

TUSLA REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT



TUSLA Identifier: TU2015DR155

Name of Service: Naíonra Dun Droma

Address of Service: BSI St John's GAA Club
Grange Road
Rathfarnham
Dublin 16

Email Address: naionradundroma@gmail.com

Name of Registered Service Provider: Jane Ní Chonchúir and Carol Merriman

Type of Service Registered: **Sessional**

Date of Inspection: 2 2 1 1 2 0 2 1

No of Pre-School Children present during Inspection: **AM** 19 **PM** N/A

Address of the Early Years Inspectorate: Early Years Inspectorate
Tusla Child and Family Agency
Loughlinstown Health Centre
Loughlinstown Drive
Loughlinstown
County Dublin

Inspection undertaken by: Olivia Quill
Title: Early Years Inspector

Areas which were the subject of this Inspection

Governance	Health Welfare and Development of Child	Safety
------------	---	--------

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 Dun Droma was first established in 2012 and is one of two privately owned early years services operated by the registered provider. The early years service is registered to provide sessional care and offers the Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) scheme for children aged from 2.8 years-6years. The service operates Monday to Friday from 9am-12pm.
Premises	The early years service is located within St. John’s GAA Clubhouse in Rathfarnham Dublin 16. Care of the children is facilitated in one room.
Staffing	In total three adults are employed in the service. All adults working directly with the children had completed qualifications in Early Childhood Care and Education.
Methodology	<p>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.</p> <p>The findings on inspection are based on;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Information obtained through examination of documentation • Direct observation • Discussion with relevant staff <p>This inspection was unannounced and focused on areas of Governance, Health, Welfare and Development of Child and Safety. Inspections may also focus on other areas as required.</p> <p>The inspection process has been amended to minimise the amount of time that inspectors spend in the service.</p> <p>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.</p>
Acknowledgements	The Inspector wishes to acknowledge the cooperation of the person in charge, staff and children who were present on the day of the inspection.

GOVERNANCE

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:	<p>(2) A review of the service file and a discussion with the registered provider confirmed that one new member of staff was employed in the service since the last inspection. This file was reviewed.</p> <p>(b) Not applicable the references provided were from previous employers. (c) Garda vetting disclosure was available. (d) Not applicable, the adult employed in the service did not live outside the State for a period longer than six consecutive months.</p> <p>(4) There was evidence the adult employed in the service had attained a major award in Early Childhood Care and Education at Level 8 on the National Framework for Qualifications.</p>
Non-Compliance Information:	<p>(2)</p> <p>(a) Both references on file for this adult had not been validated. (d) The adult had lived outside the state for one year. Police vetting was required and not available.</p>
Corrective & Preventive Action submitted by the Registered Provider	<p><u>CORRECTIVE ACTION</u></p> <p>(2)</p> <p>(a) Evidence of verification of references available in the personnel file.</p> <p>(d) The staff member has contacted the relevant authorities and her application is now being processed by police.</p>

Part III - Management and Staff

Regulation 9 - Management and Recruitment

	<p><u>PREVENTIVE ACTION</u></p> <p>(2)</p> <p>(a) A note is attached to all references stating date of validation. The recruitment policy states that a record must be kept of the verification of all references.</p> <p>(d) Future recruitment will depend upon overseas police clearance being provided by candidate before commencement of employment.</p>
Summary Comment	The registered providers have addressed the non-compliance under Regulation 9 (2) (a) and (d).

Part III - Management and Staff

Regulation 11 -Staffing Levels

	<p>(1) <i>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.</i></p> <p>(3) <i>Subject to paragraph (5), a registered provider of <u>a sessional pre-school service</u> 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) thereof at that reference number is satisfied.</i></p> <p>(8) <i>Without prejudice to paragraphs (2) to (7)—</i></p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">(c) <i>a registered provider of a sessional pre-school service shall ensure that, where the person in charge operates the service single-handedly, a second person familiar with the operation of the service and in a position to provide assistance to the person in charge in operating the service is, at all times, within close distance of the service and available to attend the service to assist the person in charge in the event of an emergency.</i></p>
Compliance Information:	<p>(1) On the day of inspection there were three adults working with nineteen children.</p> <p>(3) The minimum ratio of adults to children specified in column (3) of Part 2 of Schedule 6 was maintained during the inspection.</p> <p>(8)</p> <p>(c) The service was not operated single-handedly.</p>

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

Compliance Information:

(1) (a)

BASIC NEEDS:

The children were supported to be self-caring suitable to their age and stage of development. Children went to the toilet independently under the supervision of staff.

Parents provided healthy lunches for their children which included a selection of sandwiches, crackers & cheese, yogurts and fresh fruit. Each child brought in their own individual water container. Children were observed to enjoy their lunch they sat together and engaged in conversation in a relaxed and unhurried atmosphere.

