartha mótair gharbh agus bhí teach súgartha mór ann le haghaidh súgartha samhlaíoch. Bhí ardán ann do pháistí chun seónna a chur ar siúl agus rólghlacadh a dhéanamh taobh le boird picnic agus binseáin. Cuireadh bíomaí cothromaíochta isteach sa talamh agus bhí réimse bréagán marcaíochta ar fáil, lena n-áirítear rothair chothromaíochta agus rothair rothaíochta. Bhí neart spáis sa cheantar do pháistí páirt a ghlacadh i súgradh gníomhach, fisiceach agus breathnaíodh ar pháistí ag rith, ag rothaíocht agus ag dreapadh ag baint úsáide as an trealamh a cuireadh ar fáil. Thug leagan amach na limistéar súgartha lasmuigh deiseanna neamhfhoirmiúla do dheartháireacha agus deirfiúracha a bheith le chéile agus idirghníomhú i rith an lae agus fál íseal ag roinnt gach limistéir.

## Cuid V - Cúram Leanaí sa tSeirbhís Réamhscoile

### Rialachán 22 – Bia agus deoch

*Cinnteoídh soláthraí cláraithe go mbeidh bia agus deoch leordhóthanach, oiriúnach, cothaitheach agus éagsúil ar fáil do gach leanbh réamhscoile a fhreastalaíonn ar an tseirbhís réamhscoile.*

#### Faisnéis maidir le comhlíonadh

Tugadh sneaiceanna maidine, dinnéar agus sneaiceanna tráthnóna do na páistí a bhí ag freastal ar an tseirbhís, agus cuireadh na sneaiceanna sin ar fáil i limistéar itheacháin ar leith. Bhí cistin ar an láthair inar ullmhaíodh agus inar stóráladh an bia go léir. Ar lá na cigireachta, freastalaíodh bricfeasta, sneaiceanna maidine, dinnéar agus sneaiceanna tráthnóna. Bhí am na mbéilí agus na sneaiceanna ag eatraimh rialta agus bhí plean biachláir rollach trí seachtaine ar fáil le feiceáil. Bhí réimse bianna sláintiúla agus cothaitheacha sa phlean biachláir. Bhí faisnéis faoi ailléirgí ar taispeáint sa halla agus bhí an chistin agus an fhoireann ar an eolas faoi. Rinneadh athbhreithniú ar an mbeartas itheacháin shláintiúil agus tugadh faoi deara go raibh sé i gcomhréir le cleachtais na seirbhíse. Cuireadh suíocháin chúil ar fáil do leanaí d'aoiseanna éagsúla agus bhí cathaoireacha arda ar fáil do leanaí óga agus boird agus cathaoireacha ísle do leanaí níos sine. Cuireadh cré-umha agus sceanra cúil ar fáil do gach leanbh.

## Cuid VI - Sábháilteacht

### Rialachán 28 - Árachas

*Cinnteoídh soláthraí cláraithe go bhfuil árachas leordhóthanach ag an tseirbhís réamhscoile.*

#### Faisnéis maidir le comhlíonadh

Bhí an tseirbhís árachaithe go leordhóthanach do líon na leanaí a bhí cláraithe le freastal. Bhí an t-árachas bailí ón 28 Márta 2024 go dtí an 27 Márta 2025.

# Early Years Inspectorate Regulatory Report

## Pre School

<b>TUSLA Identifier:</b>	TU2015DL081
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<b>Name of Service:</b>	Naíolann Ghaoth Dobhair
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<b>Address of Service:</b>	Aislann Ghaoth Dobhair, Na Doirí Beaga, Leitir Ceanainn, Co. Donegal
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<b>Eircode:</b>	F92 D60W
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<b>Name of Registered Provider:</b>	Mairín Ní Chonghaile
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<b>Service type:</b>	Full Day
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<b>Date(s) of Inspection:</b>	19/03/2025
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<b>No of pre-school children:</b>	AM	25	PM	22
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<b>Address of the Early Years Inspectorate:</b>	Donegal Early Years Inspectorate, St. Conal's Campus, Letterkenny, Co. Donegal. F92 TD92
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<b>Inspection undertaken by:</b>	S Killeen and L McGlynn
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<b>Title:</b>	Early Years Inspectors
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### 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).

