

Tuarascáil Rialála na Cigireachta Luathbhlianta Réamhscoil

Aitheantóir TUSLA:	TU2015DL105
Ainm na Seirbhíse:	Naíonra Theileann
Seoladh na Seirbhíse:	Theileann, An Charraig, Co. Dhún na nGall
Éirchód:	F94 EH3F
Ainm an tSoláthraí Cláraithe:	Ray Mac Pháidín
Cineál seirbhíse:	Seisiúnach
Dáta(i) na Cigireachta:	03/10/2024
Líon na leanaí réamhscoile:	R.N. 10 I.N. -
Seoladh na Cigireachta Luathbhlianta:	Cigireacht Luathbhlianta Dhún na nGall Campas Naomh Conaill, Leitir Ceanainn, Co. Dhún na nGall. F95 XK94
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

Tá Naíonra Theileann suite i sráidbhaile tuaithe Teileann i gCo. Dhún na nGall. Tá an tseirbhís cláraithe chun réamhscoil sheisiúnach a sholáthar idir 9.15 i.n. agus 12.15 r.n. do leanaí idir 2 agus 6 bliana d'aois. Feidhmíonn an tseirbhís ó sheomra urlár na talún laistigh d'fhoirgneamh ionad pobail. Tá cóiríocht sláintíochta don fhoireann agus do leanaí araon ar fáil in aice leis an seomra réamhscoile. Tá rochtain ag leanaí ar halla fairsing le haghaidh súgradh gníomhach faoi dhíon agus tá limistéar ainmnithe ar thailte an ionaid phobail a úsáidtear le haghaidh súgradh lasmuigh.

Soláthar foirne

Tá beirt daoine fásta fostaithe le hobair sa tseirbhís. 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. 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 díríodh ar réimse an rialachais/ sláinte, leasa agus forbartha leanaí/ sábháilteachta. Féadfaidh an chigireacht díriú ar réimsí eile freisin de réir mar is gá.

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Déantar torthaí na cigireachta a dhoiciméadú sa tuarascáil chigireachta a eisítear den chéad uair i ndrээчтfһormáid chuig an 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. 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 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) *Cinnteoídh 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 iarfhóistóirí an duine, más ann, agus go háirithe ón bhfóistóir is déanaí, más ann,*

(b) *tagairtí ó fhoinsí creidiúnacha a bhreithniú i gcás duine nach bhfuil aon iarfhóistóirí 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) *Cinnteoídh 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*

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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) Maidir leis na heilimintí thuasluaite de Rialachán 9, scrúdaíodh na taifid earcaíochta i ndáil leis an mbeirt bhall foirne a bhí fostaithe sa tseirbhís le linn na cigireachta.

(2)(a) (b) Bhí dhá thagairt scríofa agus bhailíochtaithe ar fáil don bheirt bhall foirne ó fhostóirí roimhe sin, nó d'fhoinsí seachas iarfhostóir.

(c) Fuarthas nochtadh grinnfhiosrúcháin an Gharda Síochána don dá bhall 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 bheirt bhall foirne mórdhámhachtain i gCúram agus Oideachas na Luath-Óige ag leibhéal 5 nó os a chionn ar an gCreat Náisiúnta Cáilíochtaí.

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 ag obair go díreach leis na leanaí i gcónaí le linn na cigireachta.

(3) Bhí beirt daoine fásta ag obair go díreach le 10 leanbh réamhscoile.

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Cuid V - Cúram Leanaí sa tSeirbhís Réamhscoile

Rialachán 19 - Sláinte, leas agus forbairt leanaí

(1) Cinnteoidh soláthraí cláraithe, le linn seirbhís réamhscoile a sholáthar-

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

Faisnéis maidir le comhlíonadh

Bhí fianaise ann go raibh polasaí bia sláintiúil á chur i bhfeidhm. Ar lá na cigireachta breathnaíodh ar leanaí ag baint taitnimh as sneaiceanna cothaitheacha ar nós ceapairí, rollaí aráin, iógart, cáis agus craicir. Breathnaíodh ar réimse torthaí agus glasraí freisin lena n-áirítear trátaí, cúcamar agus fíonchaora gearrtha. Cuireadh uisce ar fáil i mbuidéil óil aonair agus ar fáil do leanaí i gcuisneoir íseal-leibhéil le linn an tseisiúin.

An t-am ar fad nuair a bhí leanaí ag ithe, bhí baill foirne ar fáil chun cúnamh a thabhairt agus tacaíocht a chur ar fáil dá mba ghá. Chruthaigh an fhoireann atmaisféar suaimhneach, sóisialta agus breathnaíodh ar na leanaí i mbun comhrá sóisialta lena chéile agus le baill foirne.

