Tuarascáil Rialála Chigireacht na Luathbhlianta Réamhscoil

Uimhir Aitheantais TUSLA:	TU2021GY003

Ainm na Seirbhíse:	Naíonra Realt na Mara

Seoladh na Seirbhíse:	Scoil na bhForbacha, Cnocán an Bhodaigh, Na Forbacha, Co. Galway.

Eirchód:	H91 RR60

Ainm an tSoláthraí Chláraithe:	Seán Breathnach

Cineál na Seirbhíse	Seirbhís Reamhscoile Sheisiúnach

Dáta na Cigireachta:	22ú Meitheamh 2023

Líon na leanaí réamhscoile:	AM	18	PM	N/b

Address of the Early Years Inspectorate:	Tusla– An Ghníomhaireacht um Leanaí agus an Teaghlach, Cigireacht na Luathbhlianta, Stiúrthóireacht Cáilíochta agus Rialacháin, Foirgneamh Cliniciúil & Riaracháin, Bloc A - (An Chéad Urlár - Dorchla Glas), Páirc Mhuirlinne, Gaillimh,
Inspection undertaken by:	F Nic Dhonnacha
Title:	Cigire na Luathbhlianta

Údarás chun cigireacht a dhéanamh
Déanann Cigireacht na Luathbhlianta, Tusla cigireacht ar Sheirbhísí Luathbhlianta faoi Alt 58(J) den Acht um Chúram Leanaí, 1991 (arna chur isteach le hAlt 92 den Acht fán nGníomhaireacht um Leanaí agus an Teaghlach, 2013).

Coinníollacha, má bhaineann le hábhar	Neamh Bhainteach

Cur síos ar an tseirbhís

Tá an tseirbhís seisiúnach seo lonnaithe in áitreabh saintógtha ar chúl Scoil na bhForbacha, i sráidbhaile na bhForbacha, i gCo.na Gaillimhe. Tá 1 sheomra súgartha sa réamhscoil, le hoifig agus limistéir sláintíochta in aice láimhe. Bíonn an tseirbhís ar oscailt ó Luan go hAoine agus cuirtear an tseirbhís réamhscoile ar fáil trí mheán na Gaeilge. Cuireann an réamhscoil clár cúraim agus cúraim sheisiúnaigh ar fáil do Chúram agus Oideachas na Luath-Óige (ECCE) ó idir 9.00 uair agus 12.00 uair. Cuirtear limistéar scíthe ciúin ar fáil sa seomra súgartha, chun cabhrú le leanbh scíth a ligean nó diúltú do ghníomhaíocht má roghnaíonn sé/sí. Tá teacht ag na páistí réamhscoile ar limistéar súgartha lasmuigh atá slán ar thaobh an áitribh le haghaidh gníomhaíochtaí súgartha fisiciúla, taiscéalaíochta agus aer úr do na páistí. Cuirtear curaclam bunaithe ar shúgradh ar fáil a dhíríonn ar spéiseanna atá ag teacht chun cinn.

Soláthar foirne

Oibríonn an soláthraí cláraithe sa scoil náisiúnta beal doras agus níl sé sa tseirbhís ar bhonn laethúil. Bhí beirt daoine fásta i láthair lá na cigireachta. Tá beirt bhall foirne san iomlán seachas an soláthraí cláraithe, atá ag obair faoi láthair san áitreabh le Dearbhú Cáilíochta agus Cáilíochtaí Éireann (QQI) ag Leibhéal 5 ar a laghad, Cúram agus Oideachas na Luath-Óige.

Modheolaíocht

Is í Cigireacht na Luathbhlianta, Tusla, rialtóir reachtúil neamhspleách ar sheirbhísí luathbhlianta in Éirinn. Sainmhínítear i Rialacháin an Achta um Chúram Leanaí 1991 (Seirbhísí Luathbhlianta) 2016 dualgas an tsoláthraí chláraithe sábháilteacht agus folláine leanaí a chinntiú agus cloí leis na riachtanais seo. Tugann an tAcht seo údarás do Tusla measúnú a dhéanamh ar chomhlíonadh leis na rialacháin. Is é is aidhm le rialáil maidir le seirbhísí óige ná a chinntiú go seastar le cúram, sábháilteacht, agus folláine na leanaí a fhreastalaíonn ar na seirbhísí seo. Pleanáiltear cigireachtaí ar sheirbhísí luathbhlianta bunaithe ar na pointí seo a leanas:

