

# Tuarascáil Rialála Chigireacht na Luathbhlianta Réamhscoil

<b>Uimhir Aitheantais TUSLA:</b>	TU2015GY109
<b>Ainm na Seirbhíse:</b>	Ionad Curam Leanaí Bogha Ceatha
<b>Seoladh na Seirbhíse:</b>	Bogha Ceatha, Sidhéan, An Spidéal, Co.na Gaillimhe
<b>Eirchód:</b>	H91 WN50
<b>Ainm an tSoláthraí Chláraithe:</b>	Aodan Mac Donnacha
<b>Cineál na Seirbhíse</b>	Lá Iomlán, Páirtaimseartha, Seisiúnach
<b>Dáta na Cigireachta:</b>	23/07/2024
<b>Líon na leanaí réamhscoile:</b>	R.N 60 I.N 31

<b>Seoladh na Cigireachta Luathbhlianta:</b>	TUSLA - An Ghníomhaireacht um Leanaí agus an Teaghlach, Cigireacht na Luathbhlianta, An Stiúrthóireacht um Dhearbhú Cáilíochta, Foirgneamh Cliniciúil & Riaracháin, Bloc A - (An Chéad Urlár- An Chonair Ghlas), Páirc Mhuirlinne, Gaillimh.
<b>Cigireacht arna déanamh ag:</b>	F. Nic Dhonnacha
<b>Teideal :</b>	Cigire na Luathbhlianta

## Údarás chun cigireacht a dhéanamh

Déanann Cigireacht na Luathbhlianta, Tusla cigireacht ar Sheirbhísí Luathbhlianta faoi Alt 58(J) den Acht um Chúram Leanaí, 1991 (arna chur isteach le hAlt 92 den Acht fán nGníomhaireacht um Leanaí agus an Teaghlach, 2013).

<b>Coinníollacha, má bhaineann le hábhar</b>	Neamh Bhainteach
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## Cur síos ar an tseirbhís

Tá an tseirbhís réamhscoile seo in áitreabh scoite ar urlár na talún, i suíomh tuaithe Gaeltachta ar imeall shráidbhaile an Spidéil, Co. na Gaillimhe. Feidhmíonn an tseirbhís seirbhís cúraim lae iomlán ó 7.30 uair go 18.00 uair. Freastalaíonn an tseirbhís ar pháistí idir 0 agus 6 bliana d'aois. Tá an tseirbhís cláraithe le haghaidh uasmhéid de 130 leanbh réamhscoile, ag aon am amháin. Tá cúig sheomra súgartha ann, mar atá, seomra na mBabaí, (do leanaí 6months go 2 bhliain d'aois), seomra na Tachrán, (do leanaí idir 2 agus 3 bliana d'aois), seomra Montessori 1 (do leanaí atá ag freastal ar chlár cúraim réamhscoile Cúram agus Oideachas na Luath-Óige (ECCE) idir 3 agus 4 bliana d'aois), seomra Montessori 2 (do leanaí atá ag freastal ar chlár cúraim réamhscoile Cúraim agus Oideachais na Luath-Óige (ECCE) idir 3-5 bliana d'aois agus Montessori 3 (do leanaí atá ag freastal ar Clár cúraim réamhscoile Cúram agus Oideachas na Luath-Óige (ECCE) idir 3 agus 4 bliana d'aois. Chomh maith leis sin, cuireadh clárampaí samhraidh ar fáil do pháistí scoile idir 6 agus 8 mbliana d'aois. Tá seomra codlata ainmnithe ann ina bhfuil ocht gcóta do sholáthar codlata leanaí níos óige. Tiontaítear an seomra Lapadán le haghaidh soláthar codlata tar éis lóin le leapacha cruachta agus leapacha urláir nua más gá le haghaidh soláthar codlata. Tá cistin ainmnithe ann ina ndéantar na sneaiceanna agus na príomhbhéilí a ullmhú, a chócaráil agus a stóráil ar an láthair agus seomra bia ina suíonn na páistí níos sine ó sheomraí Montessori 1, 2 agus 3 agus ina bhfuil a ndinnéar le chéile. Tá áiteanna súgartha lasmuigh ar chúl an áitribh, lena n-áirítear limistéar foscúil uile-aimsire le linn drochaimsire. Tá limistéar mór súgartha lasmuigh roinnte i gceithre chríos ar chúl an áitribh. Ar aghaidh an áitribh bíonn rochtain éasca ag na páistí óga ó gach seomra súgartha go dtí limistéar súgartha ainmnithe le trealamh agus ábhair shúgartha éagsúla.

## Soláthar foirne

Ta an soláthraí cláraithe sár uimhriúil agus ní oibríonn sé sa tseirbhís. Tá ocht mball foirne is fiche ann, an soláthraí cláraithe san áireamh. Tá Dearbhú Cáilíochta agus Cáilíochtaí Éireann (QQI) ag 25 ball foirne ag Leibhéal 5 go 8, I gCúram agus Óideachas na Luath-Óige. Ta fianaise dhoiciméadach ag na baill foirne seo ar oiliúint agus oideachas leanúnach. Tá cócaire ainmnithe ann nach n-oibríonn ach I gcistin na seirbhíse agus duine cúnata a dhéanann dualgais ghlantacháin agus beirt bhall foirne ag obair le páistí d'aois na scoile.

## Modheolaíocht

Is í Cigireacht na Luathbhlianta, Tusla, rialtóir reachtúil neamhspleách ar sheirbhísí luathbhlianta in Éirinn. Sainmhínítear i Rialacháin an Achta um Chúram Leanaí 1991 (Seirbhísí Luathbhlianta) 2016 dualgas an tsoláthraí chláráithe sábháilteacht agus folláine leanaí a chinntiú agus cloí leis na riachtanais seo. Tugann an tAcht seo údarás do Tusla measúnú a dhéanamh ar chomhlíonadh leis na rialacháin. Is é is aidhm le rialáil maidir le seirbhísí óige ná a chinntiú go seastar le cúram, sábháilteacht, agus folláine na leanaí a fhreastalaíonn ar na seirbhísí seo. Pleanáiltear cigireachtaí ar sheirbhísí luathbhlianta bunaithe ar na pointí seo a leanas:

- Stair chigireachta na seirbhíse

- Eolas ar bith a fhaightear maidir leis an tseirbhís
- Tá torthaí na cigireachta bunaithe ar:
  - Eolas a fhaightear trí dhoiciméid a imscrúdú
  - Breathnú díreach
  - Plé le baill foirne ábhartha

Ba chigireacht *neamhfhógartha* é seo, agus díródh ar *rialachas, sláinte, folláine agus forbairt an linbh agus sábháilteacht* lena linn. Féadfaidh cigireacht díriú ar réimsí eile chomh maith, de réir mar is gá.

