

# Tuarascáil Rialála Chigireacht na Luathbhlianta Réamhscoil

<b>Uimhir Aitheantais TUSLA:</b>	TU2015GY171
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<b>Ainm na Seirbhíse:</b>	Naíonra an Chnoic Tír an Fhia
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<b>Seoladh na Seirbhíse:</b>	Ionad Cúram Leanaí, Tír An Fhia, Leitir Móir, Co. na Gaillimhe.
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<b>Eirchód:</b>	H91 YE86
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<b>Ainm an tSoláthraí Chláraithe:</b>	Ray Mac Pháidín
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<b>Cineál na Seirbhíse</b>	Páirtaimseartha, Seisiúnach
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<b>Dáta na Cigireachta:</b>	05/12/2024
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<b>Líon na leanaí réamhscoile:</b>	AM	20	PM	7
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<b>Seoladh na Cigireachta Luathbhlianta:</b>	Tusla - An Ghníomhaireacht um Leanaí agus an Teaghlach, Cigireacht Luathbhlianta, An Stiúrthóireacht um Dhearbhú Cáilíochta, Foirgneamh Cliniciúil & Riaracháin, Bloc A- (An Chéad Chonair Urlár-Glas), Páirc Mhuirlinne, Co.na Gaillimhe.
<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 naíscóil seo bunaithe ar thailte eagraíochta oideachais agus oiliúna pobail Muintearas atá in aice le creche pobail Naíolann na nÓiléain i Leitir Móir, Co. na Gaillimhe. Cuireann an tseirbhís seo soláthar cúraim pháirtaimseartha ar fáil ó 9.00 uair go 14.00 uair. Cuirtear an clár cúraim réamhscoile agus an clár cúraim seisiúnach um Chúram agus Oideachas na Luath-Óige (ECCE) ar fáil freisin idir 9.00 uair agus 12.00 uair. Freastalaíonn an tseirbhís ar pháistí réamhscoile idir 2 bhliain agus 6 bliana d'aois. Tá 2 sheomra súgartha san áitreabh, mar atá, Seomra Súgartha 1 agus Seomra Súgartha 2, seomra/ oifig foirne, seomra stórála, leithreas rochtana do dhaoine faoi mhíchumas agus áiseanna sláintíochta. Cuireann tuismitheoirí agus caomhnóirí na bpáistí na béilí agus na sneaiceanna ar fáil do na páistí. Tugtar deis codlata ar leapacha cruachta agus mataí codlata do na páistí atá ag freastal ar an tseirbhís ar bhonn páirtaimseartha. I ngach seomra súgartha, tá áiteanna scíthe ciúine le suíocháin ar mhéid an linbh agus matting bog ar fáil do leanaí chun scíth a ligean nó diúltú do ghníomhaíocht más mian leo é sin a dhéanamh. Tá limistéar súgartha slán amuigh taobh amuigh ar thaobh an áitribh le limistéar súgartha roinnte leis an bpobal os comhair na réamhscoile. Cuirtear curaclam atá bunaithe ar na páistí agus súgradh ar fáil agus a dhíríonn ar spéiseanna atá ag teacht chun cinn. Tá an tseirbhís faoi smacht ag Chomhar Naíonraí na Gaeltachta agus cuirtear an tseirbhís ar fáil trí mheán na Gaeilge.

## Soláthar foirne

Ní oibríonn an soláthraí cláraithe ar an áitreabh ar bhonn laethúil. Tá duine ainmnithe i gceannas agus tá leas-duine ainmnithe i gceannas. Tá 4 bhall foirne san iomlán ann, atá ag obair ar an áitreabh faoi láthair le Dearbhú Cáilíochta agus Cáilíochtaí Éireann (QQI) ag Leibhéal 5 go 8 ar a laghad, i gCúram agus Oideachas na Luath-Óige. Tá fianaise dhoiciméadach ag an bhfoireann ar oiliúint agus oideachas leanúnach.

## Modheolaíocht

Is í Chigireacht 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

# Tuarascáil Rialála Chigireacht na Luathbhlianta Réamhscoil

- Breathnú díreach
- Plé le baill foirne ábhartha

Ba chigireacht neamhfhógartha é seo, agus díriodh 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.

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. Úsáidfeadh an plean um Ghníomh Ceartaitheach agus Gníomh Coiscitheach (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

# Tuarascáil Rialála Chigireacht na Luathbhlianta Réamhscoil

(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 iontaoifa 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) Bhí duine i gceannas agus bhí duine ar fáil le ionadaíocht a dhéanamh nuair a bhí siad as láthair.

