

# Tuarascáil Rialála na Cigireachta Luathbhlianta Réamhscoil

Aitheantóir TUSLA:	TU2015DL084
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Ainm na Seirbhíse:	Naíonra an Clochan Liath
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Seoladh na Seirbhíse:	Bóthar an Chairn Mhór, An Clochán Liath, Leitir Ceanainn, Co. Dún na nGall
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Éirchód:	F94 Y657
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Ainm an tSoláthraí Cláraithe:	Ray Mac Pháidín
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Cineál na seirbhíse:	Páirt-Aimseartha, Seisiúnach
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Dáta na Cigireachta:	10/12/2025
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Líon na leanaí réamhscoile:	AM	9	PM	7
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Seoladh na Cigireachta Luathbhlianta:	Cigireacht Luathbhlianta Dhún na nGall, Campas Naomh Conaill, Leitir Ceanainn, Co. Dhún na nGall F95 XK94
Cigireacht arna déanamh ag:	M Farrell
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 Naíonra pobalbhunaithe é Naíonra an Clochan Liath sa Chlochán Liath, Co Dhún na nGall, atá cláraithe chun seirbhísí páirtaimseartha agus seisiúnacha a chur ar fáil. Cuirtear na seirbhísí seisiúnacha ar fáil ó 09:15am-12:15pm. Freastalaíonn an tseirbhís ar leanaí idir 2 agus 6 bliana d'aois. Roinneann an tseirbhís foirgneamh saintógtha le seirbhís cúraim leanaí eile agus tá sí suite ar an gcéad urlár. Tá seomra súgartha mór amháin, cóiríocht sláintíochta agus seomra stórais in aonad an Naíonra agus tá áiseanna athraithe clúidín ar an gcéad urlár roinnte ag an dá sheirbhís. Tá rochtain ag leanaí ar dhá limistéar lasmuigh faoi iamh atá á roinnt leis an tseirbhís cúraim leanaí eile san fhoirgneamh.

## Soláthar Foirne

Bhí triúr ball foirne, lena n-áirítear foireann faoisimh, ag obair sa tseirbhís tráth na cigireachta. Ní oibríonn an soláthraí cláraithe go díreach leis an tseirbhís.

## Modheolaíocht

Is í Cigireacht Luathbhlianta Tusla an rialtóir reachtúil neamhspleách ar sheirbhísí luathbhlianta in Éirinn. Sainmhínítear i Rialachán an Achta um Chúram Leanaí 1991 (Seirbhísí Luathbhlianta) 2016 an dualgas atá ar sholáthraí cláraithe sábháilteacht agus folláine leanaí a chinntiú agus na rialacháin sin 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 na cigireachta 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 mhionscrúdú ar cháipéisíocht
- Breathnóireacht dhíreach
- Plé leis an bhfoireann ábhartha

Níor fógraíodh an chigireacht seo agus díríodh ar réimse an rialachais/ sláinte, leasa agus forbartha leanaí/ sábháilteachta. Féadfaidh an chigireacht díriú ar réimsí eile freisin de réir mar is gá.

Déantar torthaí na cigireachta a dhoiciméadú sa tuarascáil chigireachta a eisítear den chéad uair i ndrúachtfhormáid chuig an tseirbhís agus deis ann freagra a thabhairt ar aon torthaí. Nuair a shainithnítear

ceanglais reachtúla nach bhfuil á gcomhlíonadh, ní mór don soláthraí cláraithe a léiriú conas a cheartaigh sé an neamhchomhlíonadh agus conas a chinnteoidh sé nach dtarlóidh aon neamhchomhlíonadh arís. Úsáidfean an Plean um Ghníomh Ceartaitheach agus um Ghníomh Coisctheach 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,

(b) go mbeidh an duine i bhfeighil ainmnithe nó an duine ainmnithe dá dtagraítear i bhfomhír (a) ar an áitreabh gach tráth le linn na tréimhse ina mbeidh an tseirbhís réamhscoile á seoladh.

