

Tuarascáil Rialála na Cigireachta Luathbhlianta Réamhscoil

Aitheantóir TUSLA:	TU2015DL102
Ainm na Seirbhíse:	Naíonra na nDunaibh
Seoladh na Seirbhíse:	Ionad Mhíobhaigh, Aras Ros Goill, Carraig Airt, Co. Dún na nGall
Éirchód:	F92 RX8C
Ainm an tSoláthraí Cláraithe:	Ray Mac Pháidín
Cineál na seirbhíse:	Seisiúnach
Dáta(í) na Cigireachta:	04/06/2025
Líon na leanaí réamhscoile:	AM 11 PM -
Seoladh na Cigireachta Luathbhlianta:	Cigireacht Luathbhlianta Dhún na nGall Campas Naomh Conaill, Leitir Ceanainn, Co. Dhún na nGall chomh maith. F92 TD92
Cigireacht arna déanamh ag:	L Mc Glynn
Teideal:	Cigire Luathbhlianta

An tÚdarás chun Cigireacht a dhéanamh

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

Coinníollacha más infheidhme	Neamhbhainteach
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Cur síos ar an tseirbhís

Is seirbhís réamhscoile í Naíonra na nDúnaibh atá suite i lár bhaile cósta na nDúnaibh i dtuaisceart Dhún na nGall. Cuireann an tseirbhís cúram gearrlae ar fáil ó 9.30am go 12.30pm gach lá oibre do leanaí idir 2 agus 6 bliana d'aois. Oibríonn an tseirbhís ó sheomra féinchuimsitheach ag cúl foirgnimh ina bhfuil ionad acmhainní teaghlaigh Mevagh lonnaithe freisin. Is féidir rochtain a fháil ar an tseirbhís trí chosán gearr feadh thaobh an fhoirgnimh go dtí an príomhdhoras isteach ag an gcúl.

Soláthar Foirne

Tá triúr ball foirne ag obair sa tseirbhís agus tá duine acu fostaithe faoin tSamhail Rochtana agus Cuimsithe. Níl an soláthraí cláraithe ar an áitreabh ar bhonn laethúil. Is é Comhar Naíonraí na Gaeltachta a chuireann rialachas agus maoirsiú na seirbhíse ar fáil.

Modheolaíocht

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

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

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

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

Níor fógraíodh an chigireacht seo agus bhí sí dírithe ar rialachas/sláinte, leas agus forbairt leanaí/sábháilteachta. D'fhéadfadh an chigireacht díriú freisin ar réimsí eile de réir mar is gá.

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

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

Is é an comhlacht cigireachta a thiomsaíonn ábhar na tuarascála.

Admhálacha

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 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 iontaoifa i gcás duine nach raibh aon fhostóirí air nó uirthi san am a caitheadh,

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

(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

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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

Rinneadh athbhreithniú ar chomhaid ghrinnfhiosrúcháin an triúr ball foirne a bhí ag obair sa tseirbhís agus measadh gur chomhlíon an méid seo a leanas ceanglais an rialacháin.

(9) (2) (a) (b) Bhí dhá thagairt ar chomhad do na trí bhall foirne ó iar-fhostóir nó ó fhoinse seachas iar-fhostóir de réir mar is iomchuí.

(c) Fuarthas nochtuithe grinnfhiosrúcháin Garda i ndáil le gach ball foirne. Léirigh an tseirbhís freisin gur comhlíonadh an Fógra Rialála Cigireachta Luathbhlianta lena gceanglaítear ar sheirbhísí grinnfhiosrúcháin ón nGarda Síochána a athnuachan gach trí bliana.

(4) Bhí fianaise deimhniúcháin ar cháilíocht íosta Leibhéal 5 de chuid Cháilíocht agus Cáilíochtaí Éireann (QQI) i gCúram agus Oideachas Luath-Óige nó a chomhionann ar chomhad do na trí bhall foirne.