- Stair chigireachta na seirbhíse
- Eolas ar bith a fhaightear maidir leis an tseirbhís

- Tá torthaí na cigireachta bunaithe ar:
- Eolas a fhaightear trí dhoiciméid a imscrúdú
- Breathnú díreach
- Plé le baill foirne ábhartha

Ba chigireacht fógartha/neamhfhógartha é seo, agus díríodh ar rialachas, sláinte, folláine agus forbairt an linbh,sábháilteacht,áitreabh agus saoráidí lena linn. Féadfaidh cigireachtaí díriú ar réimsí eile chomh maith, de réir mar is gá.

Leagtar amach torthaí na cigireachta sa tuarascáil maidir leis an gcigireacht a eisítear mar dhréacht-tuarascáil ar dtús chuig an tseirbhís, agus bíonn deis ag an tseirbhís freagra a thabhairt ar thorthaí ar bith a luaitear inti. I gcás go sainaithnítear nach bhfuil ceanglais reachtúla á gcomhlíonadh, ní mór don soláthraí cláraithe léiriú a thabhairt ar an mbealach a réitíodh an neamhchomhlíonadh agus mar a chuirfear cosc ar an neamhchomhlíonadh amach anseo. Úsáidfear an plean um Ghníomh Ceartaitheach agus Gníomh Coisctheach (CAPA) chun bonn eolais a chur le cinntí maidir le comhlíonadh le ceanglais rialála. I gcás nach n-éiríonn leis an soláthraí cláraithe na ceanglais reachtúla a chomhlíonadh, féadfar próiseas géaraithe a thosú.

Forchoimeádann an Chigireacht an ceart chun eagarthóireacht a dhéanamh ar fhreagraí a fhaightear ar chúiseanna éagsúla lena n-áirítear soiléireacht; iomláine; agus chun próisis riaracháin agus dlíthiúla a chomhlíonadh.

Is í an Chigireacht a thiomsaíonn ábhar na tuarascála.

Buíochas

Is mian leis an gCigire buíochas a ghabháil leis an soláthraí cláraithe, leis an duine i bhfeighil, leis an bhfoireann agus leis na leanaí a bhí i láthair ar lá na cigireachta as a gcomhoibriú ar fad.

Cuid III – Bainistíocht agus Foireann

Rialachán 9 – Bainistíocht agus earcaíocht

(1) Cinnteoidh soláthraí cláraithe-

(a) go mbeidh sa tseirbhís duine i bhfeighil ainmnithe agus duine arna ainmniú nó arna hainmniú a bheidh ábalta gníomhú mar ionadaí de réir mar is gá,

(b) go mbeidh an duine i bhfeighil ainmnithe nó an duine arna ainmniú nó arna hainmniú dá dtagraítear i bhfomhír (a) san áitreabh gach tráth le linn na tréimhse ina mbeidh an tseirbhís réamhscoile á seoladh, agus

(2) Cinnteoidh soláthraí cláraithe gur duine oiriúnach inniúil gach fostaí, gach oibrí nach n-íoctar agus gach conraitheoir, agus cineál na riachtanas a bhíonn ar leanaí á chur san áireamh, lena n-áirítear trí na nithe seo a leanas a dhéanamh–

(a) breithniú ar theistiméireacht ó fhostóirí an duine san am a caitheadh, más ann, agus go háirithe ar theistiméireacht ón bhfostóir is déanaí, más ann,

(b) breithniú ar theistiméireachtaí ó fhoinsí iontaofa i gcás duine nach raibh aon fhostóirí air nó uirthi san am a caitheadh,

(c) breithniú ar an nochtadh grinnfhiosrúcháin a fuarthas ó Bhiúró Náisiúnta Grinnfhiosrúcháin an Gharda Síochána de réir Acht 2012 i leith an duine, agus

d) a chinntiú, a mhéid is indéanta, go soláthróidh duine, i gcás go raibh cónaí ar an duine i stát seachas an Stát ar feadh tréimhse ab fhaide ná 6 mhí as a chéile, grinnfhiosrúchán ag póilíní ó na húdaráis phóilíneachta sa stát sin.