#### (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 air nó uirthi i stát seachas an Stát ar feadh tréimhse is faide ná 6 mhí as a chéile, grinnfhiosrúchán póilíneachta ó na húdaráis phóilíneachta sa stát sin.*

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

## Faisnéis maidir le Comhlíonadh

- (1)
- (a) Bhí duine i bhfeighil ainmnithe agus duine ainmnithe chun ionadaíocht a dhéanamh sa tseirbhís.
  - (b) Bhí an duine ainmnithe i gceannas agus an t-ionadaí araon i láthair sa tseirbhís le linn na cigireachta gan réamhfhógra.
- (2) Bhí triúr ball foirne sa tseirbhís tráth na cigireachta. Fuarthas na doiciméid ghrinnfhiosrúcháin seo a leanas don fhoireann:
- (a) Dhá theistiméireacht bhailíochtaithe i scríbhinn ó fhostóirí roimhe seo, go háirithe ón bhfostóir is déanaí, do bheirt bhall foirne. Teistiméireacht bhailíochtaithe i scríbhinn amháin ó iar-fhostóir amháin do bhall foirne amháin.
  - (b) Teistiméireacht bhailíochtaithe i scríbhinn amháin ó fhoinsí seachas fostóir roimhe seo do bhall foirne amháin.
  - (c) Fuarthas nochtadh grinnfhiosrúcháin an Gharda Síochána don triúr ball foirne ar fad. Léirigh an tseirbhís freisin gur comhlíonadh an Fógra Rialála na Cigireachta Luathbhlianta lena gceanglaítear ar sheirbhísí grinnfhiosrúchán ón nGarda Síochána a athnuachan gach trí bliana.
  - (d) Ní raibh gá le grinnfhiosrúchán póilíneachta idirnáisiúnta don fhoireann nár chónaigh lasmuigh den Stát ar feadh níos mó ná sé mhí mar dhuine fásta.
- (4) Bhí fianaise ar an gcáilíocht riachtanach i gCúram agus Oideachas Luath-Óige, nó ar cháilíocht choibhéiseach, ar fáil ar comhad do thrí bhall foirne a d'oibrigh go díreach leis na leanaí.

## 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.

(3) Faoi réir mhír (5), cinnteoidh soláthraí cláraithe seirbhíse réamhscoile seisiúnaí go gcomhlíonfar gach tráth an cóimheas íosta idir daoine fásta agus leanaí a shonraítear i gcolún (3) de Chuid 2 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) D'oibrigh líon leordhóthanach daoine fásta go díreach leis na leanaí a bhí ag freastal ar an tseirbhís réamhscoile. Bhí beirt daoine fásta ag obair go díreach le naonúr leanaí ar theacht gan réamhfhógra an chigire chuig an tseirbhís maidin na cigireachta. Chuir beirt daoine fásta cúram díreach ar fáil do sheachtar leanaí i rith thráthnóna na cigireachta.

(2) Cuireadh seirbhísí páirtaimseartha ar fáil tar éis sheisiún na maidine agus thug beirt bhall foirne aire dhíreach do sheachtar leanaí. Coinníodh an cóimheas íosta riachtanach 1:8 idir daoine fásta agus leanaí idir trí bliana agus sé bliana d'aois le linn sholáthar na seirbhíse páirtaimseartha.

(3) Le linn na seirbhíse seisiúnaí ar maidin, cloíodh leis an gcóimheas íosta riachtanach idir daoine fásta agus leanaí sa tseirbhís, mar thug beirt daoine fásta aire do naonúr leanaí.