<b>Conditions if applicable</b>	Not Applicable
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### Description of service

Naíolann Ghaoth Dobhair is a non-profit pre-school service offering care and education to children through the medium of Irish. The service is registered to provide a full day pre-school service to children aged 0 - 6 years. Its registered hours of operation are from 8.00am to 6.00pm. The service is also registered to provide school age care. The service operates from the ground floor of a purpose-built premises located in Gweedore Business Park (Páirc Ghnó Ghaoth Dobhair). The service has three pre-school rooms. There is an operational kitchen which is used to prepare children's food on the premises. Other facilities include children's toilets, nappy-changing facilities, a large foyer area, an office, a sensory room and ancillary storage areas. There is an outdoor play area available on-site featuring a variety of surface types including paving, natural grass and synthetic soft surfaces.

### Staffing

There are 13 staff members currently working in the service. There are 10 paid staff members working directly with children in the service including the service manager. There are three additional staff that work in the kitchen. The registered provider is not in the service on a daily basis, there is a named person in charge and a named deputy. On the day of inspection, seven staff worked directly with the children and three staff members worked in the kitchen.

### 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. The inspection may also focus on other areas as required.

The inspection focused on an examination of compliance under regulations 9, 11, 19, 22 and 28. These findings are outlined within the relevant regulations within this report.

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 inspectors wish 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*
- (c) there is a clear management structure in the service that identifies the lines of authority and accountability in the service and the specific roles and responsibilities of each employee and unpaid worker.*

*(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) The manager was the designated person in charge and there was a named person to deputise in the event of their absence.
  - (b) The staff roster demonstrated that the designated person or named deputies were present at all times during the operation of the service.
  - (c) Information on the service's management structure was provided during the inspection identifying the lines of authority, roles and responsibilities of employees.
- (2) At the time of inspection, the person in charge confirmed that there were 13 staff members who worked in the service. With reference to the above listed elements of Regulation 9, recruitment records of the 13 staff members were reviewed and the following was available.
- (d) (b) Written and validated references were on file for 12 staff members from a past employer or in cases where there were no past employers, a source other than a previous employer.
  - (c) Garda vetting disclosures had been obtained for all staff members. The service also demonstrated compliance with the Early Years Inspectorate Regulatory Notice requiring services to renew Garda vetting every three years.
  - (d) International police vetting was on file for three staff members who required it.
- (4) Evidence of completion of a major award in Early Childhood Care and Education at level 5 or above on the National Framework of Qualifications or a qualification deemed by the Minister to be equivalent was on file for 10 staff members who required it.

### Non-Compliance Information

- (2) (a) (b)
1. There were no references on file for one staff member.

(d) International police vetting was not on file for one staff member whose employment record indicated they had lived outside of the jurisdiction for a period greater than six months.

### Corrective & Preventive Action submitted by the Registered Provider

#### **Corrective and Preventive Action**

(2) (a) (b)

1. Two references were obtained for the staff member. Gowing forward, management will ensure that two references are on file prior to the start date.

(d) International police vetting was obtained for the staff member. Management will check all early educators and other staff to ensure they have not worked outside the country for more than six months. This will also be included as a question on the induction form.

#### **Supporting documentation submitted**

References and police vetting documentation were submitted.

### Summary Comment

The information submitted by the registered provider has been reviewed and is deemed to meet the requirement of Regulation 9.

## 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.*

*(2) Subject to paragraphs (4) and (5), a registered provider of a full day care service or a part-time day care service shall ensure that at all times the minimum ratio of adults to children specified in column (3) of Part 1 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) thereof at that reference number is satisfied.*

### Compliance Information

(1) A review of staff and children's attendance records demonstrated that there were an adequate number of adults rostered to be working with the children at all times.

(2) On the morning of inspection there were 25 children being cared for in three care rooms by six staff members.

In Na Realta Beaga room, two staff members cared for six children aged 1 ½ to 2 years.

In Na Bumbáin room, there were 10 children aged 3-5 years being cared for by two staff members.  
In Seomra na Féileacán, two staff members cared for nine children aged 2 ½ to 3 years.  
In the afternoon, 22 children were cared for by six staff members in three care rooms.

### 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.*

#### Compliance Information

The service promoted healthy eating with food and snacks prepared by the service. A healthy eating policy was in place with a three-week menu plan in operation. Meals were served at various intervals and the inspectors observed children enjoying the main meal of minced beef in gravy, potatoes, corn, broccoli and carrots. Alternatives were also available. Drinks of water and milk were offered with meals. Young children had the opportunity to feed themselves appropriate to their age and stage of development and staff supported where necessary.