Dhírigh an chigireacht ar scrúdú comhlíontadh faoi rialacháin 9, 11, 16, 19 24, 25, 26, agus 28 .Leagtar amach na torthaí sin laistigh de na rialacháin ábhartha laistigh den tuarascáil seo.

Leagtar amach torthaí na cigireachta sa tuarascáil maidir leis an gcigireacht a eisítear mar dhréacht-tuarascáil ar dtús chuig an tseirbhís, agus bíonn deis ag an tseirbhís freagra a thabhairt ar thorthaí ar bith a luaitear inti. I gcás go sainaitnítear nach bhfuil ceanglais reachtúla á gcomhlíonadh, ní mór don soláthraí cláraithe léiriú a thabhairt ar an mbealach a réitíodh an neamhchomhlíonadh agus mar a chuirfear cosc ar an neamhchomhlíonadh amach anseo. Úsáidfean an plean um Ghníomh Ceartaitheach agus Gníomh Coisctheach (CAPA) chun bonn eolais a chur le cinntí maidir le comhlíonadh le ceanglais rialála. I gcás nach n-éiríonn leis an soláthraí cláraithe na ceanglais reachtúla a chomhlíonadh, féadfar próiseas géaraithe a thosú.

Forchoimeádann an Chigireacht an ceart chun eagarthóireacht a dhéanamh ar fhreagraí a fhaightear ar chúiseanna éagsúla lena n-áirítear soiléireacht; iomláine; agus chun próisis riaracháin agus dlíthiúla a chomhlíonadh.

Is í an Chigireacht a thiomsaíonn ábhar na tuarascála.

## Buíochas

Is mian leis an gcigire buíochas a ghabháil leis an duine i bhfeighil, leis an bhfoireann agus leis na leanaí a bhí i láthair ar lá na cigireachta as a gcomhoibriú ar fad.

## Cuid III – Bainistíocht agus Foireann

### Rialachán 9 – Bainistíocht agus earcaíocht

#### (1) Cinnteoidh soláthraí cláraithe–

(a) go mbeidh sa tseirbhís duine i bhfeighil ainmnithe agus duine arna ainmniú nó arna hainmniú a bheidh ábalta gníomhú mar ionadaí de réir mar is gá,

(b) go mbeidh an duine i bhfeighil ainmnithe nó an duine arna ainmniú nó arna hainmniú dá dtagraítear i

bhfomhír (a) san áitreabh gach tráth le linn na tréimhse ina mbeidh an tseirbhís réamhscoile á seoladh, agus

(c) go mbeidh sa tseirbhís struchtúr soiléir bainistíochta ina dtugtar sainaitheantas do na línte údaráis agus cuntasachta sa tseirbhís agus do ról shonracha agus do fhreagrachtaí sonracha gach fostaí agus gach oibrí nach n-íoctar.

#### (2) Cinnteoidh soláthraí cláraithe gur duine oiriúnach inniúil gach fostaí, gach oibrí nach n-íoctar agus gach conraitheoir, agus cineál na riachtanas a bhíonn ar leanaí á chur san áireamh, lena n-áirítear trí na nithe seo a leanas a dhéanamh–

(a) breithniú ar theistiméireacht ó fhostóirí an duine san am a caitheadh, más ann, agus go háirithe ar theistiméireacht ón bhfostóir is déanaí, más ann,

(b) breithniú ar theistiméireachtaí ó fhoinsí iontaofa i gcás duine nach raibh aon fhostóirí air nó uirthi san am a caitheadh,

(c) breithniú ar an nochtadh grinnfhiosrúcháin a fuarthas ó Bhiúró Náisiúnta Grinnfhiosrúcháin an Gharda Síochána de réir Acht 2012 i leith an duine, agus

d) a chinntiú, a mhéid is indéanta, go soláthróidh duine, i gcás go raibh cónaí ar an duine i stát seachas an Stát ar feadh tréimhse ab fhaide ná 6 mhí as a chéile, grinnfhiosrúchán ag póilíní ó na húdaráis phóilíneachta sa stát sin.

#### (4) Cinnteoidh soláthraí cláraithe, gan dochar do ghinearáltacht mhír (2) agus faoi réir mhíreanna (5) agus (6), go sealbhaíonn gach fostaí a bhíonn ag obair go díreach le leanaí a fhreastalaíonn ar an tseirbhís, mórdhámhachtain i gCúram agus Oideachas Luath-Óige ar Leibhéal 5 ar an gCreat Náisiúnta Cáilíochtaí nó cáilíocht a mheasfaidh an tAire a bheith coibhéseach léi sin, ar a laghad.

## Faisnéis maidir le Comhlíonadh:

- (1) (a) Ba é an bainisteoir an duine a bhí i gceannas agus bhí duine ar fáil le teacht isteach nuair a bhí siad as láthair.
- (b) Bhí an bainisteoir agus an bainisteoir cúnta ar fáil le linn na cigireachta.
- (c) Le linn na cigireachta thug an cigire faoi deara go raibh struchtúr soiléir bainistíochta i bhfeidhm sa tseirbhís. Bhí an bainisteoir agus an bainisteoir cúnta ar fáil, agus sannadh duine le teacht isteach sa chás nach mbeadh na bainisteoirí ar fáil. D'aithin uainchlár na foirne agus lámhleabhar na seirbhíse, a roinntear le tuismitheoirí, línte údaráis agus cuntasachta na seirbhíse. Tugadh mionsonraí faoi róil agus freagrachtaí sonracha gach fostaí sa bheartas earcaíochta agus taispeánadh eolas ag an mbealach isteach chuig an tseirbhís. Léirigh na daoine fásta atá ag obair sa tseirbhís feasacht ar a róil agus a bhfreagrachtaí nuair a phléitear iad leis an gcigire.
- (2) Bhí ocht gcomhad is fiche ar fáil agus rinne an cigire athbhreithniú orthu. Áiríodh iad seo a leanas leis na torthaí:
- (a) Bhí daichead a sé tagairt ó iarfhostóirí ar fáil. Bhí taifead bailíochtaithe ag na tagairtí seo go léir.
- (b) Bhí dhá thagairt déag ar fáil ó fhoinse seachas iarfhostóir. Bhí taifead bailíochtaithe ag na tagairtí seo go léir.
- (c) Bhí nochtadh grinnfhiosrúcháin an Gharda Síochána ar fáil maidir le hocht nduine fásta is fiche.
- (d) Bhí grinnfhiosrúchán idirnáisiúnta na bpóilíní ar fáil do cheathrar daoine fásta a bhí ag obair sa tseirbhís a raibh cónaí orthu i stát eile ar feadh tréimhse níos faide ná sé mhí thar 18 mbliana d'aois.
- (4) Bhí cáilíochtaí Cúraim agus Oideachais Luath-Óige ag ceithre dhuine fásta is fiche a bhí ag obair go díreach leis na leanaí ó Leibhéal 5 go 8 ar an gCreat Náisiúnta Cáilíochtaí nó cáilíocht a mheasann an tAire a bheith comhionann.