Tugadh faoi deara go raibh leanaí neamhspleách ina gcuid riachtanas leithris agus go raibh an fhoireann ag cur cúnamh ar fáil nuair ba ghá. Bhí cóiríocht sláintiúchá ar fáil do leanaí in aice leis an seomra réamhscoile a chuir rochtain éasca ar fáil agus a éascaíonn neamhspleáchas méadaitheach na leanaí chun máistreacht a fháil ar an scil seo. D'fhreastail an fhoireann ar riachtanais chúraim phearsanta na leanaí go pras agus meabhraíodh do leanaí a lámha a ní. Mhol an fhoireann do leanaí a bheith neamhspleách agus iad ag cur a gcótaí ar fáil, ag cur tacaíochta ar fáil nuair is gá.

Thacaigh agus spreag an fhoireann cleachtais dhearfacha iompair trí úsáid a bhaint as teanga dhearfach agus tuin chun mionfhadhbanna a cheartú, rud a chuir cosc orthu dul in olcas. Tugadh am do leanaí súgradh ina dtimpeallacht, roghanna agus cinntí a dhéanamh maidir lena súgradh agus bogadh go saor timpeall an chomhshaoil. Chruthaigh éagsúlacht na ndeiseanna súgartha atá ar fáil, péireáilte leis an saorghluaiseacht agus an rogha, atmaisféar suaimhneach, spráúil sa seomra. Bhí na haistrithe go ham sneaiceanna agus súgradh lasmuigh socair agus bhí na leanaí compordach agus ar a suaimhneas sa timpeallacht.

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Spás geal, fairsing agus fáilteach a bhí sa seomra súgartha do leanaí. Bhí trealamh agus ábhair ag airde an linbh agus inrochtana do leanaí. Roinneadh an seomra ina réimsí spéise le neart ábhar tacaíochta chun súgradh a éascú. I measc na réimsí spéise bhí cúinne baile, limistéar tógála, limistéar beag domhanda agus limistéar bábóg/cúram leanaí chun deiseanna súgartha samhailteacha a chur ar fáil. Bhí ábhair súgartha boird agus ionramháilte ar fáil go héasca do leanaí chun soláthar a dhéanamh d'fhorbairt chognaíoch chomh maith le limistéar péintéireachta agus gainimh chun súgradh céadfach a éascú. Bhí ábhar léitheoireachta ar fáil i gceantar cosúil le soláthar a dhéanamh d'fhorbairt litearthachta. Léirigh taispeántais bhalla sa seomra an luach a chuirtear ar shaol baile na leanaí, le balla an teaghlaigh, agus áit na leanaí sa phobal le híomhánna de thaitneamhachtaí agus sainchomharthaí tíre éagsúla sa cheantar áitiúil. D'adhmaigh saothar ealaíne na leanaí spás an bhalla freisin.

Chaith na leanaí am ag gabháil do shúgradh gníomhach sa halla mór in aice leis an seomra súgartha. Bhí spás sa halla do leanaí a bheith ag súgradh ar thuras ar bhréagáin agus ar struchtúir bheaga dreapadóireachta. Tugadh leanaí amuigh faoin aer freisin le bheith ag súgradh ar an lá agus chaith siad am ag tarraingt ar an talamh le cailc, ag imlínigh ar a gcoirp agus ag imirt cleas na bacóide. Chuir an fhoireann in iúl don chigire go dtugtar bréagáin agus míreanna súgartha chuig an limistéar lasmuigh ar uainíocht chun éagsúlacht a chur ar fáil i ngníomhaíochtaí gach lá. Bhí neart spáis sa cheantar do leanaí le tabhairt faoi shúgradh fuinniúil agus breathnaíodh ar leanaí ag rith le chéile ar an lá.

Tugadh faoi deara go raibh baill foirne ag tabhairt aire, aireach agus freagrúil do riachtanais leanaí. Bhí idirghníomhaíochtaí idir an fhoireann agus na leanaí dearfach, spreagúil agus mhol an fhoireann na leanaí go rialta as a n-iarrachtaí agus a n-éachtaí. Ar lá na cigireachta, breathnaíodh ar leanaí ag súgradh le chéile ag cur forbairt caidrimh dhearfacha chun cinn. Spreag agus thacaigh baill foirne le leanaí chun ceannas a ghlacadh i ngníomhaíochtaí i rith an lae agus a mbraistint phobail a fhorbairt. Baineadh úsáid as córas 'cúntóir' ag am sneaiceanna inar ghlac leanbh amháin freagracht as lón a dháileadh ar leanaí eile. Bhí na leanaí compordach agus d'fhreagair siad go maith leis an bpróiseas. Tugadh deis don leanbh seo an scéal a roghnú ag am ciorcail a léadh don ghrúpa.

