

# TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

## Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances



**Tusla I.D.:** TU2015MN044

**Name of Service** Naíonra Ultain

**Address of Service:** VEC Education Campus, Cnoc A Chonnaidh, Bothar Ard Mhaca, Muineachán, Monaghan, H18 H263

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

**Name of Registered Provider:** Brendan O Dufaigh

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

**Proposed change:** It is proposed to increase care types provided from Sessional and Part Time to include the addition of Full Day Care effective from 22/08/2025.

**Proposed Number of Children:** 44

**Recommended Change Following Inspection:** Increase care types provided to include Full Day Care.

**Registered change:** Change in service type from part-time & sessional to full day, part-time & sessional  
Change in hours from 08:30 – 13:30 to 08:30 – 17:00

<b>Date of Inspection:</b>	1	7	0	6	2	0	2	5
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**Inspection undertaken by:** S Mc Kenna

**Title:** Early Years Inspector

**Tusla Early Years Inspectorate Address:** Early Years Inspectorate, Hampton Court, Cootehill Road, Drumalee, Co Cavan. H12 YY84

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

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

<b>Registration Status:</b>	Registered Full Day, Part-Time & Sessional Service for 44 Children
<b>Date of Registration</b>	23 <sup>rd</sup> June 2025

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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>	<p>Naíonra Ultain is a community run Early Years' Service located within a primary school on the outskirts of Monaghan town.</p> <p>The service provides part-time and sessional care to children aged 2 years 8 months to 6 years. The service operates during the school calendar year and opens Monday to Friday 8.30am to 1:30pm and participates in the Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) scheme.</p>
<b>Premises</b>	<p>The service operates from two care rooms on the lower ground level within the primary school building, named Seomra Glas and Seomra Gorm.</p> <p>Designated sanitary accommodation is located within each care room.</p> <p>A roof top all weather soft surfaced outdoor play area which is designated for use to the preschool service is provided.</p> <p>There is car parking available next to the primary school building.</p>
<b>Staffing</b>	<p>Nine adults are employed of which 8 work directly with the children and 1 is ancillary. The registered provider is not service based.</p>
<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>	<p>The Inspector wishes to acknowledge the cooperation of the person in charge and staff who were present on the day of 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 2 named persons to deputise in their absence.

### 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 a total of 6 adults will work between both care rooms in the morning time, and 4 adults in the evening times.

The registered provider and service manager are aware of the requirements of this regulation in relation to adult: child ratios.

### 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.

(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

#### Requirement met:

The requirements of this regulation have been met.

(1) (a)

Adequate and suitable facilities have been provided for children to play indoors during the day. A range of play materials and toys and well-resourced interest areas are available in each of the care rooms.

(b)

Adequate and suitable facilities are provided for the children to rest on if required. There are cosy areas in each care room with soft floor mats and cushions.

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Stackable day beds are also available should a child require to lie down to sleep or rest while attending the service.

(3)

A roof top area that is secured by walls and metal fencing is available to the children attending the service. A variety of physical ride on toys, and some messy play spaces are provided in this area.

### 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.  
The service provides breakfast in the morning.  
The parents will provide morning snacks for the children.  
A hot meal for any child staying on a full daycare basis will be supplied by the child's parent/carer, which will be appropriately stored, reheated and served by the childcare staff.  
The service provides an afternoon snack.  
The children will have access to potable drinking water.  
Fridges are available for the storage of perishable food items.  
A microwave is available for the heating of food items.

### 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 external doors are appropriately secured with a doorbell to notify staff of parent/carer presence, which prevents a preschool child exiting unaccompanied or access to the area by an unauthorised person. A visitor log is maintained.  
All cleaning agents and medications are stored out of the reach of children and staff belongings are stored in the storeroom.  
The emergency exit doors were unobstructed throughout the inspection. There is a designated fire assembly point in the all-weather pitch located at the front of the premises.  
There was provision for the appropriate disposal and storage of waste.  
Blind cords were secured.

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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)

The registered provider has ensured there is an adult with up to date First Aid Responder (FAR) training on the premises. Five FAR certificates were available for inspection with expiration dates of October 2026 and June 2027.

(2) (a) (b)

An adequately stocked first aid box is provided in both care rooms within the service and is available to the 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 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)

There is a log in place to record any fire drills that will take place on the service.

(b)

There is a written record of the number type and installation of the servicing of firefighting equipment and smoke alarms in the premises dated July 2024 and March 2026 respectively.

(4) There are notices displayed of the procedures to be followed in the event of a fire.

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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.  
Insurance is in place which covers a maximum of 44 children on a Full Day Care basis and expires on the 27/03/26.

### 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) The service is operating from a premises which appears to be structurally sound.

(b) The service was adequately secured to prevent children exiting unsupervised and unauthorised persons gaining entry. The outdoor play area on the roof is fenced and secured.

(c) The service was adequately lit, heated and ventilated. The lighting was provided by a mixture of natural light leading from openable windows, which was supplemented with fluorescent ceiling lights which were fitted with protective covers.

The room temperature in the care rooms is adequate. Heating is by means of a wood pellet system.

The care rooms are ventilated by means of openable windows and in the sanitary accommodation by means of mechanical ventilation and openable windows.

(d) Cleaning schedules were available and in place, and the premises was maintained in a clean condition.

(e) There are 2 toilets and 2 wash hand basins in each of the sanitary accommodation areas located off each of the care rooms. Nappy changing mats are available if needed, and a pedal operated nappy bin is available. The sanitary area has a continuous supply of thermostatically controlled running water, a supply of liquid soap and wall mounted paper towel dispensers.

There is an existing staff toilet and hand basin for the staff on the ground floor located off the hallway beside the care rooms.

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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.*

<b>Requirement met:</b>	<p>The requirements of this regulation have been met.</p> <p>(1)                  Adequate clear floor space has been provided for the work, play and movement of children.</p> <p>(2)                  The combined size of the two care rooms ensures that the required floor space for a maximum number of 44 children attending on a full day care basis aged 2 to 6 years has been met.</p> <p>The minimum floor space requirement in a full day care service of 2.35 m<sup>2</sup> for children aged 2-3 years, and 2.3 m<sup>2</sup> for children aged 3 -6 years was available.</p> <p>The floor space in Seomra Glas was 63m<sup>2</sup>. The floor space in Semora Gorm was 64m<sup>2</sup>.</p>
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