

Aitheantóir TUSLA:	TU2015DL085
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Ainm na Seirbhíse:	Naíonra an Fháil Charraigh
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Seoladh na Seirbhíse:	Aonad 7, Pairc Gnó, An Fhálcharraigh, Leitir Ceanainn, Co. Dhún na nGall
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Éirchód:	F92 CF74
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Ainm an tSoláthraí Cláraithe:	Ray Mac Pháidín
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Cineál seirbhíse:	Seisiúnach
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Dáta(í) na Cigireachta:	08/10/2024
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Líon na leanaí réamhscoile:	AM	14	PM	-
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Seoladh na Cigireachta Luathbhlianta:	Cigireacht Luathbhlianta Dhún na nGall, Campas Naomh Conal, Leitir Ceanainn, Co. Dhún na nGall. F95 XK94
Cigireacht arna déanamh ag:	L Mc Glynn
Teideal:	Cigire Luathbhlianta

An tÚdarás chun Iniúchadh 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 réamhscoile neamhbhrabúis í Naíonra an Fháil Charraigh atá lonnaithe i lárionad fiontraíochta ar imeall bhaile Falcarrach ar chósta thuaidh Dhún na nGall. Tá an tseirbhís cláraithe chun cúram seisiúnach a sholáthar do leanaí idir 2 agus 6 bliana d'aois agus oibríonn sí idir 9.00am agus 12.00md.

Is éard atá san áitreabh foirgneamh mór scoite aon-scéal le trí sheomra súgartha beaga os comhair an fhoirgnimh agus seomra súgartha mór amháin ar chúl. Tá limistéar mór súgartha lasmuigh ar chúl an fhoirgnimh ar féidir teacht air go díreach ón seomra réamhscoile.

Soláthar foirne

Tá triúr fostaithe chun oibriú sa tseirbhís, agus tá duine amháin acu fostaithe ar an tSamhail um Rochtain agus Cuimsitheacht. Níl an soláthraí cláraithe ar an áitreabh ar bhonn laethúil, tá duine ainmnithe i gceannas agus ionadaí ainmnithe nuair a bhíonn siad as láthair.

Modheolaíocht

Is í Cigireacht Luathbhlianta Tusla an rialtóir reachtúil neamhspleách ar sheirbhísí luathbhlianta in Éirinn. Sainmhíníonn 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 trídhoiciméadacht a scrúdú
- Breathnóireacht dhíreach
- Plé leis an bhfoireann ábhartha

Níor fógraíodh an chigireacht seo agus díriodh 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 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.

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 méadaithe.

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 thionsaíonn 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

(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 a dhéanamh ar thagairtí ó iarfhostóirí an duine, más ann, agus go háirithe ón bhfostóir is déanaí, más ann,*
- b) tagairtí ó fhoinsí creidiúnacha a bhreithniú i gcás duine nach bhfuil aon iarfhostóirí aige nó aici,*
- c) breithniú ar an nochtadh grinnfhiosrúcháin a fuarthas ó Bhiúró Náisiúnta Grinnfhiosrúcháin an Gharda Síochána de réir Acht 2012 i leith an duine, agus*

4) Cinnteoidh soláthraí cláraithe, gan dochar do ghinearáltacht mhír (2) agus faoi réir mhíreanna (5) agus (6), go mbeidh ag gach fostaí atá ag obair go díreach le leanaí atá ag freastal ar an tseirbhís mórdhámhachtain ar a laghad i gCúram agus Oideachas Luath-óige ag Leibhéal 5 ar an gCreat Náisiúnta Cáilíochtaí nó cáilíocht a mheasann an tAire a bheith comhionann.

Faisnéis maidir le comhlíonadh

(2) Rinneadh athbhreithniú ar na comhaid ghrinnfhiosrúcháin don triúr ball foirne ar an gcigireacht seo. Cuireadh na doiciméid seo a leanas ar fáil agus measadh go raibh siad sásúil.

- (a) (b) Bhí sé thagairt bhailíochaithe ar comhad maidir leis an triúr ball foirne ó iarfhóistí nó ó fhoirse seachas iarfhóistí.
- (c) Fuarthas nochtadh grinnfhiosrúcháin an Gharda Síochána do gach ball foirne. Léirigh an tseirbhís freisin comhlíonadh an Fhógra Rialála Cigireachta Luathbhlianta a éilíonn ar sheirbhísí grinnfhiosrúcháin an Gharda Síochána a athnuachan gach trí bliana.
- (4) Cuireadh fianaise dhoiciméadach ar fáil chun a léiriú go bhfuair an triúr ball foirne mórdhámhachtain i gCúram agus Oideachas na Luath-Óige ag leibhéal 5 nó os a chionn ar an gCreat Náisiúnta Cáilíochtaí nó a choibhéis.