## Cuid III – Bainistíocht agus Foireann

### Rialachán 11 - Leibhéal Foirne

(1) Faoi réir an Rialacháin seo, cinnteoidh soláthraí cláraithe go mbeidh gach tráth líon leordhóthanach de dhaoine fásta ag obair go díreach leis na leanaí a fhreastalaíonn ar an tseirbhís réamhscoile.

(2) Faoi réir mhíreanna (4) agus (5), cinnteoidh soláthraí cláraithe seirbhíse cúraim lae iomláine nó seirbhíse cúraim lae páirtaimseartha go gcomhlíonfar gach tráth an cóimheas íosta idir daoine fásta agus leanaí a shonraítear i gcolún (3) de Chuid 1 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) den Chuid sin ag an uimhir thagartha sin sásta sin.

(8) Gan dochar do mhíreanna (2) go (7)-

(a) cinnteoidh soláthraí cláraithe seirbhísí réamhscoile seachas seirbhís feighlíochta leanaí nó seirbhís réamhscoile seisiúnach go bhfuil 2 dhuine fásta ar a laghad san áitreabh i gcónaí

### Faisnéis maidir le Comhlíonadh:

- (1) An adequate number of adults worked directly with the children in attendance on the day of inspection.
- (2) The manager, assistant manager and deputy person provided assistance with the administration part of the inspection and childcare relief as required.
  - 1 child was 8 months of age,
  - 5 children were between 1 and 2 years of age,
  - 7 children were between 2 years and 3 years of age,
  - 47 children were between 3 years and 4 years of age,
- (1) D'oibrigh líon leordhóthanach daoine fásta go díreach leis na leanaí a bhí i láthair ar lá na cigireachta.
- (2) Chuir an bainisteoir, an bainisteoir cúnta agus an leas-duine cúnamh ar fáil leis an gcuid riaracháin den iniúchadh agus den fhaoiseamh cúraim leanaí de réir mar ba ghá.
  - Bhí leanbh amháin 8 mí d'aois,
  - Bhí 5 leanbh idir 1 agus 2 bhliain d'aois,
  - Bhí seachtar leanaí idir 2 bhliain agus 3 bliana d'aois,
  - Bhí 47 leanbh idir 3 bliana agus 4 bliana d'aois,

Thug ocht nduine fásta dhéag aire do sheasca páiste réamhscoile maidin na cigireachta.

Thug triúr daoine fásta aire do 14 páiste scoile ar chláir na gcampaí samhraidh.

Ina theannta sin, bhí cócaire cistine ag obair sa chistin seirbhíse, ag ullmhú, ag cócaireacht, ag freastal agus ag stóráil na sneaiceanna agus na mbéilí do na páistí.

San iarnóin bhí 17 duine fásta ag tabhairt aire go díreach do 31 páiste réamhscoile.

Chabhraigh an duine a bhí i gceannas/ bainisteoir agus bainisteoir cúnata leis an gcuid riaracháin den iniúchadh.

Chomh maith leis sin, bhí an cócaire seirbhíse sa chistin agus beirt daoine fásta ag obair leis an 14 páiste scoile ar chláir na gcampaí samhraidh.

(8) (a) Léirigh uainchlár na foirne go raibh níos mó ná beirt daoine fásta ar fáil sa tseirbhís an t-am ar fad.

## Cuid IV – Faisnéis agus Taifid

### Rialachán 16 – Taifead i ndáil le seirbhís réamhscoile

(1) Cinnteoidh soláthraí cláraithe go gcoimeádfar taifead i scríbhinn ar an bhfaisnéis seo a leanas i ndáil leis an tseirbhís:

- (a) ainm, post, cáilíochtaí agus taithí an duine i bhfeighil agus ainm, post, cáilíochtaí agus taithí gach fostaí eile, gach oibrí eile nach n-íoctar agus gach conraitheora eile;
- (b) mionsonraí i dtaobh na haicme seirbhíse agus i dtaobh phróifíl aoise na leanaí a bhfuil an tseirbhís cláraithe seirbhísí a sholáthar ina leith;
- (c) mionsonraí i dtaobh na gcóimheas idir daoine fásta agus leanaí sa tseirbhís;
- (d) an cineál cúraim nó cláir a sholáthraítear sa tseirbhís;
- (e) na saoráidí atá ar fáil;
- (f) na huaireanta oscailte agus na táillí;
- (g) na beartais, na nósanna imeachta agus na ráitis a cheanglaítear ar an tseirbhís a chothabháil de réir Rialachán 10;
- (h) mionsonraí i dtaobh freastal ag gach leanbh réamhscoile ar bhonn laethúil;
- (i) mionsonraí i dtaobh uainchláir foirne ar bhonn laethúil;
- (j) mionsonraí i dtaobh aon chógas a thugtar do leanbh réamhscoile a fhreastalaíonn ar an tseirbhís agus toiliú sínithe ó thuismitheoir ina dteannta;
- (k) mionsonraí i dtaobh aon tionóisc, aon díobháil nó aon teagmhas a bhainfidh do leanbh réamhscoile a fhreastalaíonn ar an tseirbhís.

(3) Beidh taifead dá dtagraítear i mír (1) ar fáil lena iniúchadh san áitreabh, agus beidh na doiciméid agus na taifid dá dtagraítear i mír (2)(a) ar fáil lena n-iniúchadh cibé acu san áitreabh nó in áit eile, ag duine údaraithe.

