

Tuarascáil Rialála na Cigireachta Luathbhlianta Réamhscoil

Aitheantóir TUSLA	TU2015DL089
Ainm na Seirbhíse	Naíonra Baile na Finne
Seoladh na Seirbhíse:	F/ch Ionad Cholm Cille, Baile na Finne, Co. Dhún na nGall
Éirchód:	F94 C951
Ainm an tSoláthraí Chláraithe:	Ray Mac Pháidín
Cinéal na Seirbhíse:	Seisiúnach
Dáta na Cigireachta:	06/03/2025
Líon na bpáistí réamhscoile:	AM 9 PM -
Seoladh na Cigireachta Luathbhlianta:	Cigireacht Luathbhlianta Dhún na nGall, 35 St. Campas San Chonaill Leitir Ceanainn, Co. Dhún na nGall F92 TD92
Cigireacht arna déanamh ag:	L McGlynn
Teideal:	Cigire Luathbhlianta

Údarás chun Cigireacht a dhéanamh

Déanann Cigireacht Luathbhlianta Tusla cigireachtaí ar Sheirbhísí Luathbhlianta faoi Alt 58(J) den Acht um Chúram Leanaí 1991 (mar a cuireadh isteach le hAlt 92 den Acht um Ghníomhaireacht um Leanaí agus an Teaghlach 2013).

Coinníollacha más infheidhme	Neamhbhainteach
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Cur síos ar an tseirbhís

Is Naíonra pobailbhunaithe é Naíonra Baile na Finne atá suite i lár shráidbhaile tuaithe Bhaile na Finne i nDún na nGall. Tá an tseirbhís cláraithe chun réamhscoil sheisiúnach a sholáthar ó 9.30am go 12.30pm gach lá oibre agus tugtar aire léi do leanaí idir 2 agus 6 bliana d'aois. Oibríonn an tseirbhís ó aonad glanscartha sa chuid tosaigh d'fhoirgneamh pobail. Faightear rochtain ar sheomra na réamhscoile tríd an bpríomhhalla isteach agus tá an naíonra scartha amach ón gcuid eile den fhoirgneamh le doras atá slán. Tá rochtain ag leanaí atá a fhreastalaíonn ar an tseirbhís ar sheomra súgartha mór amháin le háiseanna sláintíochta sa seomra taobh leis. Tá cistin bheag agus cóiríocht sláintíochta do dhaoine fásta ar fáil ar an láthair chomh maith. Tá limistéar slán faoin aeir suite ag tosach an fhoirgnimh.

An fhoireann

Bhí beirt bhall foirne fostaithe chun oibriú go díreach leis na páistí gach lá. Bhí beirt bhall foirne eile fostaithe chun cumhdach uainíochta a sholáthar nuair a bhí gá leis sin. Ní bhíonn an soláthraí cláraithe ar an láthair go laethúil. Tá duine ainmnithe i gceannas agus ionadaí ainmnithe atá ar an láthair le linn uaireanta oscailte.

Modh

Is í Cigireacht Luathbhlianta Tusla an rialtóir reachtúil neamhspleách ar sheirbhísí luathbhlianta in Éirinn. I Rialacháin an Achta um Chúram Leanaí 1991 (Seirbhísí Luathbhlianta), 2016 sainmhínítear dualgas soláthraí cláraithe chun sábháilteacht agus folláine leanaí a chinntiú agus chun cloí leis na rialacháin seo. Leis an Acht sin tugtar an t-údarás do Tusla freisin chun measúnú a dhéanamh ar chomhlíonadh na rialachán. Is é cuspóir na rialála i ndáil le seirbhísí luathbhlianta a chinntiú go gcosnaítear cúram, sábháilteacht agus folláine leanaí a fhreastalaíonn ar na seirbhísí sin. Tá cigireachtaí ar sheirbhísí luathbhlianta beartaithe bunaithe ar na nithe seo a leanas:

- Stair cigireachtaí roimhe seo
Aon fhaisnéis a fuarthas i ndáil leis an tseirbhís

Tá na torthaí ón gcigireacht bunaithe ar:

- Faisnéis a fuarthas trí scrúdú a dhéanamh ar dhoiciméid
- Breathnóireacht dhíreach
- Plé leis an bhfoireann ábhartha

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Rinneadh an chigireacht seo gan fógra agus díriodh léi 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 ar dtús i bhformáid dréachta don tseirbhís agus tugtar deis dóibh freagairt d'aon torthaí. I gcás ina n-aithnítear nach bhfuil ceanglais reachtúla á gcomhlíonadh, ní mór don soláthraí cláraithe a léiriú an chaoi a ndearna siad an neamhchomhlíonatacht a chur ina cheart agus an chaoi ina gcuirfidh siad cosc ar aon neamhchomhlíontacht tarlú arís. Úsáidfear an plean Gníomhaíochta Ceartaitheach agus Gníomhaíochta Coisctheacha (CAPA) chun cinntí a dhéanamh maidir le comhlíonadh ceanglais rialála. I gcás nach gcomhlíonann an soláthraí cláraithe na ceanglais reachtúla, féadfar próiseas méadaithe a thosú.