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) Bhí líon leordhóthanach daoine fásta páirteach i gcúram agus maoirseacht dhíreach na leanaí a d'fhreastail ar an tseirbhís.
- (3) Bhí triúr daoine fásta ag obair go díreach le 14 leanbh réamhscoile ar maidin na cigireachta.

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

Tugadh sneaiceanna isteach ón mbaile agus bhí beartas itheacháin shláintiúil i bhfeidhm ag an tseirbhís a spreag tuismitheoirí chun earraí bia cothaitheacha a sheoladh isteach. Ar maidin na cigireachta, breathnaíodh leanaí ag baint taitnimh as réimse sneaiceanna sláintiúla agus cuireadh uisce óil ar fáil i mbuidéil aonair i rith an tseisiúin. Tugadh faoi deara go n-úsáideann leanaí na háiseanna leithris agus níocháin láimhe go neamhspleách le daoine fásta ar fáil le tacaíocht a thabhairt dóibh más gá. Spreagadh cleachtas chuí níocháin láimhe trí úsáid a bhaint as an amhrán 'Nigh do Lamhá'. Bhí stáisiún athraithe clúidín ar fáil sa chóiríocht sláintiúchta más gá.

D'fhreastail baill foirne le leanaí go pras ar riachtanais chúraim phearsanta na leanaí agus meabhraíodh dóibh a lámha a ní agus a srón féin a ghlanadh. Bhí naprúin ar fáil le haghaidh gníomhaíochtaí súgartha réchúiseacha agus d'úsáid na leanaí iad i rith an tseisiúin le haghaidh spraoi san uisce. Spreag an fhoireann leanaí le bheith neamhspleách agus iad ag cur a gcuid cótaí orthu, ag gléasadh éadaí agus ag cur a gcuid bróga orthu, ag tabhairt tacaíochta dóibh nuair is gá. Bhí rochtain ag leanaí ar throsacán agus fearas compordach agus bog sna seomraí súgartha chun sos a éascú i rith an lae más gá. Bhí go leor spáis laistigh den seomra mór do leanaí bogadh faoi shaoirse agus a bheith gníomhach ina gcuid súgartha. Chuir an fhoireann in iúl don chigire go bhfuil súgradh amuigh faoin aer mar chuid lárnach den ghnáthamh laethúil agus go gcaitheann leanaí am gach lá ag súgradh go fisiciúil amuigh faoin aer.

Éascaíodh leanaí isteach in athruithe an lae trí úsáid a bhaint as cloigín ama agus amhrán glanta. Tugadh faoi deara go bhfreagraíonn leanaí go maith don chur chuige seo agus go ndearna siad na bréagáin agus na gníomhaíochtaí a shlachtú. Ansin chuaigh na leanaí ar aghaidh go dtí mata urláir le haghaidh am amhráin. Ba léir ó iompar na bleanaí go raibh cur amach acu ar ghnáthamh an lae. Bhí baill foirne freagrúil d'idirghníomhaíochtaí leanaí le linn súgartha agus chuir siad iompraíochtaí dearfacha chun cinn agus mar thoradh air sin, breathnaíodh go raibh leanaí uilechuimsitheach ina súgradh lena chéile, ag glacadh sealanna agus ag roinnt acmhainní.