## Faisnéis maidir le Comhlíonadh:

- (1) Taispeánadh na sonraí a leagtar amach ó (a) go (f) ar an mballa ag an mbealach isteach chuig an tseirbhís agus roinneadh iad le tuismitheoirí tríd an gcóras leictreonach iarratais ar chúram leanaí.
  - (g) Bhí sampla de bheartais, nósanna imeachta agus ráitis na seirbhíse a shonraítear i Sceideal 5 ar fáil agus mheas an cigire gur leor iad.
  - (h) Thug an cigire faoi deara gur taifeadadh ainm iomlán na leanaí a bhí i láthair, an t-am a tháinig siad isteach agus an t-am imeachta as na seomraí súgartha ar an gcóras iarratais leictreonach agus ar pháipéar fresin.
  - (i) Bhí uainchlár foirne ar fáil agus rinne an cigire athbhreithniú air. Léirigh an uainchláir uaireanta uainchláir na mball foirne agus neamhláithreacht foirne ón tseirbhís.
  - (j) Taifeadadh sonraí an chógais a tugadh do na leanaí réamhscoile a bhí ag freastal ar an tseirbhís le toiliú tuismitheora sínithe agus eisíodh sonraí an chógais a tugadh do thuismitheoirí ar an gcóras iarratais leictreonach agus ar pháipéar. Rinne an cigire athbhreithniú ar shampla de dheich dtaifead.
  - (k) Sa sampla de thaifid timpiste, eachtra nó teagmhais a bhain le leanaí réamhscoile a bhí ag freastal ar an tseirbhís, sonraíodh síniú tuismitheora sínithe tar éis don eachtra tarlú. Eisítear timpistí, gortuithe nó teagmhais do thuismitheoirí ar chóras iarratais leictreonach na seirbhíse agus ar pháipéar más gá. Rinne an cigire athbhreithniú ar shampla de dheich dtaifead.
- (3) Bhí na taifid dá dtagraítear in (1)(a) go (k) ar fáil lena n-athbhreithniú ag an gcigire sa tseirbhís.

## Cuid V - Cúram Linbh i Seirbhís Réamhscoile

### Rialachán 19 - Sláinte, leas agus forbairt linbh

(1) Cinnteoidh soláthraí cláraithe, le linn dó nó di a bheith ag soláthar seirbhís réamhscoile—

(a) go ndéanfar foghlaim, forbairt agus leas gach linbh a urasú laistigh de shaol laethúil na seirbhíse réamhscoile trí na gníomhaíochtaí cuí, an idirghníomhaíocht chuí, na hábhair chuí agus an trealamh cuí a sholáthar, ag féachaint d'aois agus do chéim forbartha an linbh.

#### Faisnéis maidir le Comhlíonadh:

(1)(a) Éascaíodh foghlaim, forbairt agus folláine na bpáistí laistigh den tseirbhís trí ghníomhaíochtaí, idirghníomhaíochtaí, ábhair agus trealamh cuí a sholáthar, ag féachaint d'aois agus do chéim forbartha na leanaí. Bhí sé sheomra súgartha i bhfeidhm le linn na cigireachta. Rinne an cigire athbhreithniú ar na cleachtais chúraim i ngach ceann de na seomraí sin.

#### Riachtanais Bhunúsacha Leanaí:

Thug an fhoireann aird dhearfacha ar na páistí. Thug an cigire faoi deara go raibh an fhoireann ag comhrá leis na páistí ar bhealach cineálta agus measúil, ag labhairt leis na páistí ag a leibhéal, go bog agus le glór séimh. Baineadh úsáid as straitéisí iompraíochta dearfacha le linn idirghníomhaíochtaí a breathnaíodh idir an fhoireann agus na leanaí.

Moladh do na páistí a bheith neamhspleách i súgradh agus i bhfoghlaim, agus iad ag tabhairt aire dá gcuid giuirleídí agus ag baint úsáide as an leithreas.

Rinne an fhoireann maoirseacht ar na leanaí agus chaith siad go hógair leis na páistí le linn athruithe clúidín agus leithris. Athraíodh clúidíní go minic agus ar bhonn aonair. Spreagadh agus tugadh tacaíocht do na páistí chun a gcúram pearsanta féin a bhainistiú a bheadh oiriúnach dá n-aois agus dá leibhéal forbartha.

Freastalóidh ar chodladh na bpáistí ar bhonn aonair agus cuireadh réimse agus gníomhaíochtaí eile ar fáil do leanaí nár theastaigh uathu codladh.

Spreagadh na páistí chun iad féin a bheathú agus cuireadh chun cinn iad le bheith neamhspleách. Cuireadh uirlisí cuí gréithe agus beartaithe ar fáil i ngach seomra. D'aistrigh na páistí ó gach seomra súgartha ach amháin an seomra leanaí go dtí an seomra bia le haghaidh am béilí ag amanna éagsúla, breathnaíodh ar na tréimhsí seo a bheith suaimhneach agus gan choinne.

Bhí polasaí bia sláintiúil a bhí ar fáil dóibh ach iad a iarraidh. Bhí plean biachláir seachtainiúil ar fáil i ngach seomra súgartha agus ag an mbealach isteach chuig an tseirbhís. Bhí cuma leordhóthanach cothaitheach ar an mbia a cuireadh ar fáil, agus d'fhéadfadh na páistí a bheith breise dá mba ghá. Bhí uisce agus bainne ar fáil go héasca le nól ag gach béile agus am sneaiceanna.

Thug an fhoireann moladh agus spreagadh leanúnach agus tugadh meas agus tacaíocht do leanaí ina rogha rannpháirtíochta aonair agus grúpa i ngníomhaíochtaí. Roinneadh tuairimí riachtanas cúraim na leanaí go laethúil le tuismitheoirí ar na áipeanna leictreonacha feidhmchláir. Cuireadh réimse gníomhaíochtaí súgartha agus foghlama a bhí dúshlánach ó thaobh forbartha de ar fáil do na páistí i ngach seomra agus tugadh faoi deara go raibh na páistí lánpháirteach sna timpeallachtaí laistigh agus lasmuigh.

## **Ag Tacú le Caidrimh Timpeall Leanaí:**

Breathnaíodh ar chur chuige an duine lárnach i ngach seomra súgartha, léirigh an fhoireann leibhéal cuí eolais ar roghanna, spéiseanna agus cumais aonair na bpáistí. Lean an fhoireann ceannaireacht na bpáistí sna seomraí cúraim agus tugadh tacaíocht do na páistí i súgradh aonair agus i súgradh grúpa.

Bhí cártaí amhairc agus gnáth thaispeántais sna seomraí a thaispeánann léaráidí grianghrafadóireachta chun tacú le gach leanbh sa chlár cúraim agus iad a chur san áireamh. Cuireadh na leanaí ar an eolas roimh ré faoi aon aistrithe agus chuaigh siad i gcomhairle leo maidir leis an gclár cúraim agus foghlama a sheachadadh. Thug an cigire faoi deara go ndearna an fhoireann idirghníomhú ar bhealach dearfach le tuismitheoirí agus caomhnóirí. Bhí deis ag gach páiste súgradh amuigh faoin aer ar lá na cigireachta.