(b) Bhí an duine a bhí i gceannas agus an leas duine a bhí i gceannas ar fáil le linn na cigireachta.

(2) Bhí ceithre chomhad foirne ar fáil agus rinne an cigire athbhreithniú orthu. Seo mar a leanas na torthaí:

(a)(b) Bhí ocht dtagairt bhailíochtaithe scríofa ó iarfhostóirí nó ó fhoinse seachas iarfhostóir ar fáil.

(c) Fuarthas nochtadh grinnfhiosrúcháin an Gharda Síochána do gach duine den 4 bhall foirne. Léirigh an tseirbhís freisin comhlíonadh an Fhógra Rialála Cigireachta Luathbhlianta a éilíonn ar sheirbhísí grinnfhiosrúcháin an Gharda Síochána a athnuachán gach trí bliana.

(d) Ní raibh gá le grinnfhiosrúchán idir náisiúnta na bpóilíní don cheathrar aosach a bhí ag obair sa tseirbhís mar nach raibh cónaí orthu i stát eile ar feadh tréimhse níos faide ná sé mhí os cionn ocht mbliana déag d'aois.

(4) Bhí cáilíochtaí Cúraim agus Oideachais na Luath-Óige ag ceathrar ball foirne a bhí ag obair go díreach leis na leanaí, ó Leibhéal 5 go Leibhéal 8 ar an gCreat Náisiúnta Cáilíochtaí nó cáilíocht a mheasann an tAire a bheith coibhéseach

## 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) D'oibrigh líon leordhóthanach daoine fásta go díreach leis na páistí ar lá na cigireachta.
- (2) Thug triúr daoine fásta aire do scór páiste ar maidin agus thug siad aire do sheachtar páistí tráthnóna. Bhí gach páiste idir 3 bliana d'aois agus 5 bliana d'aois.
- (8)(a) Léirigh leabhar rolla na foirne go raibh níos mó ná beirt daoine fásta ar fáil sa tseirbhís le linn oibriú na seirbhíse.

## 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 dhá sheomra súgartha i bhfeidhm le linn na cigireachta.

#### Riachtanais Bhunúsacha Leanaí:

- Moladh do na páistí a bheith neamhspleách i súgradh agus i bhfoghlaim, agus iad ag tabhairt aire dá gcuid giuirléidí agus ag baint úsáide as an leithreas. Níor chaith aon pháiste clúidín lá na cigireachta.
- Spreagadh agus tugadh tacaíocht do na páistí chun a gcúram pearsanta féin a bhainistiú a bheadh oiriúnach dá n-aois agus dá leibhéal forbartha.
- Cuireadh uirlisí soithí agus beathaithe cuí ar fáil ag am sneaiceanna agus ag am béilí. Stóráladh lón na bpáistí i gcuisneoir na seirbhíse.
- Bhí uisce ar fáil i rith an tseisiúin agus bhí fáil ag na páistí ar a gcupáin fhéin nuair a bhí deoch ag teastáil uathu.
- Athráiodh seomra súgartha 2 le haghaidh soláthar codlata tar éis sheisiúin na maidine chun deis a thabhairt do na páistí a bhí ag freastal ar an tseirbhís ar bhonn páirtaimseartha scíth nó codladh a bheith acu.

## Ag Tacú le Caidrimh

- Thug an fhoireann aird dhearfach ar na páistí. Thug an cigire faoi deara go raibh an fhoireann ag comhrá agus ag caint leis na páistí ar bhealach cineálta agus measúil, ag labhairt leis na páistí ag a leibhéal féin le glór boga binn.
- Tugadh faoi deara gur baineadh úsáid as straitéisí iompraíochta dearfacha le linn idirghníomhaíochtaí idir an fhoireann agus na leanaí.
- Thug an fhoireann moladh agus spreagadh leanúnach, agus tugadh meas agus tacaíocht do leanaí ina rogha rannpháirtíochta aonair agus grúpa i ngníomhaíochtaí.
- Tairgeadh réimse gníomhaíochtaí súgartha agus foghlama a bhí dúshlánach ó thaobh na forbartha de do na páistí agus tugadh faoi deara go raibh na páistí lánpháirteach sa timpeallacht.
- Breathnaíodh cur chuige an duine lárnach i ngach seomra cúraim, léirigh an fhoireann leibhéal cuí eolais ar roghanna, spéiseanna agus cumais aonair na bpáistí.
- Lean an fhoireann ceannaireacht na bpáistí sa seomra súgartha agus tugadh tacaíocht do na páistí i súgradh aonair agus i súgradh grúpa.
- Bhí cártaí amhairc agus gnáth thaispeántais sna seomraí a thaispeánann léaráidí ghrianghrafadóireachta 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 chuathas i gcomhairle leo maidir leis an gclár cúraim agus foghlama a sheachadadh. Tugadh faoi deara na páistí ag aisteoireacht amach scéal na Nollag agus ag canadh amhráin Nollag ar lá na cigireachta.