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 an t-íoslíon aosach ag obair leis na leanaí i rith na cigireachta.

(3) Ar maidin na cigireachta bhí triúr daoine fásta ag tabhairt aire do 11 leanbh idir 2 agus 5 bliana d'aois.

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Cuid V - Cúram Leanaí sa tSeirbhís Réamhscoile

Rialachán 20 - Saoráidí scíthe agus súgartha

(1) Faoi réir an rialacháin seo, cinnteoidh soláthraí cláraithe-

- (a) ag féachaint do líon na leanaí réamhscoile atá ag freastal ar an tseirbhís, dá n-aoiseanna, agus don mhéid ama a chaitheann siad ar an áitreabh, go bhfuil saoráidí leordhóthanacha oiriúnacha ann do gach leanbh chun dul i mbun súgartha laistigh agus, i gcás ina gceanglaítear sin leis na Rialacháin seo, lasmuigh, i rith an lae, agus
- (b) go bhfuil saoráidí leordhóthanacha oiriúnacha ann do leanbh réamhscoile chun sos a ghlacadh i rith an lae, agus i gcás seirbhís réamhscoile thar oíche, i rith an lae agus na hoíche.

Faisnéis maidir le Comhlíonadh

(1) (a) Bhí an seomra réamhscoile geal agus fairsing le raon ábhar súgartha oiriúnach ó thaobh forbartha de.

Roinneadh an seomra ina réimse réimsí spéise agus bhí spás ann do na páistí bogadh go saor eatarthu. I measc na réimsí spéise bhí ealaíona agus ceardaíocht, tógáil, míreanna beaga domhanda, gabháilais gléasta, cistin súgartha, leabharlann, boird súgartha salacha, limistéar scíthe, bréagáin réitithe fadhbanna agus réimse leathan acmhainní súgartha ionramhála. Bhí acmhainní súgartha breise ar fáil i limistéir stórála. A bhuí le seilfeanna ísle oscailte, bhí rochtain éasca ag na páistí ar na hearraí go léir agus bhí boird agus cathaoireacha de mhéid oiriúnach ar fáil do ghníomhaíochtaí boird agus do shuíocháin do dhaoine fásta.

Cuireadh áiseanna súgartha lasmuigh ar fáil trí limistéar ar chúl agus ar thaobh an fhoirgnimh. Bhí acmhainní súgartha sa limistéar amhail fráma dreapadóireachta íseal agus aonad sleamhnáin beag, teach súgartha mór adhmaid, clár dubh le haghaidh marcanna a dhéanamh, bréagáin le marcaíocht orthu agus limistéar súgartha uisce. Stóráladh earraí súgartha breise ar nós baraí rotha agus innealra bréagáin ar nós trucaíl agus tochailteoirí sa teach súgartha. Bhí binse picnice agus suíocháin lasmuigh ar fáil freisin.

(b) Cuireadh áiseanna oiriúnacha ar fáil le haghaidh scíthe. Cuireadh fearastú bog ar fáil sa phríomhlimistéar súgartha lena n-áirítear suíocháin ísle agus cúisíní chun scíth a ligean nó a scíth a ligean.

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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 linbh réamhscoile atá ag freastal ar an tseirbhís a chosaint agus go bhfuil timpeallacht na seirbhíse sábháilte.

Faisnéis maidir le comhlíonadh

Sábháilteacht Ghinearálta:

- Bhí an príomhdhoras isteach sa réamhscoil daingnithe chun cosc a chur ar dhuine dul isteach gan údarú nó ar leanbh réamhscoile imeacht gan mhaoirseacht.
- Stóráladh ábhair neamshábháilte nó guaiseacha ar bhealach nach raibh rochtain ag leanaí air.
- Bhí dallóga corda fuinneoige daingnithe.
- Tugadh faoi deara go raibh na bréagáin agus na hacmhainní súgartha go léir a bhí ar fáil lá na cigireachta glan, i riocht maith agus oiriúnach do raon aoise na bpáistí a bhí ag freastal ar an tseirbhís.
- Eagraíodh bréagáin agus trealamh súgartha ar bhealach a cheadaigh saorghluaiseacht shábháilte leanaí laistigh den tseirbhís.
- Tugadh faoi deara go raibh soicéid leictreacha, fleiscíní agus trealamh i ndeis mhaith gan aon chomharthaí soiléire damáiste ná droch-dheisiú le feiceáil.
- Stóráladh táirgí glantacháin agus ábhair dramhaíola na seirbhíse go sábháilte as rochtain na bpáistí i limistéar stórála slán. Bhí foráil ann maidir le diúscairt agus stóráil chuí dramhaíola, lena n-áirítear soláthar boscaí bruscair a oibrítear le cos sa limistéar sláintíochta, agus i ngach limistéar eile laistigh den tseirbhís.
- Tá limistéar súgartha lasmuigh atá faoi iamh go hiomlán ag an tseirbhís atá daingnithe le fál teorann agus sceach. Chuir an fhoireann in iúl don chigire gur baineadh aonad ard-airde a bhí ar fáil roimhe seo sa limistéar súgartha lasmuigh.

Rialú Ionfhabhtaithe:

- Bhí uisce te, gallúnach leachtach agus tuáillí páipéir aon úsáide ar fáil ag na báisíní níocháin láimhe sna saoráidí sláintíochta chun níochán láimhe a éascú. Breathnaíodh ar na páistí agus iad ag níochán a lámha ag eatraimh chuí, lena n-áirítear roimh ithe sneaiceanna agus tar éis dóibh dul chuig an leithreas.
- Bhí cuisneoir ar fáil i limistéar cistine na réamhscoile chun earraí bia meatacha a tugadh ón mbaile a stóráil go sábháilte.
- Coinníodh taifid ghlantacháin ina raibh mionsonraí faoi na limistéir a bhí le glanadh agus an modh a úsáideadh. Tugadh faoi deara go raibh na taifid oiriúnach do gach limistéar agus go gcoimeádadh iad

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cothrom le dáta. Breathnaíodh ar an bhfoireann ag glanadh na mbord le glantach agus uisce te i ndiaidh súgartha na bpáistí mar ullmhúchán don sneaiceanna.

Cógais a Riaradh:

- Bhí polasaí sa tseirbhís ina raibh sonraí faoi na nósanna imeachta maidir le riaradh sábháilte cógais. Chuir an fhoireann in iúl don chigire gur thug na tuismitheoirí toiliú nuair a cláraíodh iad le haghaidh riaradh cógais éigeandála más gá. Ní raibh an tseirbhís ag tabhairt cógais go rialta agus dheimhnigh an fhoireann nár tugadh aon chógas do leanaí a bhí ag freastal ar an tseirbhís go dtí seo.

Sábháilteacht ó Dhóiteán:

- Breathnaíodh go raibh an bealach éalaithe éigeandála ainmnithe glan agus gan bhac.

Cuid VI - Sábháilteacht

Rialachán 25 - Garchabhair

(1) Áiritheoidh soláthraí cláraithe go mbeidh duine atá oilte 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) a stóráil go sábháilte in áit atá inrochtana agus feiceálach go héasca san áitreabh, agus
- (b) go mbeidh sé ar fáil do na leanaí atá ag freastal ar an tseirbhís réamhscoile i gcónaí.

Faisnéis maidir le comhlíonadh

- (1) Bhí triúr ball foirne ann a raibh fianaise dhoiciméadach acu chun a léiriú go raibh oiliúint cothrom le dáta acu i ngarchabhair do leanaí.
- (2) (a) Stóráladh bosca garchabhrach ar sheilf ardleibhéil sa seomra súgartha.
- (b) Bhí an bosca inrochtana go héasca ag an bhfoireann más gá.