The children's daily observations were shared with parents on the service's electronic system. The staff in each room worked effectively to facilitate the programme of care and learning. The staff communicated informally with parents/guardians during drop off and collection periods from the service.

## Cuid V - Cúram Linbh i Seirbhís Réamhscoile

### Rialacháin 20 – Saoráidí chun scíth a ligean agus súgradh a dhéanamh

1) Faoi réir an Rialacháin seo, cinnteoidh soláthraí cláraithe—

(a) ag féachaint don líon leanaí réamhscoile a fhreastalaíonn ar an tseirbhís, dá n-aoiseanna faoi seach agus don mhéid ama a chaitheann siad san áitreabh, go mbeidh saoráidí leordhóthanacha oiriúnacha ann chun go bhféadfaidh gach leanbh súgradh a dhéanamh laistigh agus, i gcás go gceanglaítear leis na Rialacháin seo é, súgradh a dhéanamh lasmuigh, i gcaitheamh an lae, agus

(b) go mbeidh saoráidí leordhóthanacha oiriúnacha ann chun go bhféadfaidh leanbh réamhscoile a scíth a ligean i gcaitheamh an lae, agus i gcás seirbhís réamhscoile thar oíche, i gcaitheamh an lae agus na hoíche.

(3) Cinnteoidh soláthraí cláraithe seirbhíse cúraim lae iomláine, seirbhíse cúraim lae páirtaimseartha nó seirbhíse feighlíochta leanaí, seachas seirbhís den sórt sin a bhfuil feidhm ag mír (2) maidir léi—

(a) go soláthrófar san áitreabh spás lasmuigh a bheidh oiriúnach agus slán sábháilte agus a mbeidh rochtain ar bhonn laethúil ag na leanaí réamhscoile a fhreastalaíonn ar an tseirbhís air.

#### Faisnéis maidir le Comhlíonadh:

(1) (a)

- Dearadh agus socraíodh an spás sna cúig sheomra súgartha chun: spás a choinneáil atá glan, eagraithe agus saor ó thranglam. Freastalaíonn na seomraí ar pháistí ina n-aonar, i ngrúpaí beaga agus i ngrúpa mór. Roinneadh iad i gceantair ar cuireadh ábhair ar fáil dóibh a eagraíodh ar bhealach chun tacú le súgradh agus foghlaim na bpáistí.
- Bhí an timpeallacht compordach, ag tabhairt cuireadh agus leagtha amach chun freastal ar riachtanais na bpáistí agus na foirne go léir sa réamhscoil.
- Bhí spásanna sábháilte agus compordacha ag an tseirbhís do naíonáin, do leanaí óga, nó do leanaí nach raibh ag siúl, chun luí, rolladh, lámhacáin, iad féin a tharraingt suas, foghlaim chun siúl, agus a chosaint ó leanaí a bhí níos soghluaiste.
- Bhí áit chompordach ag an bhfoireann chun suí, chun naíonáin a choinneáil agus a bheathú, agus chun leanaí a léamh, a idirghníomhú agus a chur ar a gcompord.
- Spreag an fhoireann na páistí chun idirghníomhú agus chun dul i ngleic le réimse ábhar, gníomhaíochtaí, trealaimh sa timpeallacht laistigh agus lasmuigh, bunaithe ar riachtanais, roghanna, spéiseanna agus aois agus céim forbartha an pháiste.
- Bhí teacht ag na páistí ar go leor ábhar agus trealamh éagsúil, a rothlaíodh chun freastal ar an gclár athraitheach, chun freastal ar spéiseanna reatha agus nua.

- Socraíodh ábhair agus trealamh ionas go raibh siad infheicthe agus inrochtana go héasca chun rochtain neamhspleách ag leanaí a chur chun cinn. Cuireadh réimsí spéise éagsúla ar fáil, áit ar socraíodh nó inar grúpáladh trealamh agus ábhair a bhain úsáid den chineál céanna le chéile.
- (1)(b) Bhí áiteanna cosúla le suíocháin bhoga, i ngach ceann de na seomraí súgartha. Bhí codladh ainmnithe ag an tseirbhís seomra le hocht cliabháin do na naíonáin. Tiontaíodh seomra na Tachrán le haghaidh soláthar codlata tar éis lóin. Chomh maith le sin bhí acmhainní maithe ann le leapacha cruachta agus leapacha urláir nua do sholáthar codlata leanaí níos sine.
- (3)(a) **Limistéar lasmuigh**
- Chuir an timpeallacht lasmuigh gníomhaíochtaí agus deiseanna ar fáil do leanaí aer úr, fionnachtain, scíth a ligean (m.sh., limistéar ciúin, limistéar plandála), fuinneamh a scaoileadh (m.sh., ruaig a imirt),
  - aclaíocht fhisiciúil agus súgradh (m. sh., léimneach, dreapadóireacht, lamhacáin),
  - iniúchadh, gabháil agus triail a bhaint as an dúlra (m.sh., uisce, garraíodóireacht, gaineamh agus láib),
  - mothúcháin a bhaineann le rioscaí a ghlacadh, foghlaim faoi riosca, agus foghlaim ó riosca, agus dúshlán a thabhairt dá gcumas féin laistigh de theorainneacha sábháilte.
  - Rinne an tseirbhís cothromaíocht idir an gá atá le sábháilteacht agus an gá le heispéiris fhisiciúla, dhúshlánacha a chur ar fáil do leanaí. Daingníodh na limistéir le ballaí agus fálú agus clúdaíodh iad le tionchar a ionsúnn dromchla, féar, tarmac, agus cosáin choíncreite.
  - Thug an fhoireann le fios gur síneadh ar na seomraí súgartha faoi dhíon a bhí sna háiteanna taobh amuigh agus go raibh baint acu leis an bhfoghlaim a bhíonn ar siúl taobh istigh. Ar lá na cigireachta, bhí deiseanna ag na páistí ar fad a bheith taobh amuigh, chomh minic agus ab fhéidir.
  - Thacaigh an trealamh agus na hábhair sna limistéir súgartha lasmuigh le súgradh, gluaiseacht agus taiscéalaíocht leanaí, agus chuir siad deiseanna ar fáil a bhí eisiach don taobh amuigh. Bhí cúig limistéar spraoi lasmuigh san iomlán le limistéir stórála le haghaidh trealamh agus ábhair súgartha breise.