## Cuid V - Cúram Leanaí sa tSeirbhís Réamhscoile

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

(1) *Cinnteoídh 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

(1)(a)

Bhí an fhoireann agus na páistí ag ullmhú do cheiliúradh na Nollag tráth an iniúchta agus bhí an seomra súgartha maisithe acu le crann Nollag agus saothar ealaíne de chuid Dháidí na Nollag. Ghlac na páistí páirt i ngníomhaíochtaí grúpa le linn an tseisiúin, lena n-áirítear maisiúcháin crann Nollag a dhéanamh trí ghreamáin óir agus pompoms beaga daite a ghreamú ar chártaí. Labhair agus sheinn an fhoireann amhráin i nGaeilge de réir éiteas na seirbhíse. Le linn am ciorcail go luath sa tseirbhís seisiúnach, sheinn an fhoireann agus na páistí amhráin faoi 'Daidí na Nollag' a bhí ag cleachtadh dá gceolchoirm Nollag. Tugadh cuireadh do bhaill teaghlaigh na leanaí freastal ar cheolchoirm na leanaí sa tseirbhís a bhí beartaithe don tseachtain atá le teacht.

Bhí córas oibríthe eochracha i bhfeidhm agus sannadh leanaí do dhá phríomhghrúpa oibríthe faoi stiúir duine de na baill foirne. Taispeánadh faisnéis maidir leis na príomhghrúpaí oibríthe go soiléir ar bhallaí an tseomra súgartha. Bhí an fhoireann an-ghrámhar agus dearfach lena n-idirghníomhaíochtaí leis na leanaí. Nuair a bhí páiste ag caoineadh, tugadh faoi deara go raibh an fhoireann ag canadh amhráin shólásacha i nGaeilge dóibh go dtí gur shocraigh siad. D'úsáid an fhoireann teoracha simplí chun iompar na leanaí a atreorú agus a bhainistiú ar bhealach dearfach. Mar shampla, rinneadh leanbh amháin a chaith píosaí míreanna mearaí ar an urlár a atreorú ar bhealach dearfach chun na píosaí a shlachtú agus iad a chur ar ais ina n-áit stórála. Spreagadh páistí chun sealanna a ghlacadh agus deis a thabhairt do gach duine páirt a ghlacadh i ngníomhaíochtaí. Bhí uaineadóir gainimh buí ar fáil sa seomra súgartha chun cabhrú le leanaí am a shamhlú dá mbeadh gá leis chun tacú le hiompar dearfach.

Chuir an fhoireann in iúl don chigire go ndearna siad cumarsáid le teaghlaigh na leanaí ar roinnt bealaí éagsúla, lena n-áirítear ó bhéal nuair a bhí na leanaí á dtabhairt chuig an tseirbhís agus á mbailiú uathí. Baineadh úsáid as feidhmchláir leictreonacha chun teachtaireachtaí agus faisnéis seirbhíse a sheoladh chuig teaghlaigh leanaí.

Spreagadh na páistí a bheith chomh neamhspleách agus is féidir ag brath ar a gcéimeanna forbartha. Mar shampla, sula ndeachaigh siad lasmuigh chun súgartha, tugadh tacaíocht dóibh a gcuid éadaí lasmuigh a

chur orthu féin le cabhair a tugadh nuair is gá. Bhí rochtain ag an tseirbhís ar dhá limistéar lasmuigh a roinneadh leis an tseirbhís cúraim lae iomláin chongaraigh ach ar an lá níor úsáideadh ach an limistéar lasmuigh ar chúl an fhoirgnimh. Bhí foscadh sa cheantar lasmuigh seo agus bhí trealamh súgartha éagsúla ann ar breathnaíodh ar na páistí taitneamh a bhaint as a bheith ag imirt leis. I measc na samplaí bhí balla ceoil, abacas agus tábla gainimh le rámhainní agus buicéid ar bhain na páistí taitneamh astu ag tochailt isteach. Chuaigh an fhoireann i bpáirt le gníomhaíochtaí súgartha na leanaí, mar shampla cailc a úsáid leo chun dath a chur ar chlár cailc amuigh faoin aer.