(4) Cinnteoidh soláthraí cláraithe, gan dochar do ghinearáltacht mhír (2) agus faoi réir mhíreanna (5) agus (6), go sealbhaíonn gach fostaí a bhíonn ag obair go díreach le leanaí a fhreastalaíonn ar an tseirbhís, mórdhámhachtain i gCúram agus Oideachas Luath-Óige ar Leibhéal 5 ar an gCreat Náisiúnta Cáilíochtaí nó cáilíocht a mheasfaidh an tAire a bheith coibhéiseach léi sin, ar a laghad.

Faisnéis maidir le Comhlíonadh:

(1) (a) Bhí duine ainmnithe i gceannas agus bhí duine ainmnithe ar fáil le ionadú nuair ba gá sa tseirbhís.

(b) Bhí an duine a bhí i gceannas ar an áitreabh nuair a tháinig an cigire luathbhlianta agus d'fhan sí ar an láthair ar feadh ré an iniúchta. Thug uainchláir foirne le fios go raibh an duine ainmnithe a bhí i gceannas nó an ionadaí ar fáil, ar an áitreabh, nuair a bhí na leanaí réamhscoile i láthair I gconaí.

(2) Rinneadh athbhreithniú ar gach comhad foirne sa tseirbhís ar lá na cigireachta.

(a)&(b) Bhi ceithre cinn de na ceithre thagairt bhailíochtaithe scríofa, ar chomhad, ó iarfhostóir nó ó fhoinse seachas an t-iarfhostóir.

(c) Bhí nochtadh grinnfhiosrúcháin an Gharda Síochána ar fáil maidir le gach ball foirne.

(d) Ní raibh sé infheidhme, toisc nach raibh aon fhoireann ina gcónaí lasmuigh den dlínse, ar feadh tréimhse níos faide ná 6 mhí, agus iad os cionn 18 mbliana d'aois agus dá bhrí sin níor theastaigh grinnfhiosrúchán póilíní uathu.

(4) Bhí Dearbhú Cáilíochta agus Cáilíochtaí Éireann (QQI) ag Leibhéal 5 ar a laghad, i gCúram agus Oideachas na Luath-Óige. Bhí cóipeanna de cháilíochtaí ar chomhad don bheirt bhall foirne.

Cuid III – Bainistíocht agus Foireann

Rialachán 11 - Leibhéil Foirne

Faisnéis maidir le Comhlíonadh:

(1) Le linn thréimhse an iniúchta, chinntigh an duine a bhí i gceannas go raibh líon leordhóthanach foirne ag obair go díreach leis na leanaí I gconaí.

(2) Léirigh fianaise dhoiciméadach i bhfoirm taifead tinrimh agus uainchláir foirne gur cloíodh le cóimheasa leanaí agus daoine fásta.

Maidin na cigireachta, bhí ocht leanbh déag réamhscoile idir 3 agus 5 bliana d'aois.

Bhí beirt bhall foirne cúram leanaí ag obair go díreach leis na leanaí. Ina theannta sin, oibríonn an soláthraí cláraithe sa scoil náisiúnta agus chabhraigh sé le feidhm riaracháin na cigireachta.

(8)(c) Ní oibrítear an tseirbhís go haonarach, toisc go raibh duine ainmnithe i gceannas agus foireann bhreise ag obair sa tseirbhís réamhscoile.

Cuid IV – Faisnéis agus Taifid

Rialachán 16 – Taifead i ndáil le seirbhís réamhscoile

(1) Cinnteoidh soláthraí cláraithe go gcoimeádfar taifead i scríbhinn ar an bhfaisnéis seo a leanas i ndáil leis an tseirbhís:

(c) mionsonraí i dtaobh na gcóimheas idir daoine fásta agus leanaí sa tseirbhís;

(g) na beartais, na nósanna imeachta agus na ráitis a cheanglaítear ar an tseirbhís a chothabháil de réir Rialachán 10;

(h) mionsonraí i dtaobh freastal ag gach leanbh réamhscoile ar bhonn laethúil;

Faisnéis maidir le Comhlíonadh:

(c) Sa seomra súgartha, sa leabhar taifid tinrimh, bhí na mionsonraí do líon daoine fásta do leanaí in aghaidh gach lae sa tseirbhís.

