

Tuarascáil Rialála na Cigireachta Luathbhlianta Réamhscoil

Aitheantóir TUSLA:	TU2015DL082
Ainm na Seirbhíse:	Naíonra Ailt a'Chorráin
Seoladh na Seirbhíse:	Na h-Acraí, Ailt a 'Chorráin, Leitir Ceanainn, Co. Dún na nGall
Éirchód:	F94 VY97
Ainm an tSoláthraí Cláraithe:	Ray Mac Pháidín
Cineál na seirbhíse:	Seisiúnach
Dáta na Cigireachta:	12/06/2025
Líon na leanaí réamhscoile:	AM 13 PM -
Seoladh na Cigireachta Luathbhlianta:	Cigireacht Luathbhlianta Dhún na nGall Campas Naomh Conaill, Leitir Ceanainn, Co. Dhún na nGall chomh maith. F92 TD92
Cigireacht arna déanamh ag:	L Mc Glynn
Teideal:	Cigire 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).

Coinníollacha más infheidhme	Neamhbhainteach
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Cur síos ar an tseirbhís

Is seirbhís gearrlae réamhscoile í Naíonra Ailt a'Chorráin atá lonnaithe i mbaile fearainn na hAcráí ar chósta thiar Dhún na nGall. Tá an tseirbhís cláraithe chun cúram seisiúnach a sholáthar do leanaí idir 2 agus 6 bliana d'aois agus oibríonn sí ó 9.15am go 12.15pm gach lá oibre. Oibríonn an tseirbhís ó sheomra ainmnithe sa scoil náisiúnta áitiúil. Tá a bealach isteach féin ag an tseirbhís ó thaobh an fhoirgnimh a threoraíonn chuig limistéar beag stocaireachta agus ansin chuig seomra cúraim de mhéid measartha. Tá limistéar súgartha lasmuigh daingnithe do na páistí suite ar chúl an fhoirgnimh agus tá rochtain dhíreach air ón seomra súgartha.

Soláthar Foirne

Tá cúigear ball foirne fostaithe chun oibriú leis na páistí sa tseirbhís, agus tá triúr acu fostaithe mar chuid den tSamhail um Rochtain agus Cuimsiú (AIM). Ní bhíonn an soláthraí cláraithe sa tseirbhís go laethúil. Tá duine ainmnithe i gceannas agus duine eile le hionadaíocht a dhéanamh nuair a bhíonn siad as láthair.

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

Bhí an chigireacht seo gan fógra agus dhírigh sí ar réimse an rialachais/sláinte, leasa agus forbartha leanaí/sábháilteachta/ áitreabh agus áiseanna. Féadfaidh an chigireacht díriú ar réimsí eile freisin de réir mar is gá.

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Déantar torthaí cigireachta a dhoiciméadú sa tuarascáil chigireachta a eisítear den chéad uair i ndrúachtfhormáid don tseirbhís agus deis ann freagra a thabhairt ar aon torthaí. Nuair a shainaithnítear 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. Úsáidfean 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

Is mian leis an gcigire aitheantas a thabhairt do chomhoibriú an duine atá i gceannas, na foirne agus na leanaí a bhí i láthair 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 sainaithnítear na línte údaráis agus cuntasachta sa tseirbhís, agus róil agus freagrachtaí sonracha gach fostaí agus oibrí neamhíochta 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,

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(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.

(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 sonraithe i gceannas ar an tseirbhís agus duine ainmnithe le gníomhú mar ionadaí de réir mar a bhí gá.

(b) Bhí an duine i gceannas ar an áitreabh nuair a tháinig an cigire gan fógra chuig an tseirbhís lá na cigireachta. Léirigh athbhreithniú ar thaifid go raibh an duine i gceannas nó an leas-dhuine ainmnithe ar an áitreabh le linn uaireanta oibríochta.

(c) Bhí líne soiléir údaráis sa tseirbhís le duine ainmnithe i gceannas agus rialachas agus maoirseacht iomlán ar an tseirbhís a sholáthraíonn Comhar Naíonraí na Gaeltachta.