Stóráladh bréagáin agus trealamh súgartha i gcórais stórála oscailte a bhí suite ar leibhéal ísle lena n-éascaítear rochtain ag na leanaí agus lena dtacaítear leo na gníomhaíochtaí súgartha is fearr leo a roghnú. Eagraíodh an trealamh súgartha i réimsí sainspéise a bhí lipéadaithe go soiléir i nGaeilge mar shampla "Cúinne na Leabhar"/cúinne leabhar ina raibh réimse leathan leabhar Gaeilge. Bhí réimse míreanna ar an "mbord dúlra"/nature table, lena n-áirítear plandaí, duilleoga, cóin ghiúise, móin agus éin bhréagáin le nead. Breathnaíodh ar leanaí a imirt sa chúinne baile leis na huirlisí cistine agus na míreanna bia bréagán.

Chuir na páistí pasta tirim, a raibh siad ag imirt leis ag tábla gníomhaíochta, isteach sa súgradh agus thairg siad "sliseanna" do na daoine fásta. Bhí an trealamh súgartha éagsúil agus bhí réimse gníomhaíochtaí boird ann le puzail jigsaw agus cuir isteach puzail de leibhéal éagsúla castachta a bhí ag na páistí ar an lá. Bhí seomra stórais ann le rogha mór bréagán agus trealamh bhreise a dúirt an fhoireann leis an gcigire go ndéantar iad a rothlú leis an trealamh atá ar fáil sa seomra súgartha. Stóráladh táblaí gainimh i limistéar stórais comhroinnte a nascann an Naíonra leis an tseirbhís cúraim lae iomláin in aice lámhe. Ag amanna i rith an lae, breathnaíodh ar leanaí chun suí sa suíochán bog sa limistéar scíthe agus scíth a ligean.

Bhí plean oibre "work plan" cruthaithe ag an bhfoireann a bhí ar taispeánt sa seomra súgartha agus ina raibh eolas faoi gníomhaíochtaí súgartha, amhráin agus dánta do na páistí. Thaispeáin an fhoireann samplaí an chigire de leabhair aonair 'M'Aistear Foghlama' a coinníodh do gach leanbh ina raibh samplaí de shaothar ealaíne agus faisnéis a bhain leis an leanbh aonair a dúirt an fhoireann a tugadh do thuismitheoirí an linbh ag deireadh na bliana réamhscoile. Bhí leabhar mór darb ainm "Ar ár nAistear Foghlama: Léargas ar ár gCuraclam" (On Our Learning Journey: Insights into Our Curriculum) ar fáil, agus bhí samplaí de gníomhaíochtaí grúpa ann, lena n-áirítear ceiliúradh Oíche Shamhna.

Agus iad ag ullmhú d'am sneaiceanna spreag an fhoireann na páistí chun a lámha a ní 'nigh do lámha'. Cuireadh bia do leanaí le haghaidh sneaiceanna agus am lóin ar fáil ón mbaile agus bhí torthaí, ceapairí, iógairt agus táirgí cáise san áireamh. Bhí meas ag an bhfoireann ar roghanna na leanaí maidir le cathain ba mhaith leo ithe agus éascaíodh do leanbh a raibh ocras air go luath sa seisiún a sneaiceanna a ithe níos luaithe ná na leanaí eile. Chuir an fhoireann an cigire ar an eolas go raibh gníomhaíochtaí bÁCála rialta acu

leis na páistí ag déanamh earraí cosúil le scóin agus pancóga. Bhí coimeádán dí aonair ag gach leanbh a bhí ar fáil dóibh má mhothaigh siad tart agus go raibh deoch ag teastáil uathu.

Thug an fhoireann tacaíocht do leanaí a bhí in ann an leithreas a úsáid iad féin chun é sin a dhéanamh ag am dá rogha féin. Chuir an fhoireann cúnaimh ar fáil do leanaí a raibh gá acu leis agus d'athraigh siad clúidíní ag brath ar riachtanais leanaí aonair i limistéar ina n-athraítear clúidíní a roinneadh leis an tseirbhís thadhhlach. Cuireadh stóráil ar leithligh ar fáil le haghaidh míreanna pearsanta sa seomra súgartha.

