

# 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, V94 KW90

**Email Address:** claremullane@gmail.com

**Name of Registered Provider:** Clare Mullane

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

**Proposed change:** Change in number of children from 26 (Max 8 full day) to 26 (Max 16 full day) children

**Proposed Number of Children:** 26 (Max 16 full day care)

**Recommended Change Following Inspection:** Change in number of children from 26 (Max 8 full day) to 26 (Max 16 full day) children

**Registered change:** Change in number of children from 26 (Max 8 full day) to 26 (Max 16 full day) children

**Date of Inspection:** 1 2 0 9 2 0 2 5

**Inspection undertaken by:** M. Riordan

**Title:** EYI

**Tusla Early Years Inspectorate Address:** Tusla Offices, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Estuary House, Henry Street, Limerick

**Rationale for Inspection:**  
Proposed Change of Circumstance

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

<b>Registration Status:</b>	<b>Registered Full Day &amp; Sessional Service for 26 (Max 16 Full Day) Children</b>
<b>Date of Registration</b>	<b>13<sup>th</sup> October 2025</b>

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### 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).

<b>Description of Service</b>	Scoil Na Nóg is a private pre-school service operating from a modified premises in the village of Croagh in County Limerick. The pre-school is open from 8.00am to 17.30pm, Monday to Friday. The service has a capacity to cater for 26 preschool children for the morning sessional service and 8 preschool children each afternoon for the full day care service. The registered provider is proposing to increase the number of preschool children attending each afternoon for full day care from 8 to a maximum of 16.
<b>Premises</b>	The service operates from 1 large pre-school room which is carefully planned and well-resourced for providing a pre-school programme. A service for school aged children operates each afternoon in a new purpose build room, adjacent to the preschool room. A large enclosed outdoor play area is located at the rear and the side of the premises.
<b>Staffing</b>	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.
<b>Methodology</b>	<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>
<b>Acknowledgements</b>	The Inspector wishes to acknowledge the cooperation of the registered provider who was present on the day of the inspection.

### Part III - Management and Staff

	<p>Child and Family Agency Act 2013</p> <p>Child Care Act 1991 (Early Years Services) Regulations 2016</p>	<p>Version 05 Implemented- Aug 2022 EYI-IR12.23 F07 FFP (CIC)</p>	<p>2 of 7</p>
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### 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 is available when 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 employed 3 additional staff to work at 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.

### 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.

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	<p>(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. Well designed interest areas have been identified in the preschool room and in the outdoor play area.</p> <p>(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.</p> <p>(2)(a) The service has its own outdoor play area to the side and the rear of the premises. The area is fully enclosed with new timber fencing surrounding all parameters and is equipped with a wide range of play materials. The area beneath all climbing equipment is covered with impact absorbent rubber matting to help reduce the risk of injury to children. A sheltered area outside is also accessible.</p>
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### 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.*

<b>Requirement met:</b>	<p>The following requirement has been met.</p> <p>A healthy eating policy was in place. A kitchen area was available in the service with facilities for storing perishable foods and for the preparation of hot snacks. The service provides a breakfast to children who arrive early. The parents provide a fruit snack for the mid-morning break. A hot meal supplied by a local business was provided 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.</p>
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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.*

<b>Requirement met:</b>	<p>The following requirements have been met.</p> <p>External doors were adequately secured to ensure the safety of the children within and to avoid unauthorised persons accessing the service or children exiting unsupervised.</p> <p>The entrance door was locked with the key was easily accessible to adults only. A bell at the front door alerted staff when people arrived at the service.</p> <p>Outdoors a large, locked gate prevented unauthorised access to or exit from the outdoor play area.</p> <p>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.</p>
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	<p>Cleaning programmes were in place to ensure a good standard of operational hygiene was in place.</p> <p>Foot pedal operated lidded bins were provided in all areas of the service to ensure the safe disposal of all waste.</p>
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### 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 with first aid responder training was available at all times in the service.

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

### 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. The most recent fire drill took place on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of September 2025.

(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 2024. A certificate was also available to state that all smoke alarms were in service. The most recent services took place in September 2025.

### Part VI – Safety

#### Regulation 28 – Insurance

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

<b>Requirement met:</b>	The following requirement was met. Evidence that the service is adequately insured for the increase in the number of children proposed to attend has been received from the Insurance company.
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### 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.*

<b>Requirement met:</b>	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 area unsupervised. A large outdoor storage shed was used for the safe storage of all play materials outdoors. (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. (d) Cleaning schedules were in place in the service. (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.
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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.*

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- (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:**

The following requirement was met.

- (1) An area of 56.73 square metres in the preschool room was available. This was sufficient to accommodate the required change of 16 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 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.