(2)

Dheimhnigh an duine i gceannas go raibh cúigear ball foirne ag obair sa tseirbhís. Rinneadh athbhreithniú ar thaifid fostaíochta na gcúigear ball foirne go léir atá ag obair sa tseirbhís le linn na cigireachta seo.

(a) (b) Dhá thagairt ó iar-fhostóirí nó ó fhoinse seachas iar-fhostóir i gcásanna nárbh ann d'aon iar-fhostóirí ar chomhad do na cúigear baill foirne.

(c) Fuarthas nochtuithe grinnfhiosrúcháin Garda do gach duine den chúigear 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.

(4) Bhí doiciméadacht ábhartha a chruthaigh dámhachtain mhór i gCúram agus Oideachas Luath-Óige ag Leibhéal 5 nó os a chionn ar an gCreat Náisiúnta Cáilíochtaí ar chomhad do na cúigear baill foirne.

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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.

(3) Faoi réir mhír (5), cinnteoidh soláthraí cláraithe seirbhíse réamhscoile seisiúnach go gcomhlíonfar gach tráth an cóimheas íosta idir daoine fásta agus leanaí a shonraítear i gcolún (3) de Chuid 2 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) dá bhrí sin ag an uimhir thagartha sin.

Faisnéis maidir le comhlíonadh

(1) Thug an cigire faoi deara go raibh líon leordhóthanach daoine fásta ag obair leis na páistí a bhí ag freastal ar an tseirbhís.

(3) Coinníodh an cóimheas íosta idir daoine fásta agus leanaí do leanaí idir 2 agus 6 bliana d'aois a bhí ag freastal ar sheirbhís sheisiúnach i rith na cigireachta. Bhí 13 leanbh ann, agus iad uile os cionn 2 bhliain d'aois, faoi chúram ceathrar daoine fásta. Bhí beirt de na daoine fásta fostaithe mar chuid den tSamhail um Rochtain agus Cuimsiú (AIM).

Cuid IV – Faisnéis agus Taifid

Rialachán 15 – Taifead ar leanbh réamhscoile

(1) Déanfaidh soláthraí cláraithe seirbhíse réamhscoile seachas seirbhís réamhscoile i lárionad buail isteach nó seirbhís réamhscoile shealadach a chinntiú go gcoimeádfar taifead i scríbhinn maidir le gach leanbh réamhscoile atá ag freastal 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 no' caomhno'ra leis an leanbh agus uimhir theileafó' in lenar fe'idir dul i dteagmha'íl leis an tuismitheoir no' leis an gcaomhno'ir sin no' le gaol no' le cara leis an leanbh le linn uaireanta oibríochta na seirbhíse;

(e) údarú chun an leanbh a bhailiú;

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(f) mionsonraí aon bhreiteachta, aon mhi-chumais, aon aille'irge nó aon riachtanais speisialta ar an leanbh, mar aon leis an bhfaisnéis go le'ir is iomchuí maidir le cúram nó aire speisialta a shola'thar;

(g) ainm agus uimhir theileafóin lia-chleachtóir cláraithe an linbh;

(h) taifead ar imdhíontaí, más ann, a fuair an leanbh;

(i) toiliú scríofa tuismitheora do chóireáil leighis chuí don leanbh i gcás éigeandála

(2) Déanfaidh soláthraí cláraithe seirbhíse réamhscoile in ionad buail isteach nó seirbhís réamhscoile sealadaí a chinntiú go gcoimeádfar taifead i scríbhinn maidir le gach leanbh réamhscoile a fhreastalaíonn ar an tseirbhís ina mbeidh na sonraí a shonraítear i bhfomhíreanna (a), (d), (e) agus (f) de mhír (1).

(3) Beidh taifead i scríbhinn dá dtagraítear i mír (1) nó (2) ar fáil lena iniúchadh ar an áitreabh ag—

(c) duine údaraithe.

(4) Áiritheoidh soláthraí cláraithe go gcoimeádfar taifead i scríbhinn dá dtagraítear i mír (1) ar feadh tréimhse 2 bhliain ón dáta a scoirfidh an leanbh lena mbaineann sé de bheith ag freastal ar an tseirbhís.