## Cuid VI - Sábháilteacht

### Rialachán 24 - Seiceáil isteach agus amach agus taifead ar fhreastal

- (1) Cinnteoidh soláthraí cláraithe go ndéanfaidh fostaí nó oibrí nach n-íoctar gach leanbh réamhscoile a fhreastalaíonn ar an tseirbhís a sheiceáil isteach sa tseirbhís agus amach aisti.
- (3) Cinnteoidh soláthraí cláraithe-
- (a) nach féidir le haon duine seachas—
- (i) leanbh réamhscoile a fhreastalaíonn ar an tseirbhís,
  - (ii) duine atá ag fágáil leanbh den sórt sin ag an tseirbhís nó á bhailiú nó á bailiú ón tseirbhís,
  - (iii) fostaí, nó
  - (iv) oibrí nach n-íoctar, teacht isteach san áitreabh gan sin a bheith ceadaithe ag fostaí, agus
- (b) go gcoimeádfar taifead laethúil i scríbhinn ar aon duine den sórt sin do theacht isteach san áitreabh.

#### Faisnéis maidir le Comhlíonadh:

- (1) Taifeadadh amanna teachta agus imeachta na bpáistí ar bhonn laethúil. Rinne an cigire athbhreithniú ar na taifid tinrimh ar chóras iarratais leictreonach na seirbhíse.
- (3)(a)(b) Bhí taifead scríofa ar fáil ag bealach isteach na seirbhíse do dhaoine nár tagraíodh dóibh i sonraí (i) go (iv) chun a gcuid sonraí agus an chúis ar thug siad cuairt ar an tseirbhís a thaifeadadh.

## Cuid VI - Sábháilteacht

### Rialachán 25 - Garchabhair

- (1) Cinnteoidh soláthraí cláraithe go mbeidh duine atá oilte ar gharchabhair do leanaí ar fáil láithreach i gcónaí do na leanaí a fhreastalaíonn ar an tseirbhís réamhscoil.
- (2) Cinnteoidh soláthraí cláraithe go mbeidh bosca garchabhrach do leanaí a bhfuil an trealamh cuí ann—
- (a) stóráilte go sábháilte in áit fheiceálach san áitreabh ar féidir teacht air gan dua, agus
  - (b) ar fáil i gcónaí do na leanaí a fhreastalaíonn ar an tseirbhís réamhscoile.

#### Faisnéis maidir le Comhlíonadh:

- (1) Bhí oiliúint gharchabhrach chuí ag seisear aosach a bhí ag obair sa tseirbhís agus bhí oiliúint gharchabhrach péidiatraiceach ag beirt aosach a bhí ar fáil do leanaí dá mba ghá agus nuair ba ghá.
- (2) Bhí boscaí garchabhrach a bhí feistithe go cuí ar fáil.

# Tuarascáil Rialála Chigireacht na Luathbhlianta Réamhscoil

- (a) Stóráladh iad go sábháilte in áiteanna feiceálacha sa tseirbhís.  
(b) Bhí na boscaí garchabhrach ar fáil do leanaí i gcónaí.

## Cuid VI - Sábháilteacht

### Rialachán 26 - Bearta maidir le sábháilteacht ó dhóiteán

- (1) *Cinnteoídh soláthraí cláraithe go gcoimeádfar taifead i scríbhinn—*
- (a) *ar aon druil dóiteáin a dhéantar san áitreabh, agus*  
(b) *ar líon, cineál agus taifead cothabhála an trealamh chun dóiteán a chomhrac agus na n-aláram deataigh san áitreabh.*
- (4) *Déanfar fógra i dtaobh 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) Léirigh taifead i scríbhinn ar dhruileanna dóiteáin go ndearnadh an druil dóiteáin deireanach ar an 2/07/2024.
- (b) Coinníodh taifead ar líon, ar chineál agus ar thaifead cothabhála trealamh comhraicthe dóiteáin. Taifeadadh gur seiceáladh trealamh comhraicthe dóiteáin gach bliain.
- Dheimhnigh taifid gur seirbhísíodh an trealamh comhraicthe dóiteáin 24/01/2024 agus coinníodh an t-aláram braite dóiteáin agus deataigh gach bliain, ba é an dáta deireanach cothabhála an 17/10/2023.
- (4) Bhí an nós imeachta aslonnaithe dóiteáin don tseirbhís ina raibh mionsonraí i ndáil leis an nós imeachta a bhí le seoladh i gcás dóiteáin ar fáil ar chomhad agus a cuireadh ar taispeáint i stocaireacht na seirbhíse.

## Cuid VI - Sábháilteacht

### Rialachán 28 - Árachas

*Cinnteoídh soláthraí cláraithe go mbeidh an tseirbhís réamhscoile faoi árachas leordhóthanach.*

#### Faisnéis maidir le Comhlíonadh:

Bhí árachas ag an tseirbhís le dáta éaga an 27 Márta 2025, a bhí le haghaidh seirbhís cúraim lae iomlán do 99 leanbh réamhscoile san áireamh: -

- árachas dliteanais phoiblí,

# Tuarascáil Rialála Chigireacht na Luathbhlianta Réamhscoil

- árachas in aghaidh dóiteáin agus gadaíochta,
- árachas foirgneamh,
- árachas le haghaidh turais a dhéantar mar chuid den soláthar seirbhíse.

# Early Years Inspectorate Regulatory Report

## Pre School

<b>TUSLA Identifier:</b>	TU2015GY109
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<b>Name of Service:</b>	Ionad Curam Leanaí Bogha Ceatha
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<b>Address of Service:</b>	Bogha Ceatha, Sidhéan, An Spidéal, Co. Galway
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<b>Eircode:</b>	H91 WN50
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<b>Name of Registered Provider:</b>	Aodán MacDonnacha
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<b>Service type:</b>	Full Day, Part Time, Sessional
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<b>Date of Inspection:</b>	23/07/2024
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<b>No of pre-school children:</b>	AM	60	PM	31
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<b>Address of the Early Years Inspectorate:</b>	TUSLA - Child and Family Agency, Early Years Inspectorate, Quality Assurance Directorate, Clinical & Administration Building, Block A - (1st Floor- Green Corridor), Merlin Park, Galway.
<b>Inspection undertaken by:</b>	F. Nic Dhonnacha
<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 pre-school service is in a detached ground floor premises, in a rural Gaeltacht location on the outskirts of the village of Spiddal, Co. Galway. The service operates a full day care service from 7.30hrs to 18.00hrs. The service caters for children aged between 0 to 6 years. The service is registered for a maximum number of 130 pre-school children, at any one time. There are five playrooms, namely the Baby room, (for Babies and Wobbler children aged 6months to 2 years), the Toddler room, (for Toddlers children aged 2 to 3 years), the Montessori room 1 (for children attending Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) pre-school care programme aged 3 to 4 years), the Montessori room 2 ( for children attending Early Childhood Care and Education(ECCE) pre-school care programme aged 3-5 years and Montessori 3 ( for children attending Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) pre-school care programme aged 3 to 4 years. Additionally, a summer camp programme was provided for school aged children aged between 6 and 8 years. There is a designated sleep room with eight cots for younger children’s sleep provision. The Toddler room is converted for sleep provision after lunch with stackable beds and new floor beds if required for sleep provision. There is a designated kitchen where the snacks and main meals are prepared, cooked, and stored on site and a dining room where the older children from the Montessori rooms 1, 2 and 3 sit and have their dinner together. There are outdoor play areas to the rear of the premises, which include an all-weather sheltered area during inclement weather. There is large outdoor play area divided into four zones to the rear of the premises. To the front of the premises the younger children have easy access from each playroom to a designated play area with a variety of equipment and play materials.