Bhí fianaise ann ar phleanáil foirne do leasanna aonair leanaí agus léirigh plan míosúil forbairt an téama reatha maidir le teaghlaigh agus aithne a chur ar na leanaí. Chuir an fhoireann in iúl don chigire go dtiomsaítear leabhar gearrthóg gach bliain d'obair ealaíne leanaí agus fianaise ar a rannpháirtíocht leis an téama míosúil lena n-áirítear

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grianghraif agus fotheidil. Tugtar é sin do thuismitheoirí ag deireadh na bliana. Phléigh an fhoireann leis an gcigire freisin conas a spreagann siad thuismitheoirí le bheith páirteach sa tseirbhís trí chabhrú le siúlóidí dúlra sa cheantar.

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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 oiliúint chúig ag an mbeirt bhall foirne i ngarchabhrach do leanaí.
- (2) (b) Bhí rochtain éasca ag an bhfoireann ar shuíomh an trealaimh garchabhrach.

Faisnéis maidir le Neamhchomhlíontacht

- (2) (a) Ní raibh dóthain ábhar molta sa bhosca garchabhrach don líon leanaí ar a ndearnadh freastal orthu. Áiríodh leis seo cóirithe créachta neamh-steiriúla neamh-aimrid, bindealáin triantánacha, maisc aghaidhe póca agus cóirithe dónna.

Gníomh Ceartaitheach & Coisctheach curtha isteach ag an Soláthraí Cláraithe

Gníomhaíocht cheartaitheach agus choisctheach

Tá sé seo ceartaithe anois, agus cuirtear an t-ábhar leis an mbosca garchabhrach sa Naíonra. Tógadh nóta faoi dhátaí éaga na n-ábhar seo agus déanfar obair leantach leis an múinteoir chun a chinntiú go gcuirfear na hábhair sin in áit na seirbhíse.

Doiciméid tacaíochta curtha isteach

Cuireadh fianaise ghrianghrafadóireachta isteach leis an bhfreagra CAPA.

Léirmheas Achomair

Glacadh leis an bhfreagra a chuir an tseirbhís isteach chun aghaidh a thabhairt ar an neamhchomhlíonadh a aithníodh le linn na cigireachta.

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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 a léirigh gur i Meán Fómhair 2024 a cuireadh dáta leis an druil dóiteáin dheireanach a taifeadh don tseirbhís.

(b) Coimeádadh taifead ar líon, ar chineál agus ar chothabháil an trealaimh comhraicthe dóiteáin agus na n-aláram deataigh atá suite sa réamhscoil. Rinneadh seirbhísíú/cigireacht dheireanach ar threalaimh comhraicthe dóiteáin in Aibreán 2024 agus bhí taifead scríofa ag an tseirbhís inar deimhníodh gur seirbheáladh agus gur tástáladh an córas aláraim dóiteáin i mí Dheireadh Fómhair 2023.

(4) Bhí fógra i dtaobh na nósanna imeachta a bhí le leanúint i gcás dóiteáin ar taispeáint go feiceálach sa seomra súgartha.

Cuid VI - Sábháilteacht

Rialachán 28 - Árachas

Cinntoidh 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:	TU2015DL105
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Name of Service:	Naíonra Theileann
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Address of Service:	Teileann, An Charraig, Co. Donegal
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Eircode:	F94 EH3F
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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:	03/10/2024
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No of pre-school children:	AM	10	PM	-
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Address of the Early Years Inspectorate:	Donegal Early Years Inspectorate, St. Conal's Campus, Letterkenny, Co. Donegal. F95 XK94
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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

Nafonra Theileann is located in the rural village of Teileann in Co. Donegal. The service is registered to provide sessional pre-school between the hours of 9.15am and 12.15pm to children aged 2 to 6 years. The service operates from a ground floor room within a community centre building. Sanitary accommodation for both staff and children is available adjacent to the preschool room. Children have access to a spacious hall for active indoor play and there is a designated area on the grounds of the community centre which is used for outdoor play.

Staffing

There are two adults employed to work in the service. The registered provider is not on the premises on a daily basis. There is a named person in charge and a 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) In respect of the above-listed elements of Regulation 9, the recruitment records in relation to the two staff members employed in the service were examined during the inspection.