## Cuid VI – Sábháilteacht

### Rialachán 23 - Sláinte, sábháilteacht agus leas an linbh a chosaint

*Cinnteoídh soláthraí cláraithe go ndéantar gach beart réasúnach chun sláinte, sábháilteacht agus leas leanaí réamhscoile atá ag freastal ar an tseirbhís a chosaint agus go bhfuil timpeallacht na seirbhíse sábháilte.*

#### Faisnéis maidir le Comhlíonadh

##### Sábháilteacht Ghinearálta:

Daingníodh an príomhghheata isteach ar theacht an chigire gan réamhfógra go dtí an áitreabh. Roinneadh an foirgneamh le seirbhís cúram lae iomlán agus leis an Naíonra a bhí suite ar an gcéad urlár. Daingníodh an doras inmheánach chuig an Naíonra le meicníocht daingnithe leictreonach a ligeann don fhoireann rochtain ar an tseirbhís a rialú agus cosc a chur ar leanaí imeacht gan aird. Ligeadh an cigire isteach san fhoirgneamh tar éis doiciméid aitheantais a thabhairt ar aird agus a athbhreithniú. Bhí srianóirí fuinneoige i bhfeidhm ar na fuinneoga ar an gcéad urlár. Bhí láimhseáil dorais an-suite ag an seomra stórais nach bhféadfadh leanaí teacht air ag ligean don fhoireann rochtain ar an gceantar a rialú. Chuir na baill foirne sa tseirbhís an seicliosta riosca sábháilteachta laethúil i gcrích. Bhí na bréagáin agus an trealamh súgartha i riocht maith agus oiriúnach do chéimeanna aoise agus forbartha na leanaí a bhí ag imirt leo faoi mhaoirseacht aosach.

##### Rialú Ionfhabhtaithe:

Breathnaíodh ar na páistí a lámha a ní le huisce te, gallúnach leachtach agus iad a thriomú le tuáillí páipéir ag amanna tábhachtacha ar nós roimh agus tar éis ithe, agus roimh agus tar éis dóibh an leithreas a úsáid. Breathnaíodh ar an bhfoireann chun táblaí a ghlanadh tar éis iad a úsáid. Coinníodh taifid scríofa ag an bhfoireann ar an bpróiseas glantacháin agus díghalraithe. Tugadh faoi deara go raibh fuinneoga seomra súgartha á n-oscailt ag an bhfoireann chun an seomra súgartha a aeráil uaireanta. Stóráladh earraí bia meatacha i gcuisneoir sa seomra súgartha.

## Cógais a Riaradh:

Chuir an fhoireann in iúl don chigire nach raibh gá cógais a riar ar aon cheann de na leanaí agus iad sa tseirbhís. Bhí an fhoireann ar an eolas faoi nósanna imeachta sábháilte chun cógais a stóráil agus a riar dá mba gá cógais a riar ar leanaí sa tseirbhís.

## Sábháilteacht Dóiteán:

Breathnaíodh go raibh na bealaí éalaithe éigeandála saor ó bhacainní le linn na cigireachta.