- Bhí na páistí le feicéal ag spraoi le imeachtaí boird agus ag eisteacht ag am scéalaíochta. Chuir an fhoireann comhairle ar na páistí a bheith ag súgradh taobh amuigh ar bhonn laethúil.
- Rinneadh breathnóireachtaí laethúla na bpáistí a thaifeadadh agus bhí straic leabhar aonair ag gach páiste lena dtéamaí agus a dtuairimí ealaíne. D'oibrigh an fhoireann go héifeachtach chun an clár cúraim agus foghlama a éascú. Rinne an fhoireann cumarsáid neamhfhoirmiúil le tuismitheoirí agus caomhnóirí le linn tréimhsí fágála agus bailithe ón tseirbhís. Thug an cigire faoi deara go ndearna an fhoireann idirghníomhú ar bhealach dearfach le tuismitheoirí agus caomhnóirí.

## 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 fianaise ag triúr ball foirne a bhí ag obair sa tseirbhís réamhscoile ar chúrsa garchabhrach FAR agus bhí siad ar fáil do na leanaí sa tseirbhís réamhscoile.

(2)(a)

Bhí bosca garchabhrach a bhí feistithe go cuí ar fáil agus in áit fheiceálach a raibh teacht air go héasca.

(b)

Bhí an bosca garchabhrach ar fáil go héasca, le míreanna ábhair laistigh de dháta.

## Cuid VI - Sábháilteacht

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

- (1) Cinnteoidh 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 trealaimh chun dóiteán a chomhrac agus na n-áláram deataigh san áitreabh.
- (4) Déanfar fógra i dtaobh na nósanna imeachta a bheidh le leanúint i gcás dóiteáin a chur ar taispeánt in áit fheiceálach san áitreabh.

### Faisnéis maidir le Comhlíonadh:

- (1)(a) Bhí socruithe i bhfeidhm chun druileanna dóiteáin míosúla a thairfeadh. Déanadh an druil dóiteáin deireadh ar an 25ú lá do mí na Shamhna 2024.
- (b) Bhí taifead ar líon, cineál agus cothabháil trealaimh comhraicthe dóiteáin sa tseirbhís ar chomhad. Tugadh le fios i dtaifid gur déanadh an chothabháil bhliantúil dheireanach don trealamh comhraicthe dóiteáin ar an 28 Deireadh Fómhair 2024. Tugadh le fios i dtaifid na doiciméid chothabhála dheireanacha don chóras braite dóiteáin a bhí déanta ar an 29 Deireadh Fómhair 2024.
- (4) Taispeánadh fógra faoi na nósanna imeachta a bhí le leanúint i gcás tine i ngach seomra súgartha.

# Tuarascáil Rialála Chigireacht na Luathbhlianta Réamhscoil

## 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 Samhain 2025, a bhí ann do 22 leanbh réamhscoile i seirbhís pháirtaimseartha agus bhí na nithe seo a leanas san áireamh: -

- árachas dliteanais phoiblí,
- 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>	TU2015GY171
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<b>Name of Service:</b>	Naíonra an Chnoic Tír an Fhia
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<b>Address of Service:</b>	Ionad Cúram Leanaí, Tír An Fhia, Leitir Móir, Co. Galway
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<b>Eircode:</b>	H91 YE86
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<b>Name of Registered Provider:</b>	Ray Mac Pháidín
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<b>Service type:</b>	Part Time, Sessional
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<b>Date of Inspection:</b>	05/12/2024
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<b>No of pre-school children:</b>	AM	20	PM	7
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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 is based on the grounds of a community education and training organisation Muintearas which is adjacent to Naíolann na nÓiléain community creche in Lettermore, Co. Galway. This service offers part time care provision from 9.00hrs to 14.00hrs. The Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) preschool care programme and sessional care programme is also offered between 9.00hrs to 12.00hrs. The service caters for pre-school children aged 2years to 6 years of age. The premise has 2 playrooms namely Playroom 1 and Playroom 2, a staff room/ office, storage room, disabled access toilet and sanitary facilities. The children's parents and guardians provide the meals and snacks for the children. The opportunity is provided for sleep on stackable beds and sleep mats to the children attending the service on a part time basis. In each playroom, quiet rest areas with child size seating and soft matting are available for children to rest or opt out of an activity if they wish to do so. There is a secure outdoor play area to the side of the premises and a shared play area with the community creche in front of the pre-school. A child centred play-based curriculum focusing on emerging interests is provided. The service is under the governance of Comhar Naíonraí na Gaeltachta and the service is provided through the medium of Irish.