### Staffing

The registered provider is supernumerary and does not work in the service. There are twenty-eight staff including the registered provider. Twenty-five staff hold a Quality and Qualifications Ireland (QQI) at a Level 5 to 8, in Early Childhood Care and Education. These staff have documentary evidence of ongoing training and education. There is a designated chef who solely works in the service kitchen and an auxiliary person who carries out cleaning duties and two staff work with the school aged 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 and safety. The inspection may also focus on other areas as required.

The inspection focused on an examination of compliance under regulations 9,11,16,19,20,24,25,26 and 28; These findings are outlined within the relevant regulations within this report.

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
- (c) there is a clear management structure in the service that identifies the lines of authority and accountability in the service and the specific roles and responsibilities of each employee and unpaid worker.

(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 manager was the person in charge and a person was available to deputise in their absence.
- (b) The manager and assistant manager were available throughout the inspection.
- (c) During the inspection, the inspector observed that a clear management structure was in place in the service. The manager and the assistant manager were available, and a person was assigned to deputise in the event that the managers were not available. The staff roster and the service's handbook, which is shared with parents identified the lines of authority and accountability in the service. The specific roles and responsibilities of each employee was detailed in the recruitment policy and information was displayed at the entrance to the service. The adults working in the service demonstrated an awareness of their roles and responsibilities upon discussion with the inspector.

- (2) Twenty-eight files were available and reviewed by the inspector. The findings included the following:
- (a) Forty-six references from past employers were available. All of these references had a record of validation.
  - (b) Twelve references were available from a source other than a past employer. All of these references had a record of validation.
  - (c) Garda vetting disclosures were available in respect of twenty-eight adults.
  - (d) International police vetting was available for four adults working in the service who had lived in another state for a period longer than six months over the age of 18 years.
- (4) Twenty-four adults working directly with the children held Early Childhood Care and Education qualifications ranging from Level 5 to 8 on the National Framework of Qualifications or a qualification deemed by the Minister to be 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.*
- (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 worked directly with the children in attendance on the day of inspection.
- (2) The manager, assistant manager and deputy person provided assistance with the administration part of the inspection and childcare relief as required.
- 1 child was 8 months of age,
  - 5 children were between 1 and 2 years of age,
  - 7 children were between 2 years and 3 years of age,
  - 47 children were between 3 years and 4 years of age,
- Eighteen adults cared for sixty preschool children in the morning of the inspection.

Three adults cared for 14 school aged children on summer camp programmes.

Additionally, there was a kitchen chef working in the service kitchen, preparing, cooking, serving and storing the snacks and meals for the children.

In the afternoon there were 17 adults directly caring for 31 preschool children.

The person in charge/ manager and assistant manager assisted with the administration part of the inspection.

Additionally, there was the service chef in the kitchen and 2 adults working with the 14 school aged children on summer camp programmes.

(8)(a) The staff roster demonstrated that more than two adults were available in the service at all times.

### 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:*

*(a) the name, position, qualifications and experience of the person in charge and of every other employee, unpaid worker and contractor;*

*(b) details of the class of service and the age profile of children for which the service is registered to provide services;*

*(c) details of the adult: child ratios in the service;*

*(d) the type of care or programme provided in the service;*

*(e) the facilities available;*

*(f) the opening hours and fees;*

*(g) the policies, procedures and statements the service is required to maintain in accordance with Regulation 10;*

*(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.*

*(3) A record referred to in paragraph (1) shall be open to inspection on the premises, and the documents and records referred to in paragraph (2)(a) shall be open to inspection whether on the premises or elsewhere, by an authorised person.*

### Compliance Information

- (1) The particulars outlined from (a) to (f) were displayed on the wall at the entrance to the service and shared with parents via the electronic childcare application system.
- (g) A sample of the policies, procedures and statements of the service specified in Schedule 5 were available reviewed and deemed adequate by the inspector.
- (h) The inspector observed that the full name of the children in attendance, their time of arrival and time of departure in the playrooms were recorded on the electronic application system and on paper.
- (i) A staff roster was available and reviewed by the inspector. The roster demonstrated the staff members rostered hours and staff absences from the service.
- (j) Details of medication administered to the pre-school children attending the service were recorded with signed parental consent and details of medication administered were issued to parents on the electronic application system and on paper. A sample of ten records were reviewed by the inspector.
- (k) The sample of accident, injury or incident records involving pre-school children attending the service detailed a signed parental signature after the incident occurred. Accidents, injuries or incidents are issued to parents on the service's electronic application system and on paper if required. A sample of ten records were reviewed by the inspector.
- (3) The records referred to in (1)(a) to (k) were available for review by the inspector in the service.

### 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) The children's learning, development and well-being was facilitated within the service through the provision of appropriate activities, interactions, materials, and equipment, having regard to the age and stage of development of the children. Six playrooms were in operation during the inspection. The care practices were reviewed by the inspector in each of these rooms.

#### Basic Needs of Children:

The staff treated the children with positive regard. The inspector observed the staff conversing with the children in a kind and respectful manner, speaking to the children at their level in soft gentle tones of voice. Positive behavioural strategies were used during interactions observed between the staff and children.

The children were encouraged to be independent in play and learning, whilst caring for their belongings and using the toilet.

Staff supervised the children and treated the children in a sensitive manner during nappy changes and toileting. Nappies were changed frequently and on an individual basis. The children were encouraged and supported to manage their own personal care appropriate to their age and level of development.

The children's sleep was attended to on an individual basis and an alternative area and activities were offered for children who did not wish to sleep.