SUPPORTING RELATIONSHIPS:

The staff members demonstrated respect and warmth towards the children in their care and were observed to engage well with the children. Staff provided supportive listening as they encouraged children to share their news with each other during circle time.

The children were supported in their choice of activities. Children were praised for their involvement in activities and on completion of tasks. A key worker system was used by staff to support and record individual observations completed on children. Staff communicate daily with parents as they bring their children to the service and collect them. The service uses email to share additional information with parents.

PHYSICAL AND MATERIAL ENVIRONMENT:

The pre-school room was laid out with child-sized tables and chairs. Toys and play equipment were stored appropriately, low level shelving ensured that equipment and materials were easily accessible for children attending the service. Designated areas of interest were set up including a home corner, messy play with paint and a library area beside the rest area. Children's art was displayed on the walls.

The service is located beside Marley Park and the children were observed to enjoy an outing to the park. Children were dressed appropriately for the outing and staff supported children to put on suitable footwear which is kept onsite and used as required.

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:

External doors were secured to prevent children from exiting the service unsupervised and to restrict unauthorised persons from gaining access to the premises. Cleaning agents were stored safely out of the reach. Toys used by the children were in good working order.

INFECTION CONTROL:

The environment was clean. Running warm water, liquid soap and paper hand towels were provided for hand hygiene at wash hand basins in the sanitary area and in the pre-school room. Effective hand hygiene procedures were observed being carried out during inspection, including following toileting, after outdoor play and prior to eating.

A refrigerator was available and used in the service to store lunch boxes provided by parents for children's snacks.

When questioned about the Coronavirus staff were familiar with the policy and the required procedure to follow in the event a child or staff member was unwell. All staff wore facemasks and practised good hand hygiene. An isolation area had been identified should it be required.

ADMINISTRATION OF MEDICATION:

Temperature reducing medicine available in the service was stored safely.

OUTINGS:

The outings policy was followed by staff as they brought the children to Marley Park.

Non-Compliance Information:

FIRE SAFETY:

1. Fire drills were not conducted monthly. This non-compliance was noted on the last inspection on the 4th of June 2019. Failure to carry out fire drills may impede the safe evacuation of children in the event of a fire.

INFECTION CONTROL:

2. The service had no written record detailing the cleaning schedule. Lack of a cleaning schedule may impact effective cleaning of toys and equipment posing a potential infection control risk.

Corrective & Preventive Action submitted by the Registered Provider

CORRECTIVE ACTION

FIRE SAFETY:

1. Fire drills will be conducted monthly and extra reminders (alarm on the phone) are in place now for monthly fire drills.

INFECTION CONTROL:

Part VI - Safety

Regulation 23 - Safeguarding Health, Safety and Welfare of child

	<p>2. The cleaning schedule is now clearly displayed on the wall.</p> <p><u>PREVENTIVE ACTION</u></p> <p>FIRE SAFETY: Staff have been made aware of procedures in the event of fire, and a notice of fire procedures is displayed on the wall.</p> <p>INFECTION CONTROL: The service provider is ensuring that the cleaning schedule is carried out and checked on a daily/weekly basis, as needed.</p>
Summary Comment:	The registered providers have addressed the non-compliance under Regulation 23. Evidence was submitted which met the regulatory requirement. The practices will be reviewed on next inspection.

Part VI - Safety

Regulation 25 - First Aid

<p><i>(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.</i></p> <p><i>(2) A registered provider shall ensure that a suitably equipped first aid box for children—</i></p> <p><i>(a) is safely stored in an easily accessible and conspicuous position on the premises, and</i></p> <p><i>(b) is available to the children attending the pre-school service at all times.</i></p>	
Compliance Information:	<p><i>(1)</i> A person qualified in first aid for children was available on the premises.</p> <p><i>(2)</i></p> <p><i>(a)</i> The first aid box was safely stored in an easily accessible location on the premises.</p> <p><i>(b)</i> The first aid box was readily available in the service at all times.</p>

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:	<p>(1)</p> <p>(a) A written record was available of the fire drills. The last fire drill was recorded as being carried out on the 29th of September 2021.</p> <p>(b) The maintenance record for the smoke alarms and fire fighting equipment was available. The certificates were dated the 14th of September 2021 and the 21st of June 2021.</p>
Non-Compliance Information:	<p>(4) The fire drill procedure was not displayed in the premises. This non-compliance was noted on the previous inspection on the 4th of June 2019.</p>
Corrective & Preventive Action submitted by the Registered Provider	<p><u>CORRECTIVE ACTION</u></p> <p>(4) The fire drill is now clearly displayed on the wall.</p> <p><u>PREVENTIVE ACTION</u></p> <p>None stated.</p>
Summary Comment:	<p>The registered providers have addressed the non-compliance under Regulation 26.</p>