(g) Coinníodh cóip chrua de bheartais, nósanna imeachta agus ráitis na seirbhíse agus bhí sí ar fáil lena hathbhreithniú ar an láithreán ach é a iarraidh.

(h) Coinníodh leabhair thaifid tinrimh agus bhí siad ar fáil lena n-athbhreithniú ar gach leanbh réamhscoile ar bhonn laethúil sa tseirbhís.

Cuid IV – Faisnéis agus Taifid
Rialachán 18 – Cóip den Acht, etc.
Cinnteoidh soláthraí cláraithe go gcoinneofar san áitreabh cóip de Chuid VIIA (a cuireadh isteach le halt 92 den Acht fán nGníomhaireacht um Leanaí agus an Teaghlach, 2013 (Uimh. 40 de 2013)) den Acht agus de na Rialacháin seo agus beidh na cóipeanna a dúradh ar fáil lena n-iniúchadh san áitreabh—(a) ag tuismitheoir nó caomhnóir linbh a fhreastalaíonn ar an tseirbhís nó a bheartaíonn freastal ar an tseirbhís, *(b) ag fostaí, ag oibrí nach n-íoctar nó ag conraitheoir, agus* *(c) ag duine údaraithe.*
Faisnéis maidir le Comhlíonadh:
Bhí cóip de Chuid VIIA (a cuireadh isteach le halt 92 den Acht fán nGníomhaireacht um Leanaí agus an Teaghlach, 2013 (Uimh. 40 de 2013) den Acht agus de na Rialacháin seo ar fáil ar an mbord fógraí agus ar fáil do thuismitheoirí, caomhnóirí, fostaithe, oibrithe gan phá, conraitheoirí agus daoine údaraithe.

Cuid V - Cúram Linbh i Seirbhís Réamhscoile
Rialachán 19 - Sláinte, leas agus forbairt linbh
(1) Cinnteoidh soláthraí cláraithe, le linn dó nó di a bheith ag soláthar seirbhís réamhscoile— *(a) go ndéanfar foghlaim, forbairt agus leas gach linbh a urasú laistigh de shaol laethúil na seirbhíse réamhscoile trí na gníomhaíochtaí cuí, an idirghníomhaíocht chuí, na hábhair chuí agus an trealamh cuí a sholáthar, ag féachaint d'aois agus do chéim forbartha an linbh, agus*
Faisnéis maidir le Comhlíonadh:
RIACHTANAIS BHUNÚSACHA • Cuireadh bia sláintiúil chun cinn laistigh den tseirbhís. • Seirbheáladh béilí agus sneaiceanna cothaitheacha go rialta, ach bhí solúbthacht ann. • Bhí an t-atmaisféar le linn am béilí suaimhneach, le hidirghníomhú sóisialta taitneamhach i measc na bpáistí agus na foirne. • Spreag agus thacaigh an fhoireann le na páistí a bheith neamhspleách. • Bhí na boird agus na cathaoireacha oiriúnach d'aoiseanna agus do chéimeanna forbartha na bpáistí. • Bhí teacht ag na páistí ar an leithreas gan aon srian agus ní raibh orthu fanacht leis an leithreas a úsáid. • Spreagadh agus tugadh tacaíocht do na leanaí chun a bheith neamhspleach agus scileanna sláinteachais phearsanta a fhorbairt.

- Bhí deiseanna ag na páistí ar fad bogadh thart gan srian agus an timpeallacht a fhiosrú, laistigh agus lasmuigh den seirbhís.

AG TACÚ LE CAIDRIMH TIMPEALL LEANAÍ:

- Cuireadh in iúl don chigire luathbhlianta gur chuir an fhoireann eolas laethúil ar fáil do na tuismitheoirí/caomhnóirí maidir le heispéiris a linbh ag am fágála agus bailithe nó trí theachtaireacht téacs, glaonna gutháin agus ríomhphost nuair is gá.
- Bhí scríobleabhar próifíle ag gach páiste, istigh iontu bhí notaí scríbhinn, grianghraifeanna, gníomhaíochtaí éagsúla a raibh páiste páirteach iontu - a gcuid ealaíne agus ceardaíochta, téamaí agus eispéiris foghlama.
- Tugadh faoi deara go raibh suim ag an bhfoireann sna páistí, labhair siad go híseal, d'éist siad leo, agus d'fhreagair siad a n-iarratais. Rinne an fhoireann idirghníomhú ar bhealach dearfach leis na páistí m.sh., shuigh siad ag leibhéal na bpáistí, choinnigh siad teagmháil mhaith súl, léirigh siad comhbhá agus tuiscint mhaith ar gach leanbh, agus breathnaíodh orthu a bheith cardiúl agus tacúil ina n-idirghníomhaíochtaí.
- Bhí an clár cúraim solúbtha agus treoraithe ag roghanna na bpáistí. Thug an fhoireann le fios cé go raibh an aimsir go breá tirim go raibh na páistí sa limistéar súgartha lasmuigh den chuid is mó agus pléadh na téamaí bunaithe ar smaointe na bpáistí agus ar spéiseanna atá ag teacht chun cinn chun a scileanna teanga agus cumarsáide a chur chun cinn.
- Rinne an fhoireann maoirseacht ar pháistí agus iad i mbun súgradh saor in aisce, rólimirt, súgradh cruthaitheach, bloic thógála, ag líníocht, ag gabháil do chluichí grúpa, ag súgradh gainimh agus amhráin aicsin. Chan na páistí amhráin le linn am ciorcail.
- Bhí páistí ag súgradh taobh amuigh ar feadh tréimhse shuntasach den chigireacht, agus an timpeallacht ag éirí ina leathnú ar an limistéar laistigh. Bhain na páistí taitneamh as an aer úr, ag súgradh i ngrúpaí agus ag sóisialú ag ithe le chéile. Bhain na páistí taitneamh as spraoi gan srian ina dtimpeallacht taobh amuigh faoin aer. Tugadh faoi deara iad ag rith, ag léimneach, ag ciceáil peile, ag spraoi le ghainimh agus ag tógáil caisleáin gainimh.

Timpeallacht Fhisiciúil & Ábhartha:

Timpeallacht laistigh:

- Bhí seomra súgartha amháin ann, an naíonra, a bhí geal, fairsing agus leagtha amach go maith le réimsí éagsúla sainspéise. Bhí na hacmhainní eagraithe go maith agus bhí teacht éasca ag gach páiste réamhscoile orthu. Bhí cúinne baile, limistéar tógála, limistéar iompair, ealaíona, agus ceardaíocht, míreanna mearaí agus puzail, báisíní gainimh agus uisce le uirlisí, leabharlann, agus limistéar scíthe chomh maith le feistis chun gléasadh suas, cúinne le bréagáin domhan beag, caisleáin, feirmeacha, bloiceanna tógála, figuriní, cruthanna, ainmhithe beaga, ábhar snáithithe agus bréagáin comhaireamh.
- Taispeánadh áiseanna amhairc agus póstaeir oideachais ag leibhéil ísle chun go bhfeicfeadh na páistí iad, lena n-áirítear grianghraif teaghlaigh na bpáistí, míonna na bliana, taispeáint potaí le breithlaethanta, clár laethúil, agus pictiúir phéinteáilte.
- Cuireadh cathaoireacha agus táblaí leathchiorcal ar fáil sa seomra súgartha.
- Bhí limistéar scíthe ciúin sa seomra súgartha le cathaoireacha ar mhéid an linbh, agus mata bog chun deis a thabhairt do leanbh scíth a ligean agus scíth a thógail nó ghníomhaíochtaí a dhiúltiú más mian leis/léi é sin a dhéanamh.

Lasmuigh:

Bhí dromchla an limistéar lasmuigh clúdaithe le féar saorga agus cosáin choincréite. Bhí an áit slán le fálú adhmaid agus geataí. Cuireadh trealamh súgartha aois-oiriúnach ar fáil sa limistéar súgartha lasmuigh, lena n-áirítear báisíní gainimh agus uisce le buicéid agus uirlisí, teach súgartha bábóga agus figuriní, scútair, trírothaigh, sleamhnán, bíomaí cothromaíochta, liathróidí, bloiceanna, agus clár dubh atá suite ar na falí.

Cuid VI - Sábháilteacht

Rialachán 25 - Garchabhair

(1) Cinnteoidh soláthraí cláraithe go mbeidh duine atá oilte ar gharchabhair do leanaí ar fáil láithreach i gcónaí do na leanaí a fhreastalaíonn ar an tseirbhís réamhscoil.