Faisnéis maidir le comhlíontacht

(1) (a) go (i)

Rinneadh athbhreithniú ar thaifid 12 leanbh a bhí cláraithe chun freastal ar an tseirbhís. Comhlánaíodh an fhaisnéis riachtanach go hiomlán do gach leanbh, lena n-áirítear an t-údarú chun an leanbh a bhailiú, sonraí faoi bhreiteacht nó riachtanais speisialta an linbh agus teagmhálaí éigeandála.

(3) (c)

Bhí na taifid i scríbhinn ar fáil lena n-iniúchadh.

(4)

Dheimhnigh an duine i gceannas gur coinníodh na taifid don tréimhse riachtanach mar a leagtar amach sna rialacháin.

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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 n-éascaítear foghlaim, forbairt agus dea-bhail gach linbh laistigh de shaol laethúil na seirbhíse réamhscoile trí na gníomhaíochtaí, an idirghníomhaíocht, na hábhair agus an trealamh cuí a sholáthar, ag féachaint d'aois agus do chéim forbartha an linbh, agus

Faisnéis maidir le comhlíonadh

Thug na páistí an sneiceanna maidine isteach ón mbaile agus cuireadh sa chuisneoir é go dtí go ndáilfeadh an 'cúntóir' ainmnithe don lá é. Breathnaíodh gur ócáid shóisialta a bhí sa sneiceanna do na páistí agus baill foirne ina suí taobh leo agus iad ag glacadh páirte i gcomhrá sóisialta agus ag soláthar cúnamh nuair a iarradh orthu. Bhain na páistí taitneamh as réimse sneiceanna sláintiúla agus cothaitheacha, lena n-áirítear ceapairí agus brioscaí le réimse torthaí ar nós fíonchaora, oráistí agus úlla. Breathnaíodh iógart, cáis agus táirgí déiríochta eile chomh maith. Cuireadh uisce óil ar fáil i mbuidéil óil aonair a tugadh isteach ón mbaile. Tugadh go leor ama do na páistí taitneamh a bhaint as a gcuid bia, agus breathnaíodh atmaisféar suaimhneach. Bhí cuma neamhspleách ar na páistí maidir lena riachtanais leithris agus bhí an fhoireann ag tabhairt leo chuig an limistéar leithris chun tacaíocht a sholáthar más gá. Moltar do pháistí a lámha a ní go rialta i rith an lae, lena n-áirítear tar éis dóibh an leithreas a úsáid agus roimh ithe.

Tacaíodh le riachtanas na bpáistí le scíth a ligean nó le ham ciúin trí thoilg bhoga bhoga, ar féidir a ghlanadh go héasca a bheith sa seomra in aice le raon ábhar léitheoireachta a bhí oiriúnach don aois. Tugadh saoirse do na páistí bogadh timpeall an tseomra agus a n-acmhainní súgartha a roghnú agus iad istigh agus chaith siad am sa limistéar lasmuigh don chuid dheireanach den seisiún. Breathnaíodh ar an bhfoireann ag úsáid teicnící athneartaithe dearfacha agus seachráin agus iad ag dul i ngleic le fadhbanna beaga iompraíochta, a scaoileadh sula gcuirfí isteach ar na páistí eile.

Breathnaíodh go raibh an fhoireann te, cúramúil agus freagrúil do riachtanais na leanaí. D'úsáid an fhoireann teanga dhearfach agus iad ag idirghníomhú le páistí, ag tabhairt moladh agus spreagtha ag amanna cuí. Bhí sé soiléir go raibh aithne mhaith ag an bhfoireann ar na páistí, gur aithin siad agus gur luacháil siad a riachtanais foghlama aonair. I rith an tseisiúin, bhí na páistí lán-ghníomhach ina súgradh agus ina bhfoghlaim agus bhí cuma shona agus sásta orthu ina dtimpeallacht. Tugadh go leor ama do shúgradh saor agus breathnaíodh ar na páistí ag

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roghnú réimsí spéise, acmhainní nó ábhair le linn na cigireachta. Tugadh am do pháistí chun tascanna a chríochnú agus scileanna a mháistir, mar shampla chaith páiste amháin cuid mhaith ama ag déanamh puzail agus tugadh an t-am agus an spás dóibh, gan cur isteach ó bhail foirne nó ó pháistí eile. Bhí an fhoireann eolach freisin ar riachtanais foghlama aonair leanaí, go háirithe iad siúd atá ar an tSamhail um Rochtain agus Cuimsiú. Labhair an fhoireann leis an gcigire faoi na spriocanna foghlama do na páistí seo agus faoin gcaoi a raibh an tseirbhís ag obair chun iad a bhaint amach.

