

TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances

Tusla I.D.: TU2015MN042

Name of Service Naíonra Eois

Address of Service: Gaelscoil Eois, Roslea Road, Clones, Co. Monaghan, H23RW28

Email Address: paistieois@gmail.com

Name of Registered Provider: Eimear McDonald

Type of Proposed Service:	Full Day Care	✓	Part-Time	✓	Sessional	✓
	Drop-In		Childminding		Temporary	

Proposed change:

- Move to a new building at the same address and to operate from 2 purposely developed classrooms within the Gaelscoil Eois primary school.
- Increase the number of children attending from 22 to 44.
- Increase the number of staff from 7 to 8.

Proposed Number of Children: 44

Recommended Change Following Inspection: Change in number of children from 22 to 44 children
Change in number of staff from 7 to 8 staff

Registered change: Change in number of children from 22 to 44 children
Change in number of staff from 7 to 8 staff

Date of Inspection: 2 3 0 5 2 0 2 5

Inspection undertaken by: M.Flood

Title: Early Years Inspector

Tusla Early Years Inspectorate Address: Early Years Inspectorate Child Wellbeing Centre, Castleblayney, Co. Monaghan

Rationale for Inspection:
Proposed Change of Circumstance

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

Registration Status:	Registered Full Day, Part-Time & Sessional Service for 44 Children
Date of Registration	6th June 2025

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	<p>Naíonra Eois have been operating as a community run childcare service since 2012. They provide full day care, part-time and sessional education and care to pre-school children aged from 2 to 6 years of age through the medium of Irish. The service is open from 08:30 to 17:30 each weekday and currently caters for a maximum of 22 children.</p> <p>The registered provider proposes to increase the number of children attending the service from 22 to 44.</p>
Premises	<p>The service proposes to move to a new building at the same location and to operate from 2 purposely developed classrooms within the new Gael Scoil building. Ancillary accommodation includes sanitary areas, a kitchen area, and storage. There is an enclosed outdoor play area on the premises.</p>
Staffing	<p>There are 7 adults employed in the service.</p> <p>The registered provider proposes to increase staff numbers to 8.</p>
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	<p>The Inspector would like to acknowledge the cooperation of the registered provider who was present on the day of the inspection. There were no children present during the inspection.</p>

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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:

(1)(a) The requirement has been met. The service has a designated person in charge and a named deputy person to deputise 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.

Requirement met:

(1) The requirement has been met.
It is proposed that 8 staff including the registered provider will be available to work directly with the pre-school children. The registered provider is aware of the minimum ratio of adults to children specified in Part 1 and 2 of Schedule 6.

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:

(1)(a) The requirement has been met.
The preschool children have access to adequate and suitable facilities for play both indoors and outdoors on the premises. The 2 playrooms are spacious and purposely developed with specific areas of interest e.g. a home area, sensory play materials, role play and dress up area, and storage units with a variety of clear and labelled toy boxes.

(b) The children have access to a soft /rest area which is located within each of the playrooms and consists of soft mats and cushions.

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Stackable day beds are available for children aged over 2 years to use if required.

2(b) A suitable safe and secure outdoor area is available for the children to access on the premises. A range of age-appropriate toys and equipment is also available.

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 requirement has been met:
All snacks and lunches are provided by the parents for the children attending the service on a sessional and full day care basis. A refrigerator is available in the kitchen area for the appropriate storage of perishable items.
A hot meal will be provided by the service for the children attending on a full day or part-time basis. A 4 weekly varied menu is available and on display.
Potable drinking water is available in the service.

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 requirement has been met:
The following are examples of appropriate measures that have been undertaken in the service to ensure the safety of the children including:

- The external doors are appropriately secured to prevent children exiting from the service unsupervised or to prevent unauthorised access to the service.
- The designated emergency exits are clear and unobstructed.
- A supply of thermostatically controlled hot water to a maximum of 43°C is available in the service.
- All blind cords were restricted and were therefore inaccessible to the preschool children.
- The large television/ interactive board in Room 1 is wall mounted, and wires are secured and inaccessible.
- The registered provider gave assurances that regular risk assessments will be carried out to ensure that the children do not gain access to the kitchen area.

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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 requirement has been met:

(1) Four staff members have up to date training in First Aid Responder (FAR). Certificates of training were available at the time of inspection.

(2)(a)&(b) A suitably stocked first aid box was provided in the service and is available as required.

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 requirement has been met.

(1)(a) A recording system is in place to maintain a record of monthly fire drills.

(b) A maintenance record for the fire-fighting equipment and smoke alarms on the premises was available and was dated 04/2025 and 25/04/2025 respectively.

(4) A notice of the procedure to be followed in the event of a fire was available in the service. The fire assembly point was clearly identified and visible.

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Part VI – Safety

Regulation 28 – Insurance

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

Requirement met:

The requirement has been met:
Documentary evidence was available of adequate insurance cover for 44 pre-school children for sessional, part-time care and full day care.

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 requirement has been met:

- (a) On visual inspection the building appeared to be sound and stable.
- (b) The service is appropriately secured to prevent the children from exiting unsupervised and to restrict unauthorised persons from gaining access. The outdoor play area is secured with latched gates, walls and fencing.
- (c)
 - The premises was adequately lit by means of natural lighting and supplemented by artificial lighting. All lights were fitted with protective covers.
 - The premises was heated by means of a gas fired heating system. Documentary evidence was available of the certificate of commissioning which was dated 25/04/2025.
 - Ventilation was provided by means of open able windows and doors and an additional mechanical ventilation system in the sanitary areas.
- (d) The premises was found in a clean condition and in good repair.
- (e) Adequate and suitable sanitary facilities, including nappy changing facilities are available to cater for the proposed 44 preschool children.

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.*

Requirement met:

The requirement has been met:

(1) Adequate clear floor space is available for the proposed increase in numbers attending the pre-school service for the children’s work, play and movement.

(2) The following clear floor space is available in the service to cater for the proposed increase in numbers to 44 preschool children:

Room 1: A total of 59.4 m² clear floor space is available to cater for the proposed 22 preschool attending on a sessional basis.

Room 2: A total of 69.7m² clear floor space is available to cater for the proposed 22 preschool children attending on a sessional basis.

The registered provider is aware of the minimum space ratio requirements for children attending the service on a full day or part-time basis as specified in Schedule 7.

Based on this information adequate clear floor space is available to cater for the proposed increase in numbers of preschool children attending the service.