The children were encouraged to feed themselves and promoted to be independent. Appropriate crockery and feeding utensils were provided in each room. The children from all playrooms except the baby room transitioned to the dining room for mealtime at various times, these periods were observed to be relaxed and unhurried.

There was a healthy eating policy available on request. There was a weekly menu plan available in each playroom and at the entrance to the service. The food provided looked adequate and nutritious, and the children could have extra if required. Water and milk were readily available to drink at each meal and snack time.

The staff offered continuous praise and encouragement and children were respected and supported in their choice of individual and group engagement in activities. The children's care need observations were shared daily with parents on the electronic application devices. The children in each room were offered a range of developmentally challenging play and learning activities and the children were observed to be fully engaged in the indoor and outdoor environments.

### **Supporting Relationships Around Children:**

A key person approach was observed in each playroom, the staff demonstrated an appropriate level of knowledge of the children's preferences, interests, and individual capabilities. The staff followed the children's lead in the care rooms and the children were supported in individual and group play.

The rooms accommodated visual cards and routine displays demonstrating photographic illustrations to support and include all children in the programme of care. The children were notified in advance of any transitions and consulted in the delivery of the programme of care and learning.

The children's daily observations were shared with parents on the service's electronic system. The staff in each room worked effectively to facilitate the programme of care and learning. The staff communicated informally with parents/guardians during drop off and collection periods from the service. The inspector observed that staff interacted in a positive manner with parents and guardians. All children had the opportunity to play outdoor on the day of inspection.

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

#### Regulation 20 – Facilities for rest and play

(1) Subject to this regulation, a registered provider shall ensure that-

(a) having regard to the number of pre-school children attending the service, their respective ages and the amount of time they spend on the premises, there are adequate and suitable facilities for each child 19 to play indoors and, where required by these Regulations, outdoors, during the day, and

(b) there are adequate and suitable facilities for a pre-school child to rest during the day, and in the case of an overnight pre-school service, during the day and the night.

(3) A registered provider of a full day care service, a part-time day care service or a childminding service, other than such a service to which paragraph (2) applies, shall ensure that-

(a) a suitable, safe and secure outdoor space to which the pre-school children attending the service have access on a daily basis is provided on the premises, or

#### Compliance Information

(1)(a)

- The space in the five playrooms was designed and arranged to: maintain a space that is clean, organised, and free of clutter. The rooms accommodate children individually, in small groups and in a large group. They were divided into areas that were supplied with materials organised in a way to support children’s play and learning.
- The environment was comfortable, inviting and laid out to accommodate the needs of all children and staff in the pre-school.
- The service had safe and comfortable spaces for infants, toddlers, or children not walking, to lie, roll, crawl, pull themselves up, learn to walk, and to be protected from children who were more mobile.
- Staff had a comfortable place to sit, to hold and feed infants, and to read, interact and comfort children.
- Staff encouraged the children to interact and to engage with a range of materials, activities, equipment in the indoor and outdoor environment, based on the child’s needs, choices, interests and age and stage of development.
- The children had access to enough varied materials and equipment, which were rotated to suit the changing programme, to suit current and new interests.
- Materials and equipment were arranged so they were visible and readily accessible to promote independent access by children. There were different interest areas provided, where equipment and materials of similar use were arranged or grouped together.

(1)(b) There were cosy areas with soft seating, in each of the playrooms. The service had a designated sleep room with eight cots for the babies. The Toddler room was converted for sleep provision after lunch. It was well resourced with stackable beds and new floor beds for older children's sleep provision.

(3)(a) **Outdoor area**

- The outdoor environment provided children with activities and opportunities for
- fresh air, discovery, relaxing (e.g., a quiet area, a planting area),
- releasing energy (e.g., playing chase),
- physical exercise and play (e.g., jumping, climbing, crawling),
- exploring, engaging, and experimenting with nature (e.g., water, gardening, sand and mud),
- feelings associated with taking risks, learning about risk, and learning from risk, and challenging their own capabilities within safe limits.
- The service balanced the need for safety with the need to provide physical, challenging experiences for children. The areas were secured by walls and fencing and covered with an impact absorbing surface, grass, tarmac, and concrete pathways.
- The staff advised that the outdoor areas were an extension of the indoor playrooms and linked with the learning that goes on inside. On the day of inspection, all the children had opportunities to be outside, as often as possible.
- The equipment and materials in the outdoor play areas supported children's play, movement, and exploration, and provided opportunities exclusive to the outdoors. There were five outdoor areas in total with storage areas for extra play equipment and materials.

### Part VI - Safety

#### Regulation 24 - Checking in and out and record of attendance

*(1) A registered provider shall ensure that each pre-school child attending the service is checked in and out of the service by an employee or an unpaid worker.*

*(3) A registered provider shall ensure that-*

*(a) no person other than-*

*(i) pre-school child attending the service,*

*(ii) a person dropping or collecting such a child,*

*(iii) an employee, or*

*(iv) an unpaid worker, can enter the premises without his or her entry being approved by an employee, and*

*(b) a daily record in writing is kept of the entry on the premises of any such person.*

#### Compliance Information

(1) The children's arrival and departure times were recorded on a daily basis. The attendance records were reviewed by the inspector on the service's electronic application system.

(3)(a)(b) A written record was available at the service entrance for persons not referred to in particulars (i) to (iv) to record their details and reason for visiting the service.

### 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) Six adults working in the service had appropriate First Aid Responder first aid training and two adults had paediatric first aid training who were available to children if and when required.

(2) Suitably equipped first aid boxes were available.

(a) They were stored safely in conspicuous positions in the service.

(b) The first aid boxes were available to children 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 firefighting 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 record in writing of fire drills indicated that the last fire drill was conducted on the 2/07/2024.
- (b) A record of the number, type and maintenance record of firefighting equipment was maintained. It was recorded that firefighting equipment was checked annually. Records confirmed that the firefighting equipment was serviced 24/01/2024 and the fire detection and smoke alarms were maintained annually, the last date of maintenance was on 17/10/2023.
- (4) The fire evacuation procedure for the service which contained details in relation to the procedure to be conducted in the event of a fire was available on file and was displayed in the lobby of the service.

### Part VI - Safety

#### Regulation 28 - Insurance

*A registered provider shall ensure that the pre-school service is adequately insured.*

#### Compliance Information

The service had insurance with an expiry date 27<sup>th</sup> of March 2025, which was for a full day care service for 99 pre-school children included the following: -

- public liability insurance,
- insurance against fire and theft,
- buildings insurance,
- insurance for outings undertaken as part of the service provision.