### Staffing

The registered provider does not work on the premises on a daily basis. There is a named person in charge and there is a named designated deputy person in charge. There are a total of 4 staff, currently working on the premises with a Quality and Qualifications Ireland (QQI) at a minimum of a Level 5 to 8, Early Childhood Care and Education. The staff have documentary evidence of on-going training and education.

### 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.

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

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

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

### Acknowledgments

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

## Part III – Management and Staff

### Regulation 9 – Management and recruitment

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

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

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

*(a) consideration of references from the person's past employers, if any, and in particular the most recent employer, if any,*

*(b) consideration of references from reputable sources in the case of a person who has no past employers,*

*(c) consideration of the vetting disclosure received from the National Vetting Bureau of the Garda Síochána in accordance with the Act of 2012 in respect of the person, and*

*(d) ensuring, insofar as is practicable, that where a person has lived in a state other than the State for a period of longer than 6 consecutive months, he or she provides police vetting from the police authorities in that state.*

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

### Compliance Information

(1)(a) There was a person in charge and a person was available to deputise if required.

(b) The person in charge and deputy were available throughout the inspection.

(2) Four staff files were available and reviewed by the inspector. The findings included the following:

(a)(b) Eight written validated references from past employers or a source other than a past employer were available.

(c) Garda vetting disclosures had been obtained for all 4 staff. The service also demonstrated compliance with the Early Years Inspectorate Regulatory Notice requiring services to renew Garda vetting every three years.

(d) International police vetting was not required for the four adults working in the service as they had not lived in another state for a period longer than six months over the age of eighteen.

(4) 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 on the day of inspection.
- (2) Three adults cared for twenty children in the morning and cared for seven children in the afternoon. All children were aged between 3years and 5 years of age.
- (8)(a) The staff roster demonstrated that more than two adults were available in the service during the operation of 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. Two playrooms were in operation during the inspection.

#### Basic Needs of Children:

- Appropriate crockery and feeding utensils were provided at snack and mealtimes. The children's lunches were stored in the service fridge.
- Drinking water was available throughout the session and the children had access to their sippy cups whenever they needed a drink.
- The children were encouraged to be independent in play and learning, whilst caring for their belongings and using the toilet. No child wore a nappy on the day of inspection.
- The children were encouraged and supported to manage their own personal care appropriate to their age and level of development. Supervision and assistance was offered to the children if required.
- Playroom 2 was converted for sleep provision after the morning session to allow the children who were attending the service on a part time basis the opportunity to have a rest, relax or sleep.

### Supporting Relationships

- The staff were kind and supportive to the children. 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.
- 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 were offered a range of developmentally challenging play and learning activities and the children were observed to be fully engaged in the environment.
- A key person approach was observed in each care room, 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 playroom 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 were observed acting out the Story of Christmas and singing Christmas songs along with playing with tabletop activities and listening at story time. The staff advised the children play outside on a daily basis. Due to a yellow weather warning alert on the day of inspection the children remained indoors.
- The children's daily observations were recorded, and each child had an individual scrap book with their artwork themes and observations.

- There was headed paper on the wall with the children’s emerging interests and thoughts. The staff communicated informally with parents and guardians during drop off and collection periods from the service. The inspector observed that staff interacted in a positive manner with parents and guardians.

### 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) Three staff working in the pre-school service had evidence of FAR- First Aid Responder first aid course and were available to the children in the preschool service.
- (2)(a) A suitably equipped first aid box was available and in an easily accessible conspicuous position.
- (b) The first aid box was readily available, with content items within date.

### 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) Arrangements were in place to record monthly fire drills. The last documented fire drill was dated 25<sup>th</sup> of November 2024.
- (b) A record of the number, type, and maintenance of firefighting equipment in the service was on file.

Records indicated that the last annual maintenance for the firefighting equipment was dated 28<sup>th</sup> October 2024. Records indicated that the last maintenance documentation for the fire detection system were dated 29<sup>th</sup> of October 2024.

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

### 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 November 2025, which was for 22 pre-school children in a part time service and included the following: -

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