

TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances

Tusla I.D:	TU2015WH055
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Name of Service	Naíonra Lios Na Nog
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Address of Service:	Ascaill Lios Uí Mhullain, Lios Uí Mhullín, Athlone, Co. Westmeath
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Email Address:	carriembc@icloud.com
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Name of Registered Provider:	Carrie O' Connor
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Type of Proposed Service:	Full Day Care		Part-Time	✓	Sessional	
	Drop-In		Childminding		Temporary	

Proposed change:	Adding an additional part time service operating from 09:00 to 13:00 in a second classroom in the national school.
Proposed Number of Children:	Additional 22 children
Recommended Change Following Inspection:	Part time service for 44 children.
Registered change:	Change in number of children that can be accommodated from 22 to 44

Date of Inspection:	2	7	0	6	2	0	2	3
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Inspection undertaken by:	C O' Connor Hughes
Title:	Early Years Inspector

Tusla Early Years Inspectorate Address:	Early Years Inspectorate, SAP office, St Loman's Campus, Mullingar, Co. Westmeath
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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 Part Time / Sessional Service for 44 Children
Date of Registration	10 th July 2023

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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).

Description of Service	This part time service participates in the Early Education and Care scheme. The age range of the children enrolled in the service is from 0 to 6 years of age. The service operates between the hours of 09:00 and 13:00 on a Monday to Friday basis.
Premises	The Early Years' Service is located in a classroom of the local Gael Scoil in Athlone, Co Westmeath. The service has the use of the national school's outdoor play area located adjacent to the service. The hall in the national school is available for use by the pre-school children.
Staffing	Three staff are employed in the service including the registered provider.
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 requirement was met.

(1)(a)

The proposed pre-school service has a named designated person in charge and deputy person in charge.

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:

The requirement was met.

The registered provider stated that two adults will work with the proposed twenty -two children to ensure the correct adult:child ratio is maintained at all times.

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 or

Requirement met:

The requirement was met.

(1)(a)

Adequate and suitable play facilities were available for children. Low level tables and chairs were noted, materials were accessible on low level shelving. Interest areas included a kitchen equipped with utensils, construction, free play and a large couch as a rest area.

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	<p>(b) Suitable rest facilities are available in the pre-school room. The registered provider stated she will provide low level beds as required by the proposed twenty two children.</p> <p>(3)(a) The service has the use of the national school's outdoor play area located adjacent to the service. Polytunnels for vegetable planting were noted.</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.

Requirement met:	<p>The requirement was met.</p> <p>A healthy eating policy was available for review. The registered provider stated the parents will provide sufficient and healthy snacks for the proposed children attending the service. A fridge is available for the storage of perishable goods.</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.

Requirement met:	<p>The requirement was met.</p> <p>The main entrance doors to the pre-school service are secured by a magnetic system. There is a magnet lock system for the second door at the reception area of the national school managed by staff. Blind cords were secured on all windows in the pre-school room. The emergency exit doors are unobstructed.</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 requirement was met.

(1)

The registered provider and staff member are qualified in first aid response (FAR) training. The expiry date noted was 7 July 2024.

(2)(a)

A first aid box is located in a conspicuous position in the pre-school room in the service.

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 firefighting 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 was met.

(1)(a)

A fire register is available for monthly fire drills to be conducted in the pre-school service.

(b)

Maintenance records were available for the firefighting equipment and smoke alarms dated May 2023 and June 2023 respectively.

(4)

A notice of the procedures to be followed in the event of a fire was displayed in a conspicuous position in the pre-school room.

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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 was met.

An insurance quotation was submitted to the Registration Team prior to this inspection with an expiry date of 27 March 2024. 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:

This requirement was met.

(a)

The premises visually appeared to be of sound and stable structure.

(b)

The main entrance is secure to ensure the children’s safety within the service.

(c)

An oil-fired central heating system is in place with thermostatically controlled radiators in place in the service.

The temperature of the room and the radiators were not recorded on the 27 June 2023 as the heating was not switched on due to the summer holidays in the national school.

The service submitted a maintenance record to the Early Years Inspector via email on the 30 June 2023 in respect of the heating system. The service date noted was the 29 June 2023.

Natural lighting is supplemented by adequate artificial lighting in the pre-school room.

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	<p>Openable windows are available in the pre-school room and sanitary accommodation for natural ventilation.</p> <p>The service is connected to both the public drainage and public water supply.</p> <p>(d) The floors and the walls are in a good state of repair and maintenance. A cleaning schedule was available for the service.</p> <p>A contractor for the collection of refuse bins has been engaged by the service to collect refuse from the premises on a scheduled basis.</p> <p>The pest control maintenance took place recently on the 15 June 2023.</p> <p>(e) Two toilets and two wash hand basins are available in the pre-school room. Warm running water, soap and hand towels were noted. Staff toilets are located near the pre-school room.</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 requirement was met.</p> <p>(1) Adequate clear floor space was available to provide the children with an environment to work, play and move freely on a part time and sessional basis.</p> <p>(2)</p>
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The pre-school room measured 68.87 metres square and met the required floor space for the proposed twenty-two children attending the service on a part time basis.

(3)

Not applicable, the service is proposing operating as a part-time day-care service.

(4)(a)(b)

In a contemporaneous situation adequate floor space is available for the proposed twenty-two children to attend on a part time and sessional basis.