(2) Cinnteoidh soláthraí cláraithe go mbeidh bosca garchabhrach do leanaí a bhfuil an trealamh cuí ann—

(a) stóráilte go sábháilte in áit fheiceálach san áitreabh ar féidir teacht air gan dua, agus

(b) ar fáil i gcónaí do na leanaí a fhreastalaíonn ar an tseirbhís réamhscoile.

Faisnéis maidir le Comhlíonadh:

(1) Chuir an tseirbhís fianaise ar fáil go raibh duine oilte i ngarchabhair ar fáil i gcónaí do na leanaí a bhí ag freastal ar an tseirbhís réamhscoile. Bhí traenáil i ngarchabhair ag beirt bhall foirne.

(2) (a) Bhí bosca garchabhrach le míreanna ábhair laistigh de dháta, stóráilte go sábháilte, éasca le teacht ar agus stóráilte in áit fheiceálach.

(b) Léirigh an tseirbhís go raibh an bosca garchabhrach lánfheistithe agus ar fáil do na páistí a bhí ag freastal ar an tseirbhís réamhscoile.

Cuid VI - Sábháilteacht

Rialachán 26 - Bearta maidir le sábháilteacht ó dhóiteán

(1) Cinnteoidh soláthraí cláraithe go gcoimeádfar taifead i scríbhinn—

(a) ar aon druil dóiteáin a dhéantar san áitreabh, agus

(b) ar líon, cineál agus taifead cothabhála an trealaimh chun dóiteán a chomhrac agus na n-aláram deataigh san áitreabh.

(4) Déanfar fógra i dtaobh na nósanna imeachta a bheidh le leanúint i gcás dóiteáin a chur ar taispeáint in áit fheiceálach san áitreabh.

Faisnéis maidir le Comhlíonadh:

(1)(a) Bhí taifead scríofa ar fáil de na druileanna dóiteáin míosúla a cuireadh i gcrích sa tseirbhís. Bhí an cleachtadh druil dóiteáin deireanach a taifeadadh ar an 8.06.2023.

(b) Bhí taifid ar fáil maidir le líon, cineál agus cothabháil trealaimh comhraicthe dóiteáin leis an tseirbhís bhliantúil dar dáta 18.11.2022.

(4)	Cuireadh fógra ar taispeáint laistigh den seirbhís le na nósanna imeachta a bhí le leanúint i gcás dóiteáin sa áitreabh.

Faisnéis maidir le Neamhchomhlíonadh

(1) (b)	Bhí taifid ar fáil maidir leis an gcóras aláraim deataigh agus braite dóiteáin don áitreabh; mar sin féin, cuireadh dáta leis an tseirbhís bhliantúil dheireanach 24.08.2021. Aithnítear go ndearnadh teagmháil le gairmí creidiúnach chun freastal ar an gcóras braite dóiteáin agus aláraim.

Gníomh Ceartaitheach & Gníomh Coisctheach arna seoladh isteach ag an Soláthraí Cláraithe

Ar 28.06.2023 agus 1.08.2023 chuir an soláthraí cláraithe an méid seo a leanas in iúl.

Gníomh Ceartaitheach agus Gníomh Coisctheach

Rinneadh seirbhísiú ar an gcóras bliantúil aláraim braite dóiteáin agus coinníodh taifead ar comhad. Beidh seirbhís á dhéanamh ar an córas aláraim dóiteáin gach blian as seo amach.

Doiciméid Tacaíochta Curtha isteach

Cuireadh cóip den duillín seirbhíse ó chuideachta chreidiúnach faoi bhráid oifig na gcigirí luathbhlianta.

Nóta Tráchta Achomair

Chomhlíon an fhianaise a cuireadh isteach go dtí seo na ceanglais rialála faoin gcuid seo den rialachán agus déanfar athbhreithniú uirthi ar an gcéad iniúchadh eile.

Cuid VI - Sábháilteacht

Rialachán 28 - Árachas

Cinnteoidh soláthraí cláraithe go mbeidh an tseirbhís réamhscoile faoi árachas leordhóthanach.