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Cuid VI - Sábháilteacht

Rialachán 26 - Bearta sábháilteachta dóiteáin

(1) Cinnteoidh soláthraí cláraithe go gcoimeádfar taifead i scríbhinn-

(a) aon druil dóiteáin a bheidh ar siúl san áitreabh, agus

(b) líon, cineál agus taifead cothabhála an trealaimh 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) Doiciméadaíodh taifead scríofa ar dhruileanna dóiteáin mar thaifead a rinneadh sa tseirbhís. Rinneadh athbhreithniú ar shampla de na taifid seo agus léirigh siad gur i mí Aibreáin 2025 a taifeadh an cleachtadh dóiteáin deireanach a rinneadh don tseirbhís.

(b) Coinníodh taifead ar líon, ar chineál agus ar chothabháil an trealaimh comhraicthe dóiteáin agus na n-aláram deataigh atá lonnaithe sa réamhscoil. Rinneadh seirbhísíú/iniúchadh deireanach ar threalamh comhraicthe dóiteáin i Meán Fómhair 2024 agus bhí taifead scríofa ag an tseirbhís ag deimhniú gur seirbhísíodh agus gur tástáladh an córas aláraim dóiteáin i mBealtaine 2025.

(4) Bhí fógra faoi na nósanna imeachta le leanúint i gcás dóiteáin ar taispeáint go feiceálach sa halla iontrála.

Cuid VI - Sábháilteacht

Rialachán 28 - Árachas

Cinnteoidh 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. Ba é dáta éaga an deimhnithe árachais ná i mí na Samhna 2025.

Early Years Inspectorate Regulatory Report

Pre School

TUSLA Identifier:	TU2015DL102
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Name of Service:	Naíonra na nDunaibh
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Address of Service:	Ionad Mhíobhaigh, Aras Ros Goill, Carraig Airt, Co. Donegal
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Eircode:	F92 RX8C
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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:	04/06/2025
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No of pre-school children:	AM	11	PM	-
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Address of the Early Years Inspectorate:	Donegal Early Years Inspectorate, St. Conal's Campus, Letterkenny, Co. Donegal. F92 TD92
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Inspection undertaken by:	L Mc Glynn
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Title:	Early Years Inspector
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Authority to Inspect

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

Conditions if applicable	Not applicable
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Description of service

Naionra na nDunaibh is a preschool service located in the centre of the coastal town of Downings in north Donegal. The service provides sessional care from 9.30am to 12.30pm each weekday for children aged 2 to 6 years. The service operates from a self-contained room at the rear of a building that also houses the Mevagh family resource centre. The service is accessed via a short pathway along the side of the building to the main entrance door at the rear.

Staffing

There are three staff members working in the service one of which is employed under the Access and Inclusion Model. The registered provider is not on the premises on a daily basis. Governance and oversight of the service is provided by Comhar Naíonraí na Gaeltachta.

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

The vetting files of the three staff members working in the service were reviewed and the following was deemed to meet the requirements of the regulation.

(9) (2) (a) (b) There were two references on file for the three staff members from a past employer or a source other than a past employer as appropriate.

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

(4) Certification evidence of a Quality and Qualifications Ireland (QQI) minimum Level 5 qualification in Early Childhood Care and Education or equivalent was on file for all three staff members.

Part III – Management and Staff

Regulation 11 - Staffing levels

(1) Subject to this Regulation, a registered provider shall ensure that there is at all times an adequate number of adults working directly with the children attending the pre-school service.

(3) Subject to paragraph (5), a registered provider of a sessional pre-school service shall ensure that at all times the minimum ratio of adults to children specified in column (3) of Part 2 of Schedule 6 opposite a particular reference number specified in column (1) of that Part in respect of the age range of the children specified in column (2) therefore at that reference number is satisfied.

Compliance Information

(1) The minimum number of adults were working with the children at all times during the inspection.