Cuid VI - Sábháilteacht

Rialachán 24 - Seiceáil isteach agus amach agus taifead láithreachta

(1) *Áiritheoidh soláthraí cláraithe go ndéanfaidh fostaí nó oibrí neamhíoctha gach leanbh réamhscoile atá ag freastal ar an tseirbhís a chlárú isteach agus a chlárú amach as an tseirbhís.*

(3) *Cinnteooidh soláthraí cláraithe-*

(a) *nach mbeidh aon duine seachas—*

(i) *leanbh réamhscoile atá ag freastal ar an tseirbhís,*

(ii) *duine a fhágann nó a bhailíonn an leanbh sin,*

(iii) *fostaí, nó*

(iv) *oibrí neamhíoctha in ann dul isteach sna háitribh gan cead a bheith faighte aige nó aici dul isteach ag fostaí,*

(b) *go gcoimeádfar taifead laethúil i scríbhinn ar theacht isteach na ndaoine sin san áitreabh.*

Faisnéis maidir le comhlíonadh

(1) Fuarthas go raibh baill foirne ag seiceáil na bpáistí isteach agus amach as an tseirbhís gach lá. Taifeadadh amanna cruinne láithreachta na bpáistí i leabhair thaifead lámhscríofa ag baill foirne ar lá na cigireachta agus chuir an duine i gceannas in iúl don chigire go n-úsáideann siad feidhmchlár digiteach freisin chun láithreachta na bpáistí a thaifeadadh.

3) (a) (b) Coinníodh taifead scríofa laethúil ar chuariteoirí na seirbhíse agus iarradh ar an gcigire é a chomhlánú le linn na cigireachta.

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Cuid VI - Sábháilteacht

Rialachán 27 – Maoirseacht

Cinnteoídh soláthraí cláraithe go ndéantar maoirseacht i gcónaí ar leanaí réamhscoile atá ag freastal ar an tseirbhís.

Faisnéis maidir le comhlíonadh

Lá na cigireachta, coinníodh an cóimheas ceart idir daoine fásta agus leanaí i gcomhréir le ceanglais na rialachán. Breathnaíodh ar an bhfoireann ag maoirseacht a dhéanamh ar leanaí de réir radhairc, ag seasamh iad féin sna spásanna ina raibh leanaí ag imirt. Shuigh an fhoireann le leanaí ag am béile, thionlacain siad leanaí chuig an limistéar sláintíochta agus roinn siad iad féin idir na limistéir súgartha laistigh agus lasmuigh nuair a bhí leanaí ag imirt sa dá spás.

Cuid VII – Riachtanais Áitribh agus Spáis

Rialachán 29 – Áitribh

Cinnteoídh soláthraí cláraithe maidir le háitreabh na seirbhíse—

- a) de dhéanamhas fóna cobhsaí,*
- (b) sábháilte agus slán,*
- (c) coinnithe soilsithe, téite agus aeráilte go leordhóthanach*
- (d) glanta, coinnithe agus deisithe, de réir mar is gá, agus*
- (e) saoráidí sláintíochta leordhóthanacha agus oiriúnacha.*

Faisnéis maidir le comhlíonadh

(a) Foirgneamh aonstórach a bhí san áitreabh a bhí deartha chun bunscoil a sholáthar. Bhí cuid amháin den fhoirgneamh á áitiú ag an Naíonra. Ó iniúchadh tapa amhairc, bhí cuma mhaith ar an bhfoirgneamh gan aon lochtanna le feiceáil.

(b) Bhí an tseirbhís slán go leordhóthanach chun cosc a chur ar leanaí imeacht gan mhaoirseacht agus ar dhaoine neamhúdraithe dul isteach. Bhí doras ar leith isteach sa Naíonra agus bhí córas cloig ann chun an fhoireann a chur ar an eolas faoi theacht cuairteoirí nó tuismitheoirí.

