

# Early Years Inspectorate Regulatory Report

## Pre School

<b>TUSLA Identifier:</b>	TU2015DR071
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<b>Name of Service:</b>	Naionra Pobail Seanchill CTR
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<b>Address of Service:</b>	Croi Na Coille, Tillystown, Shankill, Dublin 18.
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<b>Eircode:</b>	D18 N2W5
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<b>Name of Registered Provider:</b>	Siobhán De Fréin
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<b>Service type:</b>	Full Day, Part Time, Sessional
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<b>Date of Inspection:</b>	04/07/2024
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<b>No of pre-school children:</b>	AM	8	PM	8
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<b>Address of the Early Years Inspectorate:</b>	Early Years Inspectorate, Tusla Child and Family Agency Loughlinstown Health Centre, Loughlinstown Drive Loughlinstown
<b>Inspection undertaken by:</b>	Olivia Quill
<b>Title:</b>	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).

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

Naíonra Pobail Seanchill CTR is registered to provide a full day care, part time and sessional service for pre-school children ranging in age from two years eight months to six years of age. The teaching philosophy is based on the Highscope curriculum The service operates Monday to Friday from 8am to 6pm. The early years service is located in a purpose-built premises in an urban area in Shankill County Dublin. Four care room are available in the service. Two care room were closed and Seomra Cuilinn /Doire were open. Children from each of these classes rotate between two adjoining care rooms. A large outdoor play area is available for the children to the rear of the premises. The play areas are divided up to cater for the different age groups. The outdoor play areas had a grass surface and were fully fenced and equipped with a variety of suitable play equipment and seating for children to play and rest as required.

### Staffing

Eight staff are employed in the service. On the 4 July 2024 four staff were present including the designated person in charge. The registered provider does not work directly with the children.

### 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 and safety. The inspection may also focus on other areas as required.

The inspection focused on an examination of compliance under the following regulations:

- 9 (1)(a)(b), (2), 4) Management and Recruitment,
- 11(1), (2), (8)(a) Staffing Levels,
- 15(1)(a)-(g) Record of a preschool child
- 16(h), (i), (j), (k) Record in relation to pre-school service,
- 23 Safeguarding, Health, Safety and Welfare of Child.
- 25 (1), (2) (a), (b) First Aid
- 26 (1), (a), (b) and (4) Fire Safety Measures

Inspection findings are documented in the inspection report which is first issued in draft format to the service with an opportunity to respond to any findings. Where statutory requirements are identified as not being met, the registered provider must demonstrate how they have rectified the non-compliance and will prevent any non-compliance from re occurring. The Corrective Action and Preventive Action plan (CAPA) will be used to inform decisions about compliance with regulatory requirements. Where the registered provider fails to meet the statutory requirements an escalation process may be commenced.

The inspectorate reserves the right to edit responses received for reasons including clarity, completeness and compliance with administrative and legal processes.

The contents of the report are compiled by the inspectorate body.

### Acknowledgments

The inspector wishes to acknowledge the cooperation of the person in charge, staff and children who were present on the day of the inspection.

### Part III – Management and Staff

#### Regulation 9 – Management and recruitment

(1) A registered provider shall ensure that-

- (a) the service has a designated person in charge and a named person who is able to deputise as required,
- (b) at all times during the period when the pre-school service is being carried on, the designated person in charge or the named person referred to in subparagraph (a) is on the premises, and

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

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

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

#### Compliance Information

- (1)
- (a), (b) The service had a designated person in charge and a named person to deputise as required.
- (2) All staff files, eight in total were reviewed as part of the inspection process.
- (a) Two validated written references were available from past employers.
  - (b) A second written validated reference for two staff was obtained from a source other than a past employer.
  - (c) Garda vetting disclosures from the National Vetting Bureau of An Garda Síochána were available for eight staff members. These were dated within the previous three years in adherence to the Early Years Inspectorate Regulatory Notice 'EYI-RN12.3 Renewal of Garda Vetting'.
  - (d) Police vetting was available for one adult who had lived in a state other than the State for a period of longer than 6 consecutive months as an adult.
- (4) All staff employed to work directly with the children held the required qualification 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.*

