

TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances



Tusla I.D: TU2015WW221

Name of Service: An Naíonra Gaelscoil Uí Chéagaigh

Address of Service: c/o Gaelscoil Uí Chéadaigh,
Vevay Road,
Bray,
Wicklow.

Email Address: Ciara@naionra.org

Name of Registered Provider: Ciara Watson

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

Proposed change: Change from sessional to a part-time service.
Change of operational hours of service from 8.40 am to 12.10 pm to 8.40 am to 1.40 pm.

Proposed Number of Children: 33 for a sessional service across two rooms in the service.
16 to remain in the service after sessional hours for a part-time service.

Recommended Change Following Inspection: Service to change from a sessional service to a part-time service with a maximum of 16 children remaining in the service after sessional hours to be provided with part-time childcare in the playroom seeking approval.
Change of operational hours of service.

Registered change: Change in service type from Sessional to Part Time
Change in hours of operation from 08:40 – 12.10 to 08:40 to 13:40

Date of Inspection:	0	6	0	9	2	0	2	2
----------------------------	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Inspection undertaken by: Ann Spain

Title: Registration Support Manager

Tusla Early Years Inspectorate Address: Primary Care Centre, Church Avenue, Tullamore, Co. Offaly.

TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances

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 33 Children (Max 16 Part Time)
Date of Registration	20 th September 2022

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	An Naíonra Gaelscoil Uí Chéagaigh is a Naíonra in operation at the present address since 2012. The privately run service is located in a gaelscoil in Bray town and the rooms are leased by the service registered provider. The service is currently caring for children in the age range 2 years 6 months to 6 years and is seeking to extend collection times for children to 1.40 pm to provide part-time childcare.
Premises	The service is located on the ground floor of a two storey standalone premises. The rooms in the service comprise of two playrooms and a combined storeroom and office. Sanitary accommodation for children is provided directly off one playroom and off the hallway outside of the second playroom. Staff have access to sanitary accommodation on the same floor and in the school building. An outdoor play area for the sole use of the service is provided close to the location of the playrooms.
Staffing	The service is staffed by three adults who have Early Childhood Care and Education qualifications at Quality and Qualifications Ireland (QQI) level 5 to level 6. One staff member has also availed of Leadership for Inclusion (LINC) training.
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, person in charge, staff and children who were present on the day of the inspection.

TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances

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:

This requirement has been met.

(1)(a) The service has both a designated person in charge and a named person to deputise as required. The deputy person in charge of the service works directly with the children cared for. The person in charge is available to provide relief cover 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:

This requirement has been met.

(1) One room in the service is currently in use with three staff members caring for a maximum of 22 children in daily attendance for a sessional service. This room is also proposed for use for the care of up to 16 children remaining after sessional hours for a part-time service with 2 staff caring for the children at all times. The second playroom registered to care for a maximum of 11 children for sessional care is currently not in use. The service registered provider is aware of the required adult: child ratios for the age group of children proposed for care in the service.

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:

This requirement has been met.

(1)(a) The playroom seeking approval for a part-time service is equipped with play and work equipment which includes jigsaws, puzzles, the alphabet, building cogs, threading materials and peg boards for table top activities. The imaginative role play area is provided with a post man van and a shop. A cooker, cooking equipment, food, a table and chairs are provided in the home corner. The construction area is equipped with a tool set, blocks, bricks and wheel along toys including trucks, cars and lorries. A timber house with furniture and small figurines is provided in the small world area. Arts and crafts materials provided include paint and brushes, trays, funnels, shapes and paper sheets. Books on a low-level open shelving unit were provided in the library area of the playroom.

(b) Picture evidence was received on the 8 September 2022 which confirmed the provision of a low-level bed, a soft floor mat and a den with soft seating in the proposed rest area for children requiring to rest while children not requiring rest or sleep continues to play in the same room. Written confirmation was provided on the day of inspection to confirm the purchase of a further five low level beds and it was acknowledged that the storeroom off the playroom provided a suitable location for the storage of low-level beds when not in use. Picture evidence was submitted on the 12 September 2022 which confirmed the provision of an additional six low level beds on a stand to store off the floor for use by children present on a part-time basis to rest and sleep on demand. Picture evidence was also submitted of lined and cellular blankets also secured for use in the service.

(3)(a) An outdoor play area for the sole use of the service and separate to the outdoor grounds for the adjoining school is provided directly off one of the playrooms and close to the room seeking approval. The outdoor play area is safely and securely fenced off by concrete walls on three site boundaries and the building walls on the remaining site boundary. Visibility strips to protect against impact damage are provided on the low-level glass panel wall forming part of the boundary to the outdoor play area. The two

TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances

high level cast iron gates on a boundary wall are locked from inside to guard against unauthorised access from areas outside of the grounds. The outdoor play area is provided with a smooth slabbed concrete ground surface. A shop, a mud kitchen and seating was noted 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:

This requirement has been met.

A refrigerator is provided in the playroom for the storage of perishable foods and snacks as provided by parents and guardians of children in attendance in the service. It was stated that parents will provide a meal for children remaining in the playroom to be cared for on a part-time basis. The children’s water bottles are held in storage on top of the refrigerator for children to avail of a drink on demand. A sink in the playroom with a hot and cold water supply is available for wash up purposes.