(c) Cuireadh solas nádúrtha leordhóthanach ar fáil, agus solas saorga mar fhorlíonadh air. Bhí fuinneoga móra gloine agus doirse paitió sa seomra súgartha a thug solas nádúrtha do gach cuid den seomra. Cuireadh soilsíú saorga ar a raibh stiallacha fluaraiseacha uasteorainn ar fáil sa seomra súgartha, sa halla agus sna cóiríochtaí

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sláintíochta. Bhí na soilse clúdaithe go hiomlán i gclúdaigh chosanta. Cuirtear radaitheoirí ar fáil don seomra súgartha agus do na háiseanna sláintíochta atá ceangailte leis an gcóras téimh ola-adhainte don fhoirgneamh scoile ar fad. Bhí teocht an aeir sa seomra cúraim nuair a seiceáladh í le linn na cigireachta laistigh den raon molta de 18 – 22°C.

(d) Bhí an chuma ar an scéal go raibh an t-áitreabh i riocht maith agus glan lá na cigireachta. Tá an foirgneamh ceangailte le príomhlíonra uisce a sholáthraíonn uisce óil cuí don fhoireann agus do na páistí agus uisce reatha le haghaidh glantacháin.

(e) Bhí áiseanna sláintíochta leordhóthanacha agus oiriúnacha ar an áitreabh. Bhí dhá leithreas agus dhá bháisín níocháin ar fáil do pháistí lasmuigh den seomra súgartha. Bhí gach ciúb leithris faoi dhlúth go leor chun príobháideacht leordhóthanach a chinntiú. Bhí aonad athraithe clúidín agus báisín níocháin láimhe ar fáil le húsáid laistigh den phríomhscoil dá mbeadh athrú ag teastáil ó leanbh agus é/í ag freastal ar an tseirbhís

Faisnéis maidir le Neamhchomhlíontacht

(c) Ní raibh aon aeráil, nádúrtha ná meicniúil, i gcóiríocht sláintíochta na bpáistí. Fuarthas amach go raibh sé sin neamhchomhlíontach le linn na cigireachta roimhe sin. Admhaítear go raibh sé sceidealaithe go ndéanfaí na hoibreacha le linn laethanta saoire na Cásca, agus cuireadh in iúl don chigire gur cuireadh seo siar go dtí laethanta saoire an tsamhraidh ar iarratas na gconraitheoirí.

Gníomh Ceartaitheach & Coisctheach curtha isteach ag an Soláthraí Cláraithe

Gníomhaíocht cheartaitheach agus choisctheach

(c) Tá an tseirbhís tar éis dul i gcomhairle leis an gconraitheoir le feiceáil cé chomh fada a thógfadh sé na hoibreacha aerála sa seomra folctha a chríochnú. Breathnaíodh ar an gceantar ar an 16 Bealtaine agus deimhníodh go ndéanfar na hoibreacha roimh an Aoine seo chugainn, an 4 Iúil.

Doiciméid tacaíochta curtha isteach

Níor cuireadh aon fhianaise isteach.

Achomair

Tá athbhreithniú déanta ag an gcigire ar na gníomhartha a luaitear agus glacadh leo, áfach, tá gá le fianaise ar oibreacha críochnaithe chun comhlíonadh a léiriú, dá bhrí sin tá Rialachán 29 (c) fós gan réiteach agus déanfar athbhreithniú air ar an gcéad chigireacht eile.

Early Years Inspectorate Regulatory Report

Pre School

TUSLA Identifier:	TU2015DL082
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Name of Service:	Naíonra Ailt a'Chorráin
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Address of Service:	Na h-Acraí, Ailt a 'Chorráin, Leitir Ceanainn, Co. Donegal
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Eircode:	F94 VY97
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Name of Registered Provider:	Ray Mac Pháidín
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Service type:	Sessional
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Date of Inspection:	12/06/2025
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No of pre-school children:	AM	13	PM	-
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Address of the Early Years Inspectorate:	Donegal Early Years Inspectorate, St. Conal's Campus, Letterkenny, Co. Donegal. F92 TD92
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Inspection undertaken by:	L Mc Glynn
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Title:	Early Years Inspector
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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).