Bhí ceithre sheomra súgartha ann a raibh rochtain ag leanaí orthu ag amanna éagsúla i rith an lae ar bhonn rothlach. Cuireadh acmhainní ar fáil do gach ceann de na ceithre sheomra le héagsúlacht aoise agus trealamh atá oiriúnach ó thaobh forbartha de. Cuireadh acmhainní ar fáil do na trí sheomra níos lú le raon ábhar súgartha a bhí oiriúnach ó thaobh forbartha de agus bhí gach seomra tiomnaithe do chineálacha sonracha trealamh súgartha. Cuireadh trealamh boird ar fáil don chéad seomra, ag tacú le forbairt móitair chognaíoch agus mínluaile. Cuireadh an dara seomra ar fáil do litearthacht agus d'fhorbairt teanga leanaí le raon leabhar agus suíocháin bhoga. D'fhreastail an tríú seomra níos mó ar shúgradh samhailteach agus leagadh amach é mar thimpeallacht tí/cistine. Seomra mór geal fairsing a bhí sa cheathrú seomra ar a dtugtar an 'seomra mór' a chuir réimse leathan deiseanna súgartha ar fáil. Agus iad ag imirt sa 'seomra mór', breathnaíodh ar leanaí ag imirt le chéile sa tráidire gainimh, ag dul i mbun gníomhaíochtaí dírithe le míreanna mearaí, gléasadh suas, túir a thógáil le bloic chúir agus léamh leis an bhfoireann. Thacaigh baill foirne le leanaí ina súgradh agus breathnaíodh orthu mar rannpháirtithe gníomhacha. D'imir leanaí ina n-aonar agus i mbeirteanna agus i ngrúpaí le spás agus acmhainní chun ligean do ghrúpaí leanaí súgradh le chéile. Bhí leanaí cineálta, comhbhách agus spraiúil ina n-idirghníomhaíochtaí lena chéile agus breathnaíodh orthu ag taispeáint iompraíochtaí comhbhácha mar sheal a thógáil agus a roinnt.

Ba léir go ndearnadh gach ceann de na réimsí spéise a mheas go cúramach i dtéarmaí na n-acmhainní a bhí ar fáil agus an leagan amach, mar shampla, bhí idir shúgradh agus fhíoracmhainní i ngach ceann de na réimsí spéise amhail boscaí athchúrsáilte le haghaidh earraí bia i limistéar na siopaí, earraí cúraim gruaige i limistéar na n-áiseanna/gruagairí agus málaí láimhe, seanfhóin agus hataí sa limistéar gléasta. Léirigh na taispeántais bhalla i ngach ceantar na réimsí spéise freisin le híomhánna d'obair thógála, propanna ó salon gruaige, taispeántais trá/cois farraige agus bialann chun cúpla ceann a ainmniú. Bhí saothar ealaíne na leanaí maisithe freisin ar na ballaí agus bhí taispeántas mór le híomhánna d'áiteanna laistigh den bhaile áitiúil mar chúlra don téama reatha 'ár bpobal'.

D'oibrigh an tseirbhís príomhchóras oibrithe inar thaifead an fhoireann breathnóireachtaí ar leanaí agus inar úsáid siad iad chun a n-aiseolas a chur in iúl do thuismitheoirí agus punann a chur le chéile maidir leis na leanaí. Chuir an fhoireann in iúl don chigire go dtiomsaítear pleananna seachtainiúla agus míosúla bunaithe ar idirghníomhaíochtaí agus breathnóireacht leanaí. Thug an plean reatha mionsonraí ar idirghníomhaíochtaí le roinnt leanaí faoi áiteanna ina bpobal agus faoi dhaoine a oibríonn ann agus dá bhrí sin bhí gníomhaíochtaí agus pleananna dírithe ar an téama seo. Chuir an fhoireann in iúl don chigire freisin go dtionóltar cruinnithe téarmacha le thuismitheoirí chun iad a thabhairt cothrom le dáta maidir le dul chun cinn a linbh sa tseirbhís.

Cuid VI - Sábháilteacht

Rialachán 25 - Garchabhair

- (1) Áiritheoidh soláthraí cláraithe go mbeidh duine atá oile i ngarchabhrach do leanaí ar fáil láithreach, i gcónaí, do na leanaí atá ag freastal ar an tseirbhís réamhscoile.
- (2) Cinnteoidh soláthraí cláraithe go ndéanfar bosca garchabhrach atá feistithe go cuí do leanaí-
- a stóráil go sábháilte in áit atá inrochtana agus feiceálach go héasca san áitreabh, agus
 - go mbeidh sé ar fáil do na leanaí atá ag freastal ar an tseirbhís réamhscoile i gcónaí.

Faisnéis maidir le comhlíonadh

- (1) Bhí oiliúint maidir le garchabhair do leanaí ar an triúr ball foirne ar fad.
- (2) (a) Stóráil bosca garchabhrach ar sheif ardleibhéil sa seomra súgartha.
- (b) Bhí rochtain éasca ag an bhfoireann ar an mbosca an t-am ar fad.