(2)(a) (b) Two written and validated references were available for the two staff members from previous employers, or sources other than a past employer.

(c) Garda vetting disclosures had been obtained for both 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 indicate that the two staff members had obtained a major award in Early Childhood Care and Education at level 5 or above on the National Framework of Qualifications.

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) There was an adequate number of adults working directly with the children at all times during the inspection.

(3) There were two adults working directly with 10 pre-school 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

There was evidence of a healthy eating policy being implemented. On the day of inspection children were observed enjoying nutritious snacks such as sandwiches, bread rolls, yogurts, cheese and crackers. A range of fruit and vegetables was also observed including tomatoes, cucumber and cut grapes. Water was provided in individual drinking bottles and available to children in a low-level refrigerator throughout the session.

At all times when children were eating, staff were available to assist and provide support if required. A relaxed, social atmosphere was created by staff and children were observed engaging in social conversation with each other and with staff members.

Children were observed to be independent in their toileting needs with staff providing assistance when required. Sanitary accommodation was available for children adjacent the pre-school room providing easy access and facilitating children's growing independence in mastering this skill. The personal care needs of the children were attended to promptly by staff with children reminded to wash their hands. Staff encouraged children to be independent in putting on their coats, providing support when required.

Positive behaviour practices were supported and encouraged by staff through the use of positive language and tones to correct minor problems, thus preventing them from escalating. Children were given time to play in their environment, to make choices and decisions with regard to their play and freely move around the environment. The variety of play opportunities available, paired with the free movement and choice, created a relaxed, playful atmosphere in the room. Transitions to snack time and outdoor play were smooth and children appeared comfortable and at ease in the environment.

The playroom was a bright, spacious and inviting space for children. Equipment and materials were at child height and accessible to children. The room was divided into interest areas with ample supporting materials to facilitate play. Interest areas included a home corner, construction area, small world area and a doll/baby care area to provide

imaginary play opportunities. Tabletop and manipulative play materials were readily available to children to provide for cognitive development as well as painting and sand area to facilitate sensory play. Reading materials were available in a cosy area to provide for literacy development. Wall displays in the room evidenced both the value placed on children's home life, with the family wall, and children's place in the community with images of various amenities and landmarks in the local area. Children's artwork also adorned the wall space.

Children spent time engaged in active play in the large hall adjacent to the playroom. There was space in the hall for children to play on ride on toys and small climbing structures. Children were also brought outdoors to play on the day and spent time drawing on the ground with chalk, outlining their bodies and playing hopscotch. Staff informed the inspector that toys and play items are brought to the outdoor area on rotation to provide a variation in activities each day. There was ample space in the area for children to engage in energetic play and children were observed running together on the day.

Staff members were observed to be caring, attentive and responsive to the needs of children. Interactions between staff and children were positive, encouraging and staff regularly praised children for their efforts and achievements. On the day of inspection, children were observed playing together promoting the development of positive relationships. Staff members encouraged and supported children to take the lead in activities throughout the day and develop their sense of community. A 'helper' system was used at snack time whereby one child took responsibility for distributing lunch to other children. Children appeared comfortable and responded well to the process. This child also was given the opportunity to choose the story at circle time which was read to the group.

There was evidence of staff planning for children's individual interests and a monthly plan evidenced the development of the current theme around families and getting to know the children. Staff informed the inspector that a scrapbook is compiled each year of children's artwork and evidence of their engagement with the monthly theme including photographs and captions. This is then given to parents at the end of the year. Staff also discussed with the inspector how they encourage parents to be involved in the service through helping out on nature walks within the locality.

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) The two staff members held appropriate training in first aid for children.

(2) (b) The location of first aid equipment was easily accessible to staff.

Non-Compliance Information

(2) (a) The first aid box did not contain a sufficient quantity of in date recommended contents for the numbers of children catered for. This included insufficient sterile unmedicated wound dressings, triangular bandages, pocket face masks and burns dressings.

Corrective & Preventive Action submitted by the Registered Provider

Corrective and Preventive Action

This is now corrected, and the contents are added to the first aid box in the Naíonra. A note was taken of the expiry dates of these contents and a follow up will be done with the teacher to ensure that these contents are replaced in the service.

Supporting documentation submitted

Photographic evidence was submitted with the CAPA response.

Summary Comment

The response submitted by the service was accepted in addressing the non-compliance identified on inspection.

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 April 2024 and the service had a written record confirming that the fire alarm system was serviced and tested in October 2023.
- (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.