Faisnéis maidir le Comhlíonadh:

Bhí árachas na seirbhíse leordhóthan le dáta éaga 27.03.2024 le haghaidh seirbhís seisiúnach do 22 leanbh.

Early Years Inspectorate Regulatory Report Pre School

TUSLA Identifier:	TU2021GY003

Name of Service:	Naíonra Realt na Mara

Address of Service:	Scoil na bhForbacha, Cnocán an Bhodaigh, Na Forbacha, Galway, Co. Galway

Eircode:	H91 RR60

Name of Registered Provider:	Seán Breathnach

Service type:	Sessional

Date of Inspection:	22/06/2023

No of pre-school children:	AM	18	PM	N/A

Address of the Early Years Inspectorate:	Tusla – Child and Family Agency, Early Years Inspectorate, Directorate of Quality and Regulations, Clinical & Administrative Building, Block A - (First Floor - Green Corridor), Merlin Park, Galway.
Inspection undertaken by:	F Nic Dhonnacha
Title:	Early Years Inspector

Authority to Inspect
The Tusla Early Years Inspectorate carries out inspections of Early Years Services under Section 58(J) of the Child Care Act 1991 (as inserted by Section 92 of the Child and Family Agency Act 2013).

Conditions if applicable	Not applicable

Early Years Inspectorate Regulatory Report Pre School

Description of service

This sessional service is located in a purpose built premises to the back of Scoil na bhForbacha, in Furbo village, in Co. Galway. The pre-school comprises of 1 playroom, with an office and adjacent sanitary areas. The service is open from Monday to Friday and the pre-school service is provided through the medium of Irish. The preschool offers an Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) and sessional care programme from between 9.00hrs to 12.00hrs. A quiet rest area is provided in the playroom, to facilitate a child to rest or opt out of an activity if he/ she chose to. The pre-school children have access to a secure outdoor play area to the side of the premises for children's physical play activities, exploration, and fresh air. A child centred play-based curriculum focusing on emerging interests is offered.

Staffing

The registered provider works in the school and is not in the service on a daily basis. There were two adults present on the day of inspection. There are a total of two staff excluding the registered provider, currently working in the premises with a Quality and Qualifications Ireland (QQI) at a minimum of a Level 5, Early Childhood Care and Education.

Methodology

Tusla's Early Years Inspectorate is the independent statutory regulator of early years services in Ireland. The Child Care Act 1991 (Early Years Services) Regulations 2016 define the duty of a registered provider to ensure the safety and well- being of children and to comply with these regulations. This Act also gives Tusla the authority to assess compliance with the regulations. The purpose of regulation in relation to early years services is to ensure that the care, safety, and well-being of children attending such services is upheld. Inspections of early years services are planned based on the following:

- Previous inspection history
- Any information received in relation to the service

The findings on inspection are based on:

- Information obtained through examination of documentation
- Direct observation
- Discussion with relevant staff

This inspection was unannounced and focused on the area of governance, health, welfare and development of child, safety, premises and facilities. The inspections may also focus on other areas as required.

Inspection findings are documented in the inspection report which is first issued in draft format to the service with an opportunity to respond to any findings. Where statutory requirements are identified as not being met, the registered provider must demonstrate how they have rectified the non-compliance and will prevent any non - compliance from re occurring. The Corrective Action and Preventive Action plan (CAPA) will be used to inform decisions about compliance with regulatory requirements. Where the registered provider fails to meet the statutory requirements an escalation process may be commenced.

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.

Acknowledgments

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.

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,

(b)at all times during the period when the pre-school service is being carried on, the designated person in charge or the named person referred to in subparagraph (a) is on the premises, and

(2) A registered provider shall ensure that each employee, unpaid worker and contractor is suitable and competent taking into consideration the nature of the needs of children, including by-

(a) consideration of references from the person's past employers, if any, and in particular the most recent employer, if any,

(b) consideration of references from reputable sources in the case of a person who has no past employers,

(c) consideration of the vetting disclosure received from the National Vetting Bureau of the Garda Síochána in accordance with the Act of 2012 in respect of the person, and

(d) ensuring, insofar as is practicable, that where a person has lived in a state other than the State for a period of longer than 6 consecutive months, he or she provides police vetting from the police authorities in that state.