## Cuid VI - Sábháilteacht

### Rialachán 27 – Maoirseacht

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

## Faisnéis maidir le Comhlíonadh

Breathnaíodh ar an bhfoireann ag déanamh maoirseachta ar na páistí den chuid is mó trí radharc i rith na cigireachta. Ba é an cóimheas daoine fásta le páistí ar an lá beirt daoine fásta le naonúr páistí agus breathnaíodh go raibh maoirseacht aon-ar-aon á cur ar fáil ag an bhfoireann nuair a bhí gá leis. Bhí na páistí as radharc ag amanna nuair a bhí an leithreas á úsáid acu ach laistigh d'urchar cluaise na foirne dá mbeadh cabhair nó cúnadh ag teastáil uathu. Ag amanna sneaiceanna, rinne an fhoireann maoirseacht ar na páistí ag ní a lámha agus ansin shuigh siad leo ag bord chun maoirseacht dhlúth a dhéanamh orthu agus iad ag ithe a gcuid bia sa seomra súgartha. Breathnaíodh ar an bhfoireann chun maoirseacht dhlúth a dhéanamh ar na leanaí agus iad ag úsáid an staighre chun rochtain a fháil ar an limistéar lasmuigh ar chúl an áitribh. Chuaigh ball foirne amháin síos an staighre os comhair an ghrúpa leanaí chun maoirseacht a dhéanamh orthu. Rinne an dara ball foirne ag barr an staighre maoirseacht ar na páistí ag siúl síos iad agus chuir siad i gcuimhne dóibh an ráille láimhe a cuireadh ar fáil a úsáid. Breathnaíodh ar an bhfoireann ag bogadh timpeall chun na páistí a choinneáil laistigh dá radhairc agus iad ag imirt amuigh faoin aer, agus iad a choinneáil i radharc i gcónaí agus comhaireamh cinn inchloiste rialta a dhéanamh ar na páistí.

# Tuarascáil Rialála na Cigireachta Luathbhlianta Réamhscoil

## Cuid VI - Sábháilteacht

### Rialachán 28 - Árachas

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

#### Faisnéis maidir le Comhlíonadh

Bhí deimhniú árachais do 22 leanbh ar a mhéad, agus dáta éaga an 27 Samhain 2026 leis, ar fáil lena iniúchadh sa tseirbhís.

# Early Years Inspectorate Regulatory Report

## Pre School

<b>TUSLA Identifier:</b>	TU2015DL084
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<b>Name of Service:</b>	Naíonra an Clochan Liath
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<b>Address of Service:</b>	Bóthar an Chairn Mhór, An Clochán Liath, Leitir Ceanainn, Co. Donegal
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<b>Eircode:</b>	F94 Y657
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<b>Name of Registered Provider:</b>	Ray Mac Pháidín
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<b>Service type:</b>	Part Time, Sessional
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<b>Date of Inspection:</b>	10/12/2025
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<b>No of pre-school children:</b>	AM	9	PM	7
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<b>Address of the Early Years Inspectorate:</b>	Donegal Early Years Inspectorate, St. Conal's Campus, Letterkenny, Co. Donegal. F95 XK94
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<b>Inspection undertaken by:</b>	M Farrell
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<b>Title:</b>	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).

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

Naíonra an Clochan Liath is a community based Naíonra in Dungloe, Co Donegal, registered to provide parttime and sessional services. The sessional services are provided from 09:15am-12:15pm. The service caters for children aged between 2 to 6 years. The service shares a purpose-built building with another childcare service and is located on the on the first floor. There is one large playroom, sanitary accommodation and a storeroom in the Naíonra unit and nappy changing facilities on the first floor are shared by both services. Children have access to two enclosed outdoor areas shared with the other childcare service in the building.

### Staffing

There were three staff members including relief staff working in the service at the time of the inspection. The registered provider does not work directly in the service.

### 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.

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.*

*(2) A registered provider shall ensure that each employee, unpaid worker and contractor is suitable and competent taking into consideration the nature of the needs of children, including by-*

- (a) consideration of references from the person's past employers, if any, and in particular the most recent employer, if any,*
- (b) consideration of references from reputable sources in the case of a person who has no past employers,*
- (c) consideration of the vetting disclosure received from the National Vetting Bureau of the Garda Síochána in accordance with the Act of 2012 in respect of the person, and*
- (d) ensuring, insofar as is practicable, that where a person has lived in a state other than the State for a period of longer than 6 consecutive months, he or she provides police vetting from the police authorities in that state.*