Cuid VI - Sábháilteacht

Rialachán 26 - Bearta sábháilteachta dóiteáin

- (1) Cinnteoidh soláthraí cláraithe go gcoimeádfar taifead i scríbhinn
- ar aon druil dóiteáin a bheidh ar siúl san áitreabh, agus
 - líon, cineál agus taifead cothabhála an trealamh comhraicthe dóiteáin agus na n-aláram deataigh san áitreabh.
- (4) Déanfar fógra faoi na nósanna imeachta a bheidh le leanúint i gcás dóiteáin a chur ar taispeáint in áit fheiceálach san áitreabh.

Faisnéis maidir le comhlíonadh

- (1) (a) Rinneadh taifead i scríbhinn ar dhruileanna dóiteáin a dhoiciméadú mar dhruileanna a tharla sa tseirbhís. Rinneadh athbhreithniú ar shampla de na taifid seo a léirigh gur i Meán Fómhair 2024 a cuireadh dáta leis an druil dóiteáin dheireanach a taifeadh don tseirbhís.
- (b) Coinníodh taifead ar líon, ar chineál agus ar chothabháil an trealamh comhraicthe dóiteáin agus na n-aláram deataigh atá lonnaithe sa réamhscoil. Rinneadh seirbhísiú/iniúchadh ar threalamh comhraicthe dóiteáin go deireanach i mí Eanáir 2024 agus bhí taifead i scríbhinn ag an tseirbhís ag deimhniú go ndearnadh seirbhísiú agus tástáil ar an gcóras aláraim dóiteáin i mí Lúnasa 2024.
- (4) Bhí fógra i dtaobh na nósanna imeachta a bhí le leanúint i gcás dóiteáin ar taispeáint go feiceálach sa seomra súgartha.

Tuarascáil Rialúcháin 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 cáipéisí scríofa ann chun fianaise a thabhairt go raibh dóthain árachais i bhfeidhm don chineál seirbhíse a cuireadh ar fáil agus do líon na leanaí a bhí ag freastal.

Early Years Inspectorate Regulatory Report

Pre School

TUSLA Identifier:	TU2015DL085
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Name of Service:	Naíonra an Fháil Charraigh
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Address of Service:	Aonad 7, Pairc Gnó, An Fhálcharraigh, Leitirceanainn, Co. Donegal
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Eircode:	F92 CF74
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Name of Registered Provider:	Ray Mac Pháidín
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Service type:	Sessional
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Date(s) of Inspection:	08/10/2024
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No of pre-school children:	AM	14	PM	-
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Address of the Early Years Inspectorate:	Donegal Early Years Inspectorate, St. Conal's Campus, Letterkenny, Co. Donegal. F95 XK94
Inspection undertaken by:	L Mc Glynn
Title:	Early Years Inspector

Authority to Inspect

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

Conditions if applicable	Not applicable
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Description of service

Naionra an Fháil Charriagh is a not-for-profit preschool service located in an enterprise centre on the outskirts of the town of Falcarrach on the north coast of Donegal. The service is registered to provide sessional care to children aged 2 to 6 years and operates between the hours of 9.00am and 12.00md.

The premises consists of a large detached single-story building with three small playrooms to the front of the building and one large playroom to the back. There is a large outdoor play area at the rear of the building which can be directly accessed from the preschool room.

Staffing

There are three staff members employed to work in the service, one of which is employed on the Access and Inclusion Model. The registered provider is not on the premises on a daily basis, there is a named person in charge and named deputy 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. 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

(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

(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

(2) The vetting files for all three staff members were reviewed on this inspection. The following documents were furnished and deemed to be satisfactory.

(a) (b) There were six validated references on file in respect of the three staff members from past employers or a source other than a past 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.

(4) Documentary evidence was provided to demonstrate that the three staff members had obtained a major award in Early Childhood Care and Education at level 5 or above on the National Framework of Qualifications or equivalent.

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) A sufficient number of adults were involved in the direct care and supervision of the children who attended the service.

(3) There were three adults working directly with 14 preschool children on the morning of inspection.

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

Snacks were brought in from home and the service had a healthy eating policy in place encouraging parents to send in nutritious food items. On the morning of inspection, children were observed enjoying a range of healthy snacks and drinking water was provided in individual bottles throughout the session. Children were observed to use the toilet and handwashing facilities independently with adults available to support if required. Appropriate handwashing practices were encouraged through the use of the 'Nigh do Lamhá' song. A nappy changing station was available in the sanitary accommodation if required.