Conditions if applicable	Not applicable
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Description of service

Naíonra Ailt a'Chorráin is a sessional pre-school service located in the townland of Na hAcráí on the west coast of Donegal. The service is registered to provide sessional care for children aged between 2 and 6 years and operates from 9.15am to 12.15pm each weekday. The service operates from a designated room in the local national school. The service has its own entrance from the side of the building which leads to small lobby area and on to a moderately sized care room. An enclosed outdoor play area for the children is located to rear of the building and is directly accessible from the playroom.

Staffing

There are five staff members employed to work with the children in the service, three of which are employed as part of the Access and Inclusion Model (AIM). The registered provider is not in the service on a daily basis. There is a named person in charge and a second person to deputise in their absence.

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 inspection 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*
- (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.*

(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) The service had a designated person in charge and a named person to deputise as required.

(b) The person in charge was on the premises when the inspector arrived unannounced at the service on the day of inspection. A review of records demonstrated that the person in charge or named deputy were on the premises during the hours of operation.

(c) There were clear line of authority in the service with a designated person in charge and overall governance and oversight of the service provided by Comhar Naíonraí na Gaeltachta.

(2)

The person in charge confirmed that there were five staff members working in the service. The employment records for all five staff members working in the service were reviewed on this inspection.

(a) (b) Two references from past employers or a source other than a past employer in cases where there no past employers were on file for the five staff members.

(c) Garda vetting disclosures had been obtained for all five staff members. The service also demonstrated compliance with the Early Years Inspectorate Regulatory Notice requiring services to renew Garda vetting every three years.

(4) Relevant documentation evidencing a major award in Early Childhood Care and Education at Level 5 or above on the National Qualifications Framework was on file for the five staff members.

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.*

Compliance Information

- (1) The inspector observed that an adequate number of adults were working with the children attending the service.
- (3) The minimum adult to child ratio for children aged 2 to 6 years attending a sessional service was maintained throughout the inspection. There were 13 children, all of whom were aged over 2 years being cared for by four adults. Two of the adults were employed as part of the Access and Inclusion Model (AIM).

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.

(2) A registered provider of a pre-school service in a drop-in centre or of 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 particulars specified in subparagraphs (a), (d), (e) and (f) of paragraph (1).

(3) A record in writing referred to in paragraph (1) or (2) shall be open to inspection on the premises by-
(c) an authorised person.

(4) A registered provider shall ensure that a record in writing referred to in paragraph (1) is retained for a period of 2 years from the date on which the child to whom it relates ceases to attend the service.

Compliance Information

(1) (a) to (i)

The records of 12 children registered to attend the service were reviewed. The required information including the authorisation to collect the child, details of illness or special needs of the child and emergency contact were fully completed for each child.

(3) (c)

The records in writing were available for inspection.

(4)

The person in charge confirmed that the records were retained for the required period as set out in the regulations.

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 morning snack was brought in from home by children and refrigerated until distributed by the designated 'helper' for the day. The snack was observed to be a social occasion for children with staff members sitting alongside the children engaging in social conversation and providing assistance when requested. Children enjoyed a range of healthy and nutritious snacks including sandwiches and crackers with a range of fruit such as grapes, oranges and apples. Yogurts, cheese and other dairy products were also observed. Drinking water was provided in individual drinking bottles brought in from home. Children were given ample time to enjoy their food, and a relaxed atmosphere was observed. Children appeared independent in their toileting needs with staff accompanying children to the toilet area to provide support if required. Children were encouraged to wash their hands at regular intervals throughout the day including after using the toilet and before eating.

Children's need for rest or quiet time was supported by soft, wipeable couches in the room next to a range of age-appropriate reading materials. Children were given the freedom to move around the room and choose their play resources whilst indoors and spent time in the outdoor area for the latter part of the session. Staff were observed to use positive reinforcement and distraction techniques in addressing minor behaviour problems, which were diffused before causing disruption to the other children.

