

Early Years Inspectorate Regulatory Report

Pre School

TUSLA Identifier:	TU2015DY402
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Name of Service:	Naíonra Bogha Baistí
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Address of Service:	Gael Scoil Inse Chór, Droichead na hInse, Islandbridge, Dublin 8, Co. Dublin
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Eircode:	D08 NR26
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Name of Registered Provider:	Nóilín Cahill
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Service type:	Sessional
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Date of Inspection:	17/11/2025
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No of pre-school children:	AM	16	PM	N/A
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Address of the Early Years Inspectorate:	Early Years Inspectorate, Tusla, Child and Family Agency, Loughlinstown Health Centre, Loughlinstown, County Dublin.
Inspection undertaken by:	Olivia Quill
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
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Description of service

Naíonra Bogha Báistí is privately owned and registered to operate a sessional service including the Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) scheme. The service caters for children from the age of 3 years to 6 years of age and operates Monday to Friday from 9am to 12.30pm. The early years' service is in a prefabricated premises on the grounds of Gaelscoil Inse Chór in Dublin 8. An outdoor play area is provided on the premises.

Staffing

In total four adults are employed in the service including the registered provider. Three adults worked 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, health, welfare and development of child. 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 registered provider, 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) The service had a designated person in charge and a named person who could deputise as required.
- (b) The designated person in charge was present during the hours the pre-school was in operation.
- (2) In total two new adults were employed since the last inspection. The inspection included a review of these files and Garda vetting for all adults employed in the service.
- (a) Two written validated references were available for one adult. One of the references for a second adult was from a past employer.
- (b) A second written validated reference for one adult was provided from a source other than a past employer.
- (c) Garda vetting disclosures were available for four adults. Garda vetting disclosures had been renewed in accordance with the Early Years Inspectorate Regulatory Notice, which requires services to renew Garda vetting every three years.
- (d) Not applicable. The adults employed had not lived outside Ireland for longer than six consecutive months as adults.
- (4) Records were available evidencing adults who were 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.*
- (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) An adequate number of adults were working directly with the children at all times during the inspection.
- (3) The minimum ratio of adults to children for a sessional service was adhered to at all times during the inspection. There were 16 children attending the service being supervised by 3 adults on the day of inspection.

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.*

(3) A record in writing referred to in paragraph (1) or (2) shall be open to inspection on the premises by-
(c) an authorised person.

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.
 - (b) The date on which the child first attended the service.
 - (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 that immunisations were received was recorded.
- (i) There was written consent for appropriate medical treatment of a child in the event of an emergency.
- (3) (c) The records referred to in paragraph (1) were available for the inspector on the premises.

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

(1)(a) Each child's learning development and well-being was facilitated within the daily life of the pre-school. The routine and play experiences in the service were observed to be child led, children were visibly calm, familiar with their caregivers and engaged in their play throughout the session. Children were observed doing different tabletop activities of their choice including painting, making jigsaw puzzles and building blocks. Staff were observed to support children when asked. During all interactions with children staff used soft tones and gentle, respectful language. The children had access to designated areas of interest enabling freedom to play and explore. Examples included tabletop activities, a home corner, dress up and a rest area. Each area was suitably resourced.

Healthy lunches were provided by parents and each child had their own water container and additional water was accessible in the pre-school room if required. Lunch time was sociable children and staff sat together and engaged in conversation. Children were supported to be independent including when using the toilet, tidying up after play and caring for their belongings. Staff reported they speak with parent's daily as they bring and collect their children.

The open plan care room was arranged to provide a range of play materials and areas of interest for the children. This allowed the children freedom to play and explore. Areas of interest included small world toys, construction toys, jigsaws, home corner, Montessori materials, books and a cosy area for children to rest.

All children spent time in the outdoor area. Prior to going outdoors children were given time to change their footwear and put on their coats. The outdoor area was safely secure with a fence and gate. The area was well resourced with a range of developmentally appropriate play equipment. Children were observed to be happily engaged in a variety of activities including riding bikes, playing on the slide and the playhouse.

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 medicines were stored safely out of reach of children. Cord blinds were secure. All storage facilities were inaccessible to children.

Infection Control:

Children were supervised washing their hands by staff. Pedal operated bins were available for the disposal of waste. Staff were observed cleaning the tables after messy play and prior to the children eating their lunch.

Administration of Medication:

Staff were familiar with the medication policy. A system was in place to record medication given. Staff explained none of the children currently have any medical conditions and no child attending is on medication.

Fire Safety:

Fire exits were clear and unobstructed. A sign was in place in the outdoor area to mark the fire assembly point.

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 a person trained in first aid for children was available at all times.

Evidence provided demonstrated the registered provider and a second adult who was present both had current First Aid Responder training certification valid until the 1 December 2026.

(2)(a), (b) A suitably equipped first aid box was safely stored in an easily accessible and conspicuous place in the preschool room and was available to the children attending the service 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 any fire drills that had taken place in the service. The last fire drill was recorded as being undertaken on the 23 October 2025.

(b) The number, type and maintenance record of the fire fighting equipment and smoke alarm was available. The maintenance record for the fire fighting equipment was dated 26 June 2025 and the maintenance for the smoke alarm was dated the 07 May 2025.

(4) A notice of the procedures to be followed in the event of a fire was displayed in the preschool service.