

TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances

Tusla I.D: TU2015LK151

Name of Service Scoil Na Nóg

Address of Service: Croagh, Co. Limerick

Email Address: claremullane@gmail.com

Name of Registered Provider: Claire Mullane

Type of Proposed Service:	Full Day Care	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Part-Time	<input type="checkbox"/>	Sessional	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Drop-In	<input type="checkbox"/>	Childminding	<input type="checkbox"/>	Temporary	<input type="checkbox"/>

Proposed change: Change in Service Type from Sessional/Part time to a Full Day Care Service.

Proposed Number of Children: 26 Children (8 Full Day Care Children between the ages of 2 years and 6 years Max.)

Recommended Change Following Inspection: Change from a Sessional/Part time Service to a Full Day Care Service.
A maximum 26 children preschool children allowed for the morning sessional service.
A maximum of 8 preschool children on a Full Day Care basis.

Registered change: Change in Service Type from Sessional/Part Time to Full Day Care.
Change in Number of Children Accommodated from 26 to 26 (Max 8 Full Day Care).
Change in Hours of Operation from 8:00am-1:00pm to 8:00am-5:30pm.

Date of Inspection:	2	8	0	6	2	0	2	4
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Inspection undertaken by: M. Riordan

Title: EYI

Tusla Early Years Inspectorate Address: Tusla Offices, 2nd Floor, Estuary House
Henry Street,
Limerick

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Rationale for Inspection:

Proposed Change of Circumstance

Note: For Office use only, to be completed by Registration Office

Registration Status:	Registered Full Day Care Service for 26 Children (Max. 8 Full Day Care)
Date of Registration	31 st July 2024

Authority to Inspect

The Tusla Early Years Inspectorate carries out inspections of Early Years Services under Section 58(D) of the Child Care Act 1991 (as inserted by Section 92 of the Child and Family Agency Act 2013).

Description of Service	Scoil Na Nóg is a private part time/sessional service operating from a modified premises in the village of Croagh in County Limerick. The pre-school is open from 8.00am to 1:00pm, Monday to Friday. The service has a capacity to cater for 26 children at any one time. A service for school aged children operates each afternoon.
Premises	The service operates from 1 large pre-school room which is carefully planned and well-resourced for providing a pre-school programme. A large enclosed outdoor play area is located at the rear of the premises. A garden area is accessible at the rear of the playground.
Staffing	The registered provider is the designated person in charge of running the pre-school. There are 2 additional staff employed to work at the service. All staff have achieved a major award in Early Childhood Care and Education.
Methodology	<p>The inspection was an announced inspection to assess compliance with the Childcare Act 1991 (Early Years Services) Regulations 2016 and Childcare Act 1991 (Early Years Services) (Amendment) Regulations 2016. The Inspection focused on regulations under the following themes; Governance, Health, Welfare and Development of the child, Safety and Premises.</p> <p>The findings on inspection based on information obtained through examination of documentation, direct observation, and discussion with relevant staff are documented in the inspection report and taken into consideration when making a decision in relation to registering the change in circumstance. The Inspectorate reserves the right to edit responses received for reasons including clarity; completeness; and, compliance with administrative and legal processes. The contents of the report are compiled by the inspectorate body.</p>
Acknowledgements	The Inspector wishes to acknowledge the cooperation of the registered provider who was present on the day of the inspection.

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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.

Requirement met:

The following requirements have been met.

(1)(a) The registered provider is the designated person in charge of the service and a named person to deputise has been appointed as required.

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.

(8) Without prejudice to paragraphs (2) to (7)—

(b) a childminder shall ensure that a second person familiar with the operation of the service and in a position to provide assistance to the childminder in operating the service is, at all times, within close distance of the service and available to attend the service to assist the childminder in the event of an emergency, and

(c) a registered provider of a sessional pre-school shall ensure that, where the person in charge operates the service single-handedly, a second person familiar with the operation of the service and in a position to provide assistance to the person in charge in operating the service is, at all times, within close distance of the service and available to attend the service to assist the person in charge in the event of an emergency.

Requirement met:

The following requirement has been met.

(1) The registered provider has identified a minimum 3 staff members who will be on the premises at all times and evidenced this with a proposed staffing roster for the service.

(8)(b) Not applicable as the proposed service is not a childminding service.

(c) Not applicable as this is not a sessional service that operates single handedly.

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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 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.
- (2) A registered provider—
- (b) of a full day care service, a part-time day care service, a sessional preschool service or a childminding service that moves premises on or after 30 June 2016, shall ensure that a suitable, safe and secure outdoor space to which the preschool children attending the service have access on a daily basis is provided on the premises.

Requirement met:

The following requirement has been met.

(1)(a) Adequate and suitable facilities were provided for children to play indoors and outdoors. The preschool room was bright and spacious and well laid out with various equipment and play materials on open, low level shelving units.

(1)(b) The service has purchased low level beds which children can use to rest each day if tired. A designated quiet time will be facilitated each day after dinner. A large soft couch is also available in the room for children to use if tired.