Forchoimeádann an chigireacht an ceart chun freagraí a fhaightear a chur in eagar ar chúiseanna lena n-áirítear soiléireacht, iomláine agus comhlíonadh próiseas riaracháin agus dlíthiúil.

Tiomsaíonn an comhlacht cigireachta ábhar na tuarascála.

Buíochas

Is mian leis an gcigire aitheantas a thabhairt do chomhoibriú an duine atá i bhfeighil, na mball foirne agus na bpáistí a bhí i láthair lá na cigireachta.

Cuid 3 – Bainistíocht agus Foireann

Rialachán 9 – Bainistíocht agus earcaíocht

(2) Cinnteoidh soláthraí cláraithe gur duine oiriúnach inniúil gach fostaí, gach oibrí nach n-íoctar agus gach conraitheoir, agus cineál na riachtanas a bhíonn ar leanaí á chur san áireamh, lena n-áirítear trí na nithe seo a leanas a dhéanamh –

(a) breithniú ar theistiméireacht ó fhostóirí an duine san am a caitheadh, más ann, agus go háirithe ar theistiméireacht ón bhfostóir is déanaí, más ann,

(b) breithniú ar theistiméireachtaí ó fhoinsí iontaofa i gcás duine nach raibh aon fhostóirí air nó uirthi san am a caitheadh,

(c) breithniú ar an nochtadh grinnfhiosrúcháin a fuarthas ó Bhiúró Náisiúnta Grinnfhiosrúcháin an Gharda Síochána de réir Acht 2012 i leith an duine, agus

(d) a chinntiú, a mhéid is indéanta, go soláthróidh duine, i gcás go raibh cónaí ar an duine i stát seachas an Stát ar feadh tréimhse ab fhaide ná 6 mhí as a chéile, grinnfhiosrúchán ag póilíní ó na húdaráis phóilíneachta sa stát sin.

(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 Comhlíontacht

(2) Rinneadh athbhreithniú ar chomhaid grinnscrúdaithe na gceathrar ball foirne mar chuid den chigireacht seo agus measadh gur comhlíonadh na ceanglas rialála leis an méid seo a leanas.

(a) Bhí teistiméireachtaí ó fhostóirí roimhe seo ar fáil maidir le gach ball foirne.

(b) Bhí teistiméireacht amháin ó fhoinse seachas iar-fhostóir ar chomhad i gcás ball foirne amháin.

(c) Fuarthas nochtuithe grinnfhiosrúcháin Garda do gach ball foirne Léirigh an tseirbhís freisin go raibh sí ag comhlíonadh Fhógra Rialála na Cigireachta Luathbhlianta a cheanglaíonn ar sheirbhísí grinnscrúdú an Gharda Síochána a athnuachan gach trí bliana.

(4) Bhí fianaise ar chomhad i gcás gach ball foirne gur críochnaíodh dhámhachtain mhór i gCúram agus Oideachas Luath-Óige ag leibhéal 5 nó os a chionn ar an gCreat Náisiúnta Cáilíochtaí nó cáilíocht a mheas an tAire a bheith coibhéiseach.

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Cuid 3 - – Bainistíocht agus Foireann

Rialachán 11 - Leibhéal foirne

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

(3) Faoi réir mhír (5), cinnteoidh soláthraí cláraithe seirbhíse réamhscoile seisiúnach go gcomhlíontar i gcónaí an cóimheas íosta daoine fásta le leanaí a shonraítear i gcolún (3) de Chuid 2 de Sceideal 6 os coinne uimhir thagartha ar leith 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 Comhlíontacht

- (1) Léirigh athbhreithniú ar thaifid láithreachta na foirne agus na bpáistí go raibh líon leordhóthanach daoine fásta ar an rolla le bheith ag obair leis na páistí i gcónaí.
- (3) Ar maidin na cigireachta bhí beirt bhall foirne ag obair go díreach le 10 leanbh idir 2 agus 5 bliana d'aois a bhí ag freastal ar an tseirbhís ar bhonn seisiúnach.