Nappy changing was carried out regularly and was observed to be in line with the service procedure. Staff informed the inspector that nappy changing was carried out three times a day or more frequently if required. Nappy changing was observed to be completed in a positive manner with staff speaking with the children about their holidays their friends at home and singing songs. Children in the older rooms were observed being supported going to the toilet. Children washed their hands before they left their assigned rooms for food. Visual prompts were on display in the children's sanitary accommodation to support effective handwashing.

The younger children's individual sleep needs were met, and this was observed by children sleeping at various intervals. For children who did not need sleep, appropriate rest areas were available and children were observed using them. One child was observed relaxing in a tent area with cushions in Na Realta Beaga.

Children were observed to transition through the routines of the day with ease and familiarity moving between the care rooms, dining area and outdoor area throughout the day. Children were observed to spend long periods of time outside. There was direct access from two of the rooms to the outdoor play area. There was ample space within the rooms and outdoor play areas for children to move freely and children were observed doing so throughout the day.

Staff were observed to be responsive to the children's needs offering comfort when they were upset or tired. Staff helped the children to play together in groups while encouraging the other children who were engaged in more solitary activities. Staff were observed engaging in one-to-one conversation with the children throughout the day demonstrating warmth and sensitivity. Children were encouraged to take turns and engage positively with one another. A key worker system was in operation and staff advised the inspector that drop-off and collection times were used as opportunities to communicate with parents and guardians about their child's learning, developmental and care needs.

The indoor environment was comfortable and pleasant, laid out to accommodate the needs of all children in the setting. The rooms were large with open shelving making play materials freely accessible to children. Each pre-school room contained child sized seating and tables appropriate to the age profile of the children attending the specific rooms. There was defined areas of interest in each of the rooms to support children's imaginary play including home/kitchen, doll/baby care, construction, shop and farm areas. Play items specific to the learning needs of the children in each room were available including resources to support hand eye co-ordination such as wall mounted fiddle boards and shape sorters for younger children and jigsaws and plastic blocks for older children. Manipulative play items such as magnets and peg boards were stored on open shelving in the rooms. Musical instruments were provided in each room and children's creative development was further promoted with art materials such as paint, crayons and chalk boards. There were opportunities for sensory experiences with large sand trays. An adult's armchair was provided in Na Realta Beaga to allow adults working with the children to sit and comfort the children. Staff spoke with the inspectors about a large bookcase on wheels that could be brought into each of the rooms with age-appropriate books to promote language and development.

The large, subdivided outdoor area provided a change of environment for the children. A large, roofed section adjacent to the building allowed for play outdoors in all weathers. This area contained a mud kitchen which included a sink and microwave and was spacious enough to allow for additional items to be brought out from

indoors. A larger, uncovered area contained a range of developmentally appropriate items and equipment. A large climb and slide unit provided for gross motor play and a large playhouse allowed for imaginary play. There was a stage for children to put on shows and role play alongside picnic tables and benches. Balance beams were inserted into the ground and a range of ride on toys were available including balance and cycling bikes. There was ample space in the area for children to engage in active, physical play and children were observed running, cycling and climbing using the equipment provided. The layout of the outdoor play areas provided informal opportunities for siblings to be together and interact throughout the day with low level fencing subdividing each area.

### 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

Children attending the service were provided a morning snack, dinner and evening snack which was served in a separate dining area. There was a kitchen on site where all food was prepared and stored. On the day of inspection, breakfast, a morning snack, dinner and an evening snack were served. The timing of meals and snacks were at regular intervals and a rolling three-week menu plan was available to view. The menu plan contained a variety of healthy and nutritious foods. Information about allergies were displayed in the hall and the kitchen and staff were conversant of same. The healthy eating policy was reviewed and noted to in line with the service practices. Appropriate seating was provided for children of different ages with highchairs available for younger children and low-level tables and chairs for older children. Appropriate crockery and cutlery was provided to each child.

### Part VI - Safety

#### Regulation 28 - Insurance

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

#### Compliance Information

The service was adequately insured for the number of children registered to attend. Insurance was valid from 28 March 2024 to 27 March 2025.