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

### Compliance Information

- (1)
- (a) There was a designated person in charge and a named person to deputise in the service.
  - (b) Both the designated person in charge and deputy were present in the service during the unannounced inspection.
- (2) There were 3 staff in the service at the time of the inspection. The following vetting documentation had been obtained for the staff:
- (a) Two written validated references from previous employers particularly their most recent employer for two staff. One written validated reference from their past employer for one staff.
  - (b) One written validated reference from sources other than a previous employer for one staff.
  - (c) Garda vetting disclosures had been obtained for all 3 staff. 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 not required for the staff who had not lived outside of the State for longer than six months as an adult.
- (4) Evidence of the required qualification in Early Childhood Care and Education or equivalent was available on file for three staff who worked directly with the children.

### 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.*
- (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) An adequate number of adults worked directly with the children attending the pre-school service. There were two adults working directly with nine children on the inspector's unannounced arrival to the service on the morning of the inspection. Two adults provided direct care to seven children during the afternoon of the inspection.
- (2) Part-time services were provided following the morning session with two staff directly caring for seven children. The minimum required adult to child ratios of 1:8 for children aged between three and six years of age were maintained during the provision of the part-time service.
- (3) During the sessional service in the morning, the minimum required ratio of adults to children were adhered to in the service as two adults cared for nine children.

### 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

- (1)(a)
- The staff and children were preparing for Christmas celebrations at the time of the inspection and had decorated the playroom with a Christmas tree and Santa artwork. The children took part in group activities during the session including making Christmas tree decorations by sticking gold stickers and small coloured pompoms onto cards. The staff spoke and sang songs in Irish in accordance with the service's ethos. During circle time early in the sessional service, the staff and children sang songs about "Daidí na Nollaig" practising for their Christmas concert. The children's family members were invited to attend the children's concert in the service that was planned for the coming week.
- There was a keyworker system in place with children assigned to two keyworker groups each led by one of the staff members. Information regarding the keyworker groups was clearly displayed on the walls of the playroom. The staff were very warm and positive with their interactions with the children. When a child was crying they were observed to be hugged by the staff who sang soothing songs in Irish to them until they settled. The children's behaviour was managed in a positive manner by the staff who used simple instructions to redirect children. For example, one child who threw jigsaw pieces on floor was redirected in a positive manner to tidy up the pieces and put them back in their storage place. Children were

encouraged to take turns and give everyone a chance to take part in activities. A yellow sand-timer was available in the playroom to help children visualise time should it be needed to support positive behaviour.

The staff informed the inspector that they communicated with the children’s families in a number of different ways including verbally when the children were dropped off and collected from the service. Electronic applications were used to send messages and service information to children’s families.

The children were encouraged to be as independent as possible depending on their developmental stages. For example, before going outside to play they were supported to put on their outdoor clothing by themselves with help given where needed. The service had access to two outdoor areas shared with the adjacent full day care service however on the day they only used the outdoor area to the rear of the building. This outdoor area was sheltered and had a variety of play equipment that the children were observed to enjoy playing with. Examples included a music wall, abacus and a sand-table with spades and buckets that the children enjoyed digging in. The staff joined in with the children’s play activities for example using chalk with them to colour on chalkboard outdoors.

Toys and play equipment were stored in open storage systems positioned at low levels facilitating access by the children and supporting them to choose their preferred play activities. The play equipment was arranged in defined interest areas that were clearly labelled in Irish for example “Cúinne na leabhar”/book corner that contained a wide range of Irish books. The “bord dúlra”/nature table had a range of items including plants, leaves, pinecones, turf and toy birds with nest. Children were observed to play in the home corner with the kitchen utensils and toy food items. The children incorporated dry pasta which they had been playing with at an activity table into the play offering the adults “chips”. The play equipment was varied and included a range of tabletop activities with jigsaw puzzles and insert puzzles of varying degrees of complexity played with by the children on the day. There was a storeroom with a large selection of additional toys and equipment that the staff informed the inspector was rotated with the equipment available in the playroom. Sand-tables were stored in a shared store area linking the Naíonra to the adjacent full day care service. At times during the day, children were observed to sit in the soft seating in the rest area and rest.