Cuid IV – Faisnéis agus Taifid

Rialachán 15 – Taifead linbh réamhscoile

Cinnteoidh soláthraí cláraithe seirbhíse réamhscoile seachas seirbhíse réamhscoile i lárionad buail isteach nó seirbhís réamhscoile shealadach go gcoimeádfar taifead i scríbhinn i leith gach linbh réamhscoile a fhreastalaíonn 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 nó caomhnóra leis an leanbh agus uimhir theileafóin lenar féidir dul i dteagmháil leis an tuismitheoir nó leis an gcaomhnóir sin nó le gaol nó le cara leis an leanbh le linn uaireanta oibríochta na seirbhíse;
- (e) údarú chun an leanbh a bhailiú;
- (f) mionsonraí aon bhreiteachta, aon mhíchumais, aon ailléirge nó aon riachtanais speisialta ar an leanbh, mar aon leis an bhfaisnéis go léir is iomchuí maidir le cúram nó aire speisialta a sholáthar;
- (g) ainm agus uimhir theileafóin lia-chleachtóir cláraithe an linbh;
- (h) taifead ar imdhíontaí, más ann, a fuair an leanbh;

(i) toiliú i scríbhinn ó thuismitheoir chun cóireáil chuí liachta a chur ar an leanbh i gcás éigeandála.

Faisnéis maidir le Comhlíontacht

- (1) Bhí 11 leanbh cláraithe chun freastal ar an tseirbhís tráth na cigireachta. Rinneadh athbhreithniú ar na 11 taifead go léir agus fuarthas amach go raibh na sonraí a cheanglaítear ag pointí (a) go (i) den rialachán seo iontu.

Cuid V - Cúram Linbh i Seirbhís Réamhscoile

Rialachán 21 – Trealamh agus ábhair

Cinnteoídh soláthraí cláraithe go mbeidh troscán, trealamh súgartha agus oibre agus ábhair atá leordhóthanach agus oiriúnach ar fáil in áitreabh na seirbhíse réamhscoile.

Faisnéis maidir le Comhlíontacht

Bhí dóthain trealamh súgartha ann do líon na bpáistí a bhí ag freastal ar an tseirbhís. Fuarthas go raibh na hearraí agus an trealamh súgartha go léir i ndea-bhail, buan agus oiriúnach d'aois agus céim forbartha na bpáistí a bhí i láthair. Bhí líon leordhóthanach boird agus cathaoireacha sa seomra réamhscoile le haghaidh súgartha boird agus caitimh bia. Socraíodh earraí súgartha ar nós ainmhithe beaga, leabhair, bréagáin rothacha, bloic thógála, puzail agus ábhair súgartha oscailte ar bhealach a raibh rochtain éasca ag leanaí orthu ar sheilfeanna ísle. Bhí réimsí spéise ar leith sa seomra, lena n-áirítear ceantair na cistine, na tógála, na bhfocal beaga, na mbábóg agus na gcúram leanaí. Bhí fáil éasca ar tráidire uisce ar le haghaidh súgartha céadfach agus bhí easaí ealaíne agus péint ar fáil ar mhaithe le cruthaitheacht na bpáistí a spreagadh. Bhí limistéar le troscán bog ar fáil do pháistí le húsáid agus iad ag ligean a scíth agus ag léamh.

Bhí an áit súgartha lasmuigh comhdhéanta de limistéar faoi dhíon ag tosaigh an fhoirgnimh a bhí clúdaithe le dromchla talún crua. Bhí dromchla atá frithsheasmhach in aghaidh turrainge faoi threalamh ardéirí. Leis an trealamh a bhí ar fáil bhí deiseanna ar fáil le haghaidh súgartha fisiciúil agus samhlaíoch chomh maith le spás le haghaidh rothaíochta, trírothair agus súgartha le liathróid.

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Cuid VI - Sábháilteacht

Rialachán 27 - Maoirseacht

Cinnteoídh soláthraí cláraithe go ndéanfar maoirseacht i gcónaí ar leanaí réamhscoile a fhreastalaíonn ar an tseirbhís.

Faisnéis maidir le Comhlíontacht

Coinníodh an cóimheas ceart idir daoine fásta agus leanaí i gcomhréir le ceanglais na rialachán agus breathnaíodh ar bhaill foirne ag déanamh maoirseachta cuí ar leanaí i gcónaí le linn na cigireachta. Breathnaíodh gur trí radharc na súl den chuid is mó a ndearna an maoirseacht, ach amháin i gcásanna ina raibh na páistí ag úsáid na saoráidí sláintíochta go neamhspleách. Sna cásanna seo, d’fhan an fhoireann gar dóibh agus rinne siad cumarsáid ó bhéal leis na páistí. Bhí an fhoireann airdeallach ar shuíomh na bpáistí sa seomra le linn am saorshúgartha agus ghabh siad áit mar a raibh an-chuid gníomhaíochta nuair a tháinig grúpaí le chéile. Tharla sé seo freisin nuair a bhí páistí ag ithe agus baill foirne ag fanacht ag an mbord leis na páistí chun cúnamh a thabhairt dóibh más gá.