(2)(a) The service has its own outdoor play area to the rear of the premises. The area is fully enclosed and is equipped with a wide range of play materials. The area has an impact absorbent rubber matting covering the ground in areas beneath all climbing equipment. A sheltered area outside is also accessible.

Part V - Care of Child in Pre-school Service

Regulation 22 – Food and Drink

A registered provider shall ensure that adequate and suitable, nutritious and varied food and drink is available for each pre-school child attending the pre-school service.

Requirement met:

The following requirement has been met.

A healthy eating policy is in place. A kitchen area is available in the service with facilities for storing perishable foods and for the preparation of hot snacks. The service will provide a breakfast to children who arrive early. The parents will provide a fruit snack for the mid-morning break. A hot meal will be provided and served to the children who will stay for part time or full-time care. A 3-week menu plan was available to demonstrate the choice of hot nutritious meals that will be offered each day.

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Part VI – Safety

Regulation 23 - *Safeguarding health, safety and welfare of child*

A registered provider shall ensure that all reasonable measures are taken to safeguard the health, safety and welfare of a pre-school child attending the service and that the environment of the service is safe.

Requirement met:

The following requirements have been met.

External doors were adequately secure to ensure the safety of the children within and to avoid unauthorised persons accessing the service or children exiting unsupervised. The entrance door was locked with the key accessible to adults only.

Outdoors a large, locked gate prevented unauthorised access to or exit from the outdoor play area.

An infection control policy was in place to inform practice. The policy and the associated procedures detailed all measures to reduce the likelihood of infection spreading in the facility.

Cleaning programmes were in place to ensure a good standard of operational hygiene was in place.

Foot pedal operated lidded bins are provided in all areas of the service to ensure the safe disposal of all waste.

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.*

Requirement met:

The following requirement has been met.

(1) Certification was available to evidence that a person trained in first aid was available at all times in the service.

(2) A suitably equipped first aid box was available in the service and stored in a conspicuous location in the premises.

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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.

Requirement met:

The following requirement has been met.

- (1)(a) Fire drills take place once a month. Written documentation was available to support this practice.
- (b) There was a record available to indicate the number, type and maintenance of the fire extinguishers in the service. The extinguishers were serviced last in November 2023. A certificate was also available to state that all smoke alarms were in service.

Part VI – Safety

Regulation 28 – Insurance

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

Requirement met:

The following requirement was met.

An insurance quotation was submitted to the Registration Team prior to this inspection. The Registered Provider must ensure that adequate insurance is in place prior to the commencement of the change. The change approval is contingent on the registered providers compliance with Regulation 28.

Part VII – Premises and Space Requirements

Regulation 29 – Premises

A registered provider shall ensure that the premises of the service are—

- (a) of sound and stable structure,
- (b) safe and secure,
- (c) kept adequately lit, heated and ventilated,
- (d) cleaned, maintained and repaired, as required, and
- (e) equipped with adequate and suitable sanitary facilities.

Requirement met:

The following requirements has been met.

- (a) The premises appeared to be of sound and stable structure.
- (b) There was one entrance door to the service which was appropriately safe and secure with a lock in situ. The outdoor area was secure to prevent a child exiting the

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	<p>area unsupervised. A large outdoor storage shed was used for the sage storage play materials outdoors.</p> <p>(c) The service was adequately lit with lots of natural light available in all areas. Oil central heating was available when needed and checks were kept of the surface temperature of all radiators. Adequate ventilation was in place through openable windows in all areas of the building.</p> <p>(d) Cleaning schedules were in place in the service.</p> <p>(e) There was a sufficient number of toilets and wash hand basins in the service for the proposed number of children to attend the service. Nappy changing facilities were provided.</p>
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Part VII – Premises and Space Requirements

Regulation 30 – Minimum Space Requirements

- (1) *Subject to paragraphs (2) to (6), a registered provider shall ensure that adequate clear floor space is available in the premises for the work, play and movement of children attending the pre-school service.*
- (2) *A registered provider of a full day care service or a part-time day care service shall ensure that the minimum amount of clear floor space specified in column (3) of Schedule 7 opposite a particular reference number specified in column (1) of that Schedule in respect of the age range of children specified in column (2) thereof at that reference number is available for each child in that age range attending the service.*
- (3) *A registered provider of a sessional pre-school service or a pre-school service in a drop-in centre shall ensure that a minimum of 1.818 square metres of clear floor space is available for each child attending the service.*
- (4) *Where a registered provider contemporaneously provides—*
- (a) *a sessional pre-school service, and*
 - (b) *a full day care service or a part-time day care service, or both, the minimum clear floor space applicable for the duration of the sessional preschool service in respect of the children attending that service shall be the floor space specified in paragraph (3).*

Requirement met:	<p>The following requirement was met.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (1) An area of 56.73 square metres in the preschool room was available. This was sufficient to accommodate 26 children each morning for a sessional service and a maximum of 8 preschool children each afternoon attending on a full day care basis. (2) The preschool room had adequate clear floor space for a service that provides full time care, part-time and sessional care for children aged 2 years and 8 months to six years. (3) Not applicable. (4) There was adequate floor space to accommodate children to attend both a sessional, part time, and full-time care.
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