The personal care needs of the children were attended to promptly by staff with children reminded to wash their hands and clean their own nose. Aprons were available for messy play activities and were used by children throughout the session for water play. Staff encouraged children to be independent in putting on their coats, dressing in dress up costumes and putting on their shoes, providing support when required. Children had access to comfortable, soft furnishings in the playrooms to facilitate rest throughout the day if required. There was ample space within the large room for children to move freely and be active in their play. Staff informed the inspector that outdoor play forms an integral part of the daily routine and children spend time each day engaged in physical play outdoors.

Children were eased into the transitions of the day through the use of a bell timer and tidy up song. Children were observed to respond well to this approach and tidied away the toys and activities. Children then proceeded to the floor mat for song time. It was evident from the children's behaviour that they were familiar with the normal routine of the day. Staff members were responsive to the interactions of children during play and promoted positive behaviours and as a result, children were observed to be inclusive in their play with one another, taking turns and sharing resources.

There were four playrooms which children had access to at various times throughout the day on a rotating basis. All four rooms were resourced with a variety of age and developmentally appropriate equipment. The three smaller rooms were resourced with a range of developmentally appropriate play materials with each room dedicated to specific types of play equipment. The first room was resourced with tabletop equipment, supporting cognitive and fine motor development. The second room provided for children's literacy and language development with a range of books and soft seating. The third room catered more for imaginary play and was laid out like a home/kitchen environment. The fourth room known as the '*seomra mór*' was a large, bright spacious room which provided a wide range of play opportunities. While playing in the '*seomra mór*', children were observed playing together in the sand tray, engaging in focused activities with jigsaws, dressing up, building towers with foam blocks and reading with staff. Staff members supported children in their play and were observed as active participants. Children played both individually and in pairs and groups with space and resources to allow groups of children to play together. Children were kind, caring and playful in their interactions with one another and were observed displaying caring behaviours such as turn taking and sharing.

It was evident that each of the interest areas were carefully considered in terms of the resources available and the layout, for example, each of the interest areas contained both play and real-world resources such as recycled boxes for food items in the shop area, hair care items in the vanity/hairdresser's area and handbags, old phones and hats in the dress up area. The wall displays in each area also mirrored the interest areas with images of construction work, props from a hair salon, beach/seaside and restaurant displays to name a few. Children's artwork also adorned the walls and a large display with images of places within the local town formed a backdrop for the current theme of 'our community'.

The service operated a key worker system whereby staff recorded observations on children and used these to inform their feedback to parents and compile a portfolio on the children. Staff informed the inspector that weekly and monthly plans are compiled based on interactions and observations of children. The current plan detailed interactions with a number of children about places in their community and people who work in it therefore activities and plans centred around this theme. Staff also informed the inspector that termly meetings are held with parents to update them on their child's progress in the service.

Part VI - Safety

Regulation 25 - First aid

(1) A registered provider shall ensure that a person trained in first aid for children is, at all times, immediately available to the children attending the pre-school service.

(2) A registered provider shall ensure that a suitably equipped first aid box for children-

(a) is safely stored in an easily accessible and conspicuous position on the premises, and

(b) is available to the children attending the pre-school service at all times.

Compliance Information

(1) All three staff members held in date training in first aid for children.

(2) (a) A first aid box was stored on a high-level shelf in the playroom.

(b) The box was readily accessible to the staff at all times.

Part VI - Safety

Regulation 26 - Fire safety measures

(1) A registered provider shall ensure that a record in writing is kept of-

(a) any fire drill that takes place in the premises, and

(b) the number, type and maintenance record of fire fighting equipment and smoke alarms in the premises.

(4) A notice of the procedures to be followed in the event of fire shall be displayed in a conspicuous position in the premises.

Compliance Information

(1) (a) A written record of fire drills was documented as having taken place in the service. A sample of these records were reviewed which showed that the last recorded fire drill carried out for the service was dated in September 2024.

(b) A record was kept of the number, type and maintenance of the firefighting equipment and smoke alarms located in the pre-school. Firefighting equipment was last serviced/inspected in January 2024 and the service had a written record confirming that the fire alarm system was serviced and tested in August 2024.

(4) A notice of the procedures to be followed in the event of a fire was prominently displayed in the playroom.

Part VI - Safety

Regulation 28 - Insurance

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

Compliance Information

There was written documentation to evidence that there was adequate insurance in place for the type of service provided and the number of children attending.