(3) On the morning of inspection there were three adults caring for 11 children aged 2 to 5 years.

Part V - Care of Child in Pre-school Service

Regulation 20 – Facilities for rest and play

(1) Subject to this regulation, a registered provider shall ensure that-

- (a) having regard to the number of pre-school children attending the service, their respective ages and the amount of time they spend on the premises, there are adequate and suitable facilities for each child to play indoors and, where required by these Regulations, outdoors, during the day, and
- (b) there are adequate and suitable facilities for a pre-school child to rest during the day, and in the case of an overnight pre-school service, during the day and the night.

Compliance Information

(1) (a) The preschool room was bright and spacious with a range of developmentally appropriate play materials. The room was divided into a range of interest areas with space for children to move freely between. The interest areas included arts and crafts, construction, small world items, dress up props, play kitchen area, a library, messy play tables, a relaxing area, problem solving toys and wide range of manipulate play resources. Additional play resources were available in storage areas. Open low level shelving units enabled all items to be readily accessible to the children and suitable sized tables and chairs were available for tabletop activities and adult seating.

Adequate outdoor play facilities were provided by means of an area to the rear and side of the building. The area contained play resources such as a low-level climbing frame and small slide unit, a large wooden playhouse, a chalkboard for mark-making, ride on toys and a water play area. Additional play items such as wheelbarrows and toy machinery such as trucks and excavators were stored in the playhouse. Picnic benches and outdoor seating were also available.

(b) Suitable facilities for rest were provided. Soft furnishings were provided in the main play area which included low level seating and cushions to facilitate rest or relaxation.

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 door into the pre-school was secured to prevent unauthorised entry by a person or the unsupervised exiting of a pre-school child.
- Unsafe or hazardous materials were stored in a manner that was inaccessible to children.
- Window cord blinds were secured.
- All toys and play resources available on the day of inspection were noted to be clean, in good repair and appropriate for the age range of children attending the service.
- Toys and play equipment were organised in a manner that allowed for safe and free movement of children within the service.
- Electrical sockets, flexes and equipment were in noted to be in good repair with no obvious signs of damage or disrepair evident.
- The service's cleaning products and waste materials were stored safely out of reach of the children in a secure storage area. There was provision for the appropriate disposal and storage of waste including the provision of foot pedal operated bins in the sanitary area, and in all other areas within the service.
- The service has a fully enclosed outdoor play area secured with boundary fencing and hedging. Staff informed the inspector that a high-rise unit previously available in the outdoor play area had been removed.

Infection Control:

- Warm water, liquid soap and single use paper towels were available at the wash hand basins in the sanitary accommodation to facilitate handwashing. Children were observed washing their hands at appropriate intervals including prior to eating snack and after toileting.
- A refrigerator was available in the pre-school's kitchen area for the safe storage of perishable food items brought from home.
- Cleaning records were maintained detailing the areas to be cleaned and the method used. Records were noted to be appropriate for each area and maintained up to date. Staff were observed cleaning tables with detergent and warm water after children's play in preparation for snack.

Administration of Medication:

- There was a policy in the service detailing the procedures for the safe administration of medication. Staff informed the inspector that consent was given by the parents on enrolment for the administration of emergency medication if required. The service did not routinely administer medication and staff confirmed that there had been no medication administered to children attending the service to date.

Fire Safety:

- The designated emergency exit was observed to be clear and unobstructed.

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) There were three staff members with documentary evidence to demonstrate they had in date training in first aid for children.
- (2) (a) An adequately stocked first aid box was stored on a high-level shelf in the kitchen.
- (b) The box was readily accessible to the staff if required.

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 April 2025.
- (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 September 2024 and the service had a written record confirming that the fire alarm system was serviced and tested in May 2025.
- (4) A notice of the procedures to be followed in the event of a fire was prominently displayed in the entrance hall.

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. The expiry date on the insurance certificate was in November 2025.