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:

This requirement has been met.

The following measures were noted on the day of inspection to safeguard the childrens health, safety and welfare and to ensure that the environment of the service is safe.

Environment of the service.

- The entrance door to the school building is the drop off and collection point for the children to guard against unauthorised access to the building. A key pad is provided at the door entrance for the sole use of staff working in the service and adjoining school rooms.
- The glass panels in the entrance door allow easy visibility off all approaching the service in the event of late arrivals or early collection of children. The entrance to the school building is also visible from a window in the playroom seeking approval.
- A thumb lock is provided on both doors leading from the playroom to the school hallway to guard against both unsupervised exit by children and unauthorised access to the playroom. Viewing panels are provided on both doors.
- Cleaning agents and chemicals are stored in the store room off the playroom and on a high-level shelf in the playroom and in areas inaccessible to the children in attendance.
- Low level sockets in the playroom are provided with safety covers.

TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances

Infection control.

- A stock of back up toys and play equipment is held in storage in the playroom to permit cleaning and rotation of toys not required for everyday use.
- A sink with a hot and cold water supply is provided in the playroom to assist with the cleaning schedule for the service.
- Wall hooks are provided in the hallway outside of the playroom for the storage of childrens coats and outdoor clothing in an area off the floor and outside of the playroom. Staff working in the service have access to an area in the storeroom for the storage of coats and personal belongings outside of the playroom.
- Waste and refuse bins are stored at the front of the school building and an area children in the service have no access to.

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 is available to the children attending the pre-school service at all times

Requirement met:

- (1) One staff member working in the service has up to date first aid responder training with an expiry date of the 13 March 2024. The registered provider is available to work in the service in the event of this staff member's absence and also has first aid responder training with an expiry date of the 13 March 2024 also.
- (2)(a) A first aid box is positioned on a high-level window sill in the playroom and an area inaccessible to the children in attendance.

TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances

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:

This requirement has been met.

(1)(a) A record in writing is maintained of fire drills as conducted in the premises. It was noted that the last monthly fire drill was conducted on 13 June 2022 and prior to the September reopening of the service.

(b) The maintenance record for the firefighting equipment which was wall mounted in the hallway leading to the playroom, the hallway outside of the playroom and in the nearby reception area indicated that an annual service was conducted on 11 January 2022.

(b) The maintenance record for the smoke alarm system for the building indicated that a service was last conducted in March 2022.

(4) A notice of the procedure to be followed in the event of a fire is positioned on the entrance door to the playroom. A fire assembly point is positioned on a concrete wall at the front of the building and close to the playroom seeking approval.

Part VI – Safety

Regulation 28 – Insurance

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

Requirement met:

This requirement has been met.

The service has a quotation for insurance cover for up to 33 children in a part-time service operational from 29 August 2022 to 27 March 2023. The registered provider must ensure that adequate insurance is in place prior to 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 has been met.

(a) The internal walls and ceilings in the playroom seeking approval were in a good state of repair and maintenance on the day of inspection. External windows and high-level glass panels appear to be both water tight and weather tight.

(b) A smooth tarmac pathway leads to the entrance to the service and school building. The entrance door is secured with a keypad and a staffed reception area is located inside the entrance door for easy visibility of all approaching the service. The premises is connected to both the public drainage and drinking water supply.

(c) Five openable windows and adjoining glass panels are provided in the playroom couples with ceiling mounted fluorescent light fittings to ensure a good mix of both natural and artificial lighting and ventilation directly from the outside air in the playroom. All light fittings are covered with shatter proof diffusers. Four wall mounted radiators are provided in the playroom which are thermostatically controlled for heating in the room.

(d) The heavy duty floor lino throughout the rooms in the service is well fitted and was in a good state of repair and maintenance on the day of inspection. A sink with a hot and cold water supply and a shelf over the sink with cleaning agents are provided in the playroom to assist with the cleaning schedule for the service. A foot pedal operated bin is provided in the playroom. Refuse bins are stored at the front of the school building and in an area children in the service are denied access to.

(e) Two toilet cubicles and two-level wash hand basins are provided in the sanitary accommodation off the hallway and close to the playroom seeking approval for the sole use of up to 22 children cared for in the room. One toilet cubicle and one low level wash hand basin is provided directly off the second playroom in the service for use by up to 11 children in the room. Thermostatically controlled hot water, liquid soap, disposable paper towels and foot pedal operated bins are provided adjacent to the wash hand basins. Staff working in the service have access to 3 toilets and 3 wash handbasins in the hallway and close to the playrooms. Openable windows are provided in the sanitary accommodation of the room seeking approval and the staff toilet area for ventilation purposes. The childrens toilet area off the second playroom in the service is mechanically ventilated from a ceiling mounted fan unit. The service registered provider indicated that toilet trained children are cared for in the service.

TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances

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:

This requirement has been met.

(1) An area of 68.74 m² is provided in the playroom seeking approval to ensure adequate floor space is available for the maximum of 22 children availing of sessional service in the room.

(2) Adequate floor space is provided for in the proposed playroom for up to 16 children seeking part-time childcare after sessional hours in the room.