*(2) Subject to paragraphs (4) and (5), a registered provider of a full day care service or a part-time day care service shall ensure that at all times the minimum ratio of adults to children specified in column (3) of Part 1 of Schedule 6 opposite a particular reference number specified in column (1) of that Part in respect of the age range of the children specified in column (2) thereof at that reference number is satisfied.*

*shall be the ratio specified in paragraph (3).*

*(8) Without prejudice to paragraphs (2) to (7)-*

*(a) a registered provider of a pre-school service other than a child-minding service or a sessional pre-school service shall ensure that there are at least 2 adults on the premises at all times,*

### Compliance Information

(1) An adequate number of adults were working directly with the children at all times during the inspection.

(2) The minimum ratio of adults to children for full day care services was adhered to at all times during the inspection. There were eight children attending the service being supervised by three adults on the day of inspection.

(8)(a) There were at least two adults on the premises at all times.

### 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) A sample of ten records were reviewed for children who were attending the service. The records reviewed contained the following information:

- (a) The name and date of birth of each child.
- (c) There was an area on the registration form where the date when a child would cease to attend the service will be recorded.
- (d) The names, addresses and telephone number of parents were recorded and information where parents can be contacted during the hours of operation of the service were also available.
- (e) There was authorisation for the collection of the child.
- (f) The record available supported the recording of any illness, disability, allergy or special need of the child.
- (g) The name and telephone number of each child's medical practitioner was recorded.
- (h) A record of immunisations received was recorded.
- (i) There was written consent for appropriate medical treatment of a child in the event of an emergency.

## Part IV – Information and Records

### Regulation 16 – Record in relation to pre-school service

(1) A registered provider shall ensure that a record in writing is kept of the following information in relation to the service:

- (h) details of attendance by each pre-school child on a daily basis;
- (i) details of staff rosters on a daily basis;
- (j) details of any medication administered to a pre-school child attending the service with signed parental consent;
- (k) details of any accident, injury or incident involving a pre-school child attending the service.

### Compliance Information

- (1)
- (h) Details of the attendance of each child in the service were recorded at the time of entering and leaving the service.
  - (i) The staff roster was available and reflected the adults working in the service on the day of inspection.
  - (j) A sample of medication records were reviewed these forms were completed as required including signed parental consent.
  - (k) A sample of accident and incidents records were reviewed. These records were signed by staff and parents and were completed appropriately.

## 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 entrance door to the service was adequately secured to ensure the safety of the children within and to avoid unauthorised persons accessing the service or children exiting unsupervised.
- Cleaning agents and medication were stored safely out of reach of children.
- All storage facilities were inaccessible to children.
- The toys and play equipment observed in use by the children on the day of inspection appeared in good working order.

##### Infection Control:

- The environment was clean and cleaning schedules were maintained.
- Staff were observed cleaning the tables between activities.
- Liquid soap, warm water and paper towels were available to facilitate hand washing. Children were supervised washing their hands after messy play and using the toilet.

##### Administration of Medication:

- A sample of medication records were reviewed. The records were completed correctly signed by parents and staff.
- A Care plan was in place for a child who had a specific allergy. Staff were familiar with the care plan and the medication was clearly labelled and stored safely.

##### Fire Safety:

- Fire exits were clearly marked 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) The registered provider ensured that staff trained in first aid for children were at all times immediately available to the children attending the pre-school service. First Aid Responder training certificates were available for four staff dated the 31 May 2026.

(2)(a) The first aid box was suitably equipped and safely stored in an easily accessible and conspicuous position on the premises.

(b) The first aid box was readily available 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 was available detailing monthly fire drills that had taken place in the service. The last fire drill had been recorded as undertaken on the 18 June 2024.

(b) The number, type and maintenance record of firefighting equipment and smoke alarms on the premises was available. The maintenance records for the fire equipment and the smoke alarm system were dated 02 April 2024.

(4) The procedures to be followed during a fire drill and in the event of a fire were displayed in a conspicuous location within the service.