Staff were observed to be warm, caring and responsive to children's needs. Staff used positive language when interacting with children, providing praise and encouragement at appropriate times. It was evident that staff knew the children well, recognised and valued their individual learning needs. Throughout the session, children were fully engaged in their play and learning and appeared happy and content in their environment. There was ample time awarded to free play and children were observed to choose areas of interest, resources or materials during the inspection. Time was given to children to complete tasks and master skills, for example one child spent a considerable amount of time doing jigsaws and the time and space was given, uninterrupted by other staff or children. Staff were also conversant on the individual learning needs of children especially those on the Access

and Inclusion Model. Staff spoke with the inspector about the learning goals for these children and how the service was working to meet them.

Part VI - Safety

Regulation 24 - Checking in and out and record of attendance

- (1) A registered provider shall ensure that each pre-school child attending the service is checked in and out of the service by an employee or an unpaid worker.*
- (3) A registered provider shall ensure that-*
- (a) no person other than-*
 - (i) pre-school child attending the service,*
 - (ii) a person dropping or collecting such a child,*
 - (iii) an employee, or*
 - (iv) an unpaid worker, can enter the premises without his or her entry being approved by an employee, and*
 - (b) a daily record in writing is kept of the entry on the premises of any such person.*

Compliance Information

- (1) Staff members were found to check the children in and out of the service each day. Accurate attendance times for the children were recorded in handwritten record books by the staff members on the day of inspection and the person in charge informed the inspector that they also use a digital application to record children's attendance.
- (3) (a) (b) A daily written record was kept of visitors to the service which the inspector was requested to complete during the inspection.

Part VI - Safety

Regulation 27 – Supervision

A registered provider shall ensure that pre-school children attending the service are supervised at all times.

Compliance Information

On the day of the inspection, the correct adult to child ratio was maintained in line with the requirements of the regulations. Staff were observed to supervise children by sight, positioning themselves in the spaces where children were playing. Staff sat with children at mealtimes, accompanied children to the sanitary area and divided themselves between the indoor and outdoor play areas when children were playing in both spaces.

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.*

Compliance Information

- (a) The premises consisted of a single-story block building designed for the provision of a primary school. The Naíonra occupied one end section of the building. On superficial visual inspection, the building appeared of sound structure with no visible defects.
- (b) The service was adequately secured to prevent children exiting unsupervised and unauthorised persons gaining entry. There was a separate entrance door into the building for the Naíonra which was secured with a bell system to alert staff to the arrival of visitors or parents.
- (c) Adequate natural lighting supplemented by artificial lighting was provided. The playroom contained large glass panelled windows and patio doors providing natural light to all areas of the room. Artificial lighting consisting of fluorescent strip ceiling lights was provided in the playroom, hallway and sanitary accommodation. Lights were fully encased in protective covers. The playroom and sanitary accommodation are provided with radiators which are connected to the oil-fired heating system for the whole school building. The air temperature of the care room when checked at inspection was within the recommended range of 18 – 22°C.

(d) The premises appeared to be in a good state of repair and was clean on the day of inspection. The building is connected to a mains water supply providing appropriate drinking water for staff and children and running water for cleaning.

(e) The premises was equipped with adequate and suitable sanitary facilities. Two toilets and two wash hand basins were provided for children off the playroom. Each toilet cubicle was sufficiently enclosed to ensure adequate privacy. A nappy changing unit and wash hand basin was available for use within the main school should a child require changing while attending the service

Non-Compliance Information

(c) There was no ventilation, either natural or mechanical, in the children's sanitary accommodation. This was found to be non-complaint on the previous inspection. It is acknowledged that the works had been scheduled to take place over the Easter holidays, and the inspector was informed that this was postponed to the summer holidays at the request of the contractors.

Corrective & Preventive Action submitted by the Registered Provider

Corrective and Preventive Action

(c) The service has followed up with the contractor to see how much longer it would take to complete the ventilation works in the bathroom. The area was observed on the 16th of May it was confirmed that the works will be done before next Friday the 4th of July.

Supporting documentation submitted

No evidence submitted.

Summary Comment

The actions stated have been reviewed by the inspector and accepted however, evidence of completed works are required to demonstrate compliance therefore Regulation 29 (c) remains outstanding and will be reviewed on the next inspection.