Cuid VI - Sábháilteacht

Rialachán 28 - Árachas

Cinnteoídh soláthraí cláraithe go mbeidh an tseirbhís réamhscoile faoi árachas leordhóthanach.

Faisnéis maidir le Comhlíontacht

Bhí an tseirbhís faoi árachas leordhóthanach cúram seisiúnach a sholáthar do suas le 22 leanbh. Ba é an 27 Samhain 2025 dáta éaga an deimhnithe árachais.

Early Years Inspectorate Regulatory Report

Pre School

TUSLA Identifier: TU2015DL089

Name of Service: Naíonra Baile na Finne

Address of Service: F/ch Ionad Cholm Cille, Baile na Finne, Co. Donegal

Eircode: F94 C951

Name of Registered Provider: Ray Mac Pháidín

Service type: Sessional

Date of Inspection: 06/03/2025

No of pre-school children:	AM	9	PM	-
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Address of the Early Years Inspectorate: Donegal Early Years Inspectorate,
St. Conal's Campus,
Letterkenny,
Co. Donegal.
F92 TD92

Inspection undertaken by: L McGlynn

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

Description of service

Naíonra Baile na Finne is a community based Naíonra located in the centre of the rural village of Finntown in Donegal. The service is registered to provide a sessional preschool from 9.30am to 12.30pm each weekday and cares for children aged 2 to 6 years. The service operates from a self-contained unit to the front of a community building. Access to the preschool room is gained via the main entrance foyer with a secure door separating the preschool from the rest of the building. Children attending the service have access to one large playroom with adjoining sanitary facilities. A small kitchen and adult sanitary accommodation are also available on site. A secure outdoor area is located to the front of the building.

Staffing

There were two staff employed to work directly with children on a daily basis. There were three additional staff members employed to provide relief cover when necessary. The registered provider is not on the premises daily. There is a named person in charge and a named designated deputy who are on the premises during the hours of operation.

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*
- (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

- (2) The vetting files of all four staff members were reviewed as part of this inspection and the following was deemed to meet the regulatory requirement.
- (a) Past employer references were available for each of the staff members.
 - (b) One reference from a source other than a past employer was on file for one staff member.
 - (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) Evidence of completion of a major award in Early Childhood Care and Education at level 5 or above on the National Framework of Qualifications or a qualification deemed by the Minister to be equivalent was on file for all 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) A review of staff and children's attendance records demonstrated that there were an adequate number of adults rostered to be working with the children at all times.
- (3) On the morning of inspection there were two staff members working directly with nine children aged 2 to 5 years attending the service on a sessional basis.

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.*

Compliance Information

- (1) There were 11 children registered to attend the service at the time of inspection. All 11 records were reviewed and were found to contain the details required at points (a) to (i) of this regulation.

Part V - Care of Child in Pre-school Service

Regulation 21 – Equipment and materials

A registered provider shall ensure that there is adequate and suitable furniture, play and work equipment and materials available on the premises of the pre-school service.

Compliance Information

There was an adequate quantity and variety of play equipment for the number of children attending the service. All play items and equipment were observed to be well maintained, durable and suitable for the age and stage of development of the children attending. The preschool room contained a sufficient number of child sized tables and chairs for tabletop play and eating. Play items such as small animals, books, wheeled toys, construction blocks, puzzles and open-ended play materials were arranged in a manner that was easily accessible to children on low level shelving. The room had distinct areas of interest including kitchen, construction, small world, doll and baby care areas. There was a water tray readily available for sensory play and art easels with paint provided for children's creativity. An area with soft furnishings was available for children to use when resting and reading. The outdoor play area consisted of an enclosed area to the front of the building covered in hard core ground surfacing. There was impact resistant surfacing under high rise equipment. The equipment available provided opportunities for physical and imaginative play alongside space for cycling, trikes and ball play.

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 correct adult to child ratio was maintained in line with the requirements of the regulations and staff members were observed to appropriately supervise children at all times throughout the inspection. It was observed that staff supervised mainly by sight, except for occasions where children independently used the sanitary facilities. In these cases, staff remained close by and communicated verbally with the children. Staff were vigilant to children's location in the room during free play and positioned themselves at areas of high activity where groups had come together. This was also evident when children were eating with staff members remaining at the table with children to provide assistance were required.

Part VI - Safety

Regulation 28 - Insurance

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

Compliance Information

The service was adequately insured to provide sessional care for up to 22 children. The expiry date on the insurance certificate was 27 November 2025.