

# Early Years Inspectorate Regulatory Report

## Pre School

<b>TUSLA Identifier:</b>	TU2015FL231
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<b>Name of Service:</b>	Naíonra an Chuilinn
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<b>Address of Service:</b>	Gaelscoil an Chuilinn, Powerstown Road, Tyrrelstown, Dublin 15, Co. Dublin
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<b>Eircode:</b>	D15 WR88
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<b>Name of Registered Provider:</b>	Joanne McEvoy
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<b>Service type:</b>	Part Time, Sessional
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<b>Date of Inspection:</b>	10/05/2024
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<b>No of pre-school children:</b>	AM	38	PM	14
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<b>Address of the Early Years Inspectorate:</b>	Early Years Inspectorate, Child and Family Agency, Unit 4&5 Nexus Building Block 6A, Blanchardstown Corporate Park, Dublin 15
<b>Inspection undertaken by:</b>	Á Dunne
<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

This service is located in two classrooms in the Gaelscoil an Chuilinn, Tyrrelstown, Dublin 15. A service is provided to children aged between 2 to 6 years. The service is open from Monday to Friday 8.30 am to 1. 30pm. Both classrooms have sanitary accommodation attached to the rooms. The children have access to a secure area in the school yard for outdoor play.

### Staffing

The registered provider employs six staff within the service to include the designated person in charge, the deputy designated person in charge, three childcare staff and one cover staff. The designated person in charge facilitated the inspection. The registered provider does not work in the service.

### 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/ premises and facilities. The inspection may also focus on other areas as required.

The inspection focused on an examination of compliance under regulations as follows:

Regulation 9 Management and recruitment (2)(a)(b)(c)(d), (4).

Regulation 11 Staffing Levels (1)(2)(8)(a).

Regulation 16 Record in relation to Pre- School Service (j), (k).

Regulation 21 Equipment and Materials.

Regulation 25 – First Aid.

A sampling process was used to assess compliance under Regulation 16 Record in relation to Pre- School Service. The scope of the inspection included both classrooms – Room 1 and Room 2.

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 designated 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*

*(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

(2) The files of seven adults were reviewed as part of the inspection.

(2)(a)(b) The registered provider had 2 written references and ensured that 12 written and validated references were available in relation to the six adults employed.

(c) Garda vetting disclosures were available for seven adults. The service also demonstrated compliance, with the Early Years Inspectorate Regulatory Notice requiring services to renew Garda vetting every three years.

(d) Not applicable as Police vetting was not required as the no adults had lived outside the State for longer than six months as an adult.

(4) Documentation was available to show that the seven adults who worked directly with children attending the service held at least a major award in Early Childhood Care and Education at Level 5 or above on the National Framework of Qualifications or a qualification deemed eligible by the Department of Children and Youth Affairs.

### 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.*

*(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) On the day of inspection, there were five adults working with 38 children in the morning up to 12.00pm and two adults working with 14 children up to 1.30pm.

(2) The minimum adult to child ratio was maintained throughout the inspection.

The adult child ratios during the morning ECCE sessional sessions were maintained as follows;

**Room 1** - 2 adults to 20 children aged between 2 years 6months to 5 years.

**Room 2** : 3 adults to 18 children aged between 3 -5 years.

The adult child ratios during the parttime session 12pm to 1.30pm were maintained as follows;

**Room 1** - 2 adults to 14 children aged between 2 years 6months to 5 years.

(8)(a) The registered provider ensured that two adults were always present on the premises.

## 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;
- (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

- (h) Details of attendance by each preschool child on a daily basis was available.
- (j) No medication had been administered in the service since the last inspection, but medication administration forms were available to note details of medicine administered to a preschool child attending the service when required.

#### Non-Compliance Information

- (k) On review of 10 accident and incident records available the following information was missing:
  - The date of the parent’s signature was not recorded on six forms.
  - The manager’s signature and date of signature was not recorded on four forms.

#### Corrective & Preventive Action submitted by the Registered Provider

##### **Corrective and Preventive Action**

(k) The incident report book for the service has been reviewed by all staff members. Staff will ensure that every parent includes the date when signing a report. The manager will sign and date all incidents in the service. This action has been implemented and it will be monitored by the service manager.

##### **Supporting documentation submitted**

(k) Minutes of Staff meeting held 10 May 2024

#### Summary Comment

Under Regulation 16, the non-compliance has been addressed.

### Part V - Care of Child in Pre-school Service

#### Regulation 21 – Equipment and materials

*A registered provider shall ensure that there is adequate and suitable furniture, play and work equipment and materials available on the premises of the pre-school service.*

#### Compliance Information

- Each room in the service was designed with the age and stage of development of the children having been taken into consideration.
- The two classrooms rooms were bright and laid out in a variety of designated areas of interest for the children with activities including; Home corners (play kitchens with play food and supporting equipment, cash registers, dolls houses, dolls, dolls clothes, pram, buggy, dolls bed, hairdressing equipment, hospital with doctor sets), Small world play ( play houses, Noah’s arcs, farms with wooden small people and animals and furniture, garages with trucks and cars), construction (building blocks, magnetics, links, cubes, stickle bricks, construction games, jigsaws, wooden puzzles) sensory play (water baths, sand pits, sensory trays with pasta , all with supporting equipment for play), art materials (art easel, stencils, colouring materials – pencils and crayons and paper) and rest areas consisting of soft mats, soft chairs, couches and books.
- The children were learning about the Life cycle of the Butterfly and both classrooms had caterpillars growing in containers to follow this life cycle unfold live.
- The activity materials were accessible to the children on low level shelves or on low level tables and were age appropriate for the development of the children.
- The enclosed outdoor play area was available and part of the school yard.
- Outdoor games were painted on the ground of the play area for example; snakes and ladders and number square which were available for the children to engage in.
- The children had access to outdoor play for an extended period of time during the inspection as per service policy.

## 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 five staff members were qualified in First Aid Responder training for children and two staff members were available on the premises at all times.

(2) (a)(b) A first aid box was stored in an easily accessible and conspicuous position in Room 2 and in the event of an emergency was available to the children in the service.