The staff had created a work plan “plean oibre” that was displayed in the playroom and contained information on play activities, songs and poems for the children. The staff showed the inspector examples of individual books “M’Aistear Foghlama” kept for each child containing examples of artwork and information relating to the individual child which the staff said was given to the child’s parents at the end

of the preschool year. A large book named “Ar nAistear Foghlama Léargas ar ár ag Curaclam” (On Our Learning Journey: Insights into Our Curriculum) contained examples of group activities including Halloween celebrations.

When preparing for snack time the children were prompted by the staff to wash their hands “nigh do lámha”. The children’s food for snack and lunchtime was provided from home and included fruit, sandwiches, yoghurts and cheese products. Children’s choices regarding when they would like to eat was respected by the staff and a child who was hungry early in the session was facilitated to eat their snack earlier than the other children. The staff informed the inspector they had regular baking activities with the children making items such as scones and pancakes. Each child had an individual drink container that was available to them if they felt thirsty and needed a drink.

Children who were able to use the toilet by themselves were supported to do so by the staff at a time of their choice. Staff provided assistance to children who needed it and changed nappies dependent on individual children’s needs in a nappy changing area shared with the adjoining service. Separate storage was provided for personal items in the playroom.

### Part VI – Safety

#### Regulation 23 – Safeguarding health, safety and welfare of child

*A registered provider shall ensure that all reasonable measures are taken to safeguard the health, safety and welfare of a pre-school child attending the service and that the environment of the service is safe.*

#### Compliance Information

##### General Safety:

The main entrance gate was secured on the inspector’s unannounced arrival to the premise. The building was shared by a full day care service and the Naíonra which was located on the first floor. The internal door to the Naíonra was secured with an electronic securing mechanism allowing the staff to control access to the service and preventing children from leaving unnoticed. The inspector was admitted to the building following production and review of identification documents. Window restrictors were in place on the first-floor windows. The storeroom had a highly positioned door handle that children could not reach allowing staff to control access to the area. Daily safety risk checklist were completed by the staff members in the service. The toys and play equipment were in good condition and suitable for the age and developmental stages of the children playing with them under adult supervision.

### Infection Control:

The children were observed to wash their hands with warm water, liquid soap and dry them with paper towels at key times such as before and after eating and using the toilet. Staff were observed to clean down tables after use. Written records of cleaning and disinfecting process kept by the staff. Playroom windows were observed to be opened by the staff to ventilate the playroom at times. Perishable food items were stored in a refrigerator in the playroom.

### Administration of Medication:

The staff informed the inspector that none of the children required medication to be administered to them whilst in the service. The staff were aware of safe procedures for the storage and administration of medication should it be needed to be administered to children in the service.

### Fire Safety:

The emergency exit routes were observed to be free from obstruction 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

The staff were observed to supervise the children primarily by sight throughout the inspection. The adult to child ratio on the day was two adults to nine children and one-one supervision was observed to be provided by staff when needed by children. Children were out of sight at times when using the toilet but within earshot of the staff if they needed help or assistance. At snack times, the staff supervised the children washing their hands and then sat with them at a table to supervise them closely when eating their food in the playroom. The staff were observed to supervise the children closely when using the stairs to access the outdoor area to the rear of the premises. One staff member went downstairs at the front of the group of children to supervise them. The second staff member at the top of the stairs supervised the children walking down them and reminded them to use the handrail provided. The staff were observed to move around to keep children in their line of vision when playing outside always keeping them in sight and carrying out regular audible headcounts of the children.

### Part VI - Safety

#### Regulation 28 - Insurance

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

#### Compliance Information

A certificate of insurance for a maximum of 22 children with an expiry date of the 27 November 2026 was available for inspection in the service.