(4) A registered provider shall ensure that, without prejudice to the generality of paragraph (2) and subject to paragraphs (5) and (6), each employee working directly with children attending the service holds at least a major award in Early childhood Care and Education at Level 5 on the National Qualifications Framework or a qualification deemed by the Minister to be equivalent.

Compliance Information

(1)(a) There was a designated person in charge and there was a named person available to deputise in the service.

(b) The person in charge was on the premises when the early years inspector arrived and remained on site for the duration of the inspection. Staff rosters indicated that either the designated person in charge or deputy were available, on the premises, at all times when the pre-school children were present.

(2) All staff files were reviewed in the service on the day of inspection.

(a)&(b) Four of the four written validated references, on file were from a past employer or from a source other than the past employer.

(c) Garda vetting disclosure was available in respect of all staff members.

(d) Not applicable, as no staff had lived outside the jurisdiction, for longer than 6 months, while over the age of 18 years and thereby did not require police vetting.

(4) Two staff members held a Quality and Qualifications Ireland (QQI) at a minimum of a Level 5, in Early Childhood Care and Education. Copies of qualifications were on file for the two staff.

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.

(2) Subject to paragraphs (4) and (5), a registered provider of a full day care service or a part-time day care service shall ensure that at all times the minimum ratio of adults to children specified in column (3) of Part 1 of Schedule 6 opposite a particular reference number specified in column (1) of that Part in respect of the age range of the children specified in column (2) thereof at that reference number is satisfied.

(8) Without prejudice to paragraphs (2) to (7)-

(c) a registered provider of a sessional pre-school service 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.

Compliance Information

(1) At all times during the period of the inspection, the person in charge ensured that an adequate number of staff were working directly with the children.

(2) Documentary evidence in the form of attendance records and staff rosters indicated that adult child ratios were adhered to.

On the morning of the inspection, there were eighteen pre-school children were aged between 3 to 5 years.

There were two childcare staff working directly with the children. Additionally, the registered provider works in the national school and assisted with the administration function of the inspection.

(8)(c) The service is not operated single-handedly, as there was a designated person in charge and additional staff working in the pre-school service.

Part IV – Information and Records
Regulation 16 – Record in relation to pre-school service
(1) A registered provider shall ensure that a record in writing is kept of the following information in relation to the service: *(c) details of the adult:child ratios in the service;* *(g) the policies, procedures and statements the service is required to maintain in accordance with Regulation 10;* *(h) details of attendance by each pre-school child on a daily basis;*
Compliance Information
(c) In the playroom, the attendance record book, had the number of adults to children for each day. (g) A hard copy of the service policies, procedures and statements were maintained and available for review on site by request. (h) Attendance record books were maintained and available for review of each pre-school child on a daily basis.

Part IV – Information and Records
Regulation 18 – Copy of Act etc.
A registered provider shall ensure that a copy of Part VIIA (inserted by section 92 of the Child and Family Agency Act 2013 (No. 40 of 2013)) of the Act and of these Regulations is kept on the premises and the said copies shall be open to inspection on the premises by- *(a) a parent or guardian of a child attending or proposing to attend the service,* *(b) an employee, unpaid worker or contractor, and* *(c) an authorised person.*
Compliance Information
A copy of Part VIIA (inserted by section 92 of the Child and Family Agency Act 2013 (No. 40 of 2013) of the Act and of these Regulations was available on the notice board and available for parents, guardians, employees, unpaid workers, contractors, and authorised persons.

Part V - Care of Child in Pre-school Service
Regulation 19 - Health, welfare and development of child
(1) A registered provider shall, in providing a pre-school service, ensure that-
(a) each child's learning, development and well-being is facilitated within the daily life of the pre-school service through the provision of the appropriate activities, interaction, materials and equipment, having regard to the age and stage of development of the child, and
Compliance Information

BASIC NEEDS

- Healthy eating was promoted within the service.
- Nutritious meals and snacks were served at regular times, but there was flexibility.
- The atmosphere during mealtimes was relaxed, with pleasant social interaction among the children and staff.
- The staff encouraged and supported the children to be independent.
- The tables and chairs were suitable for the children's ages and stages of development.
- The children had unrestricted access to the toilet and did not have to wait to use the toilet.
- Children were encouraged and supported to develop self-help and personal hygiene skills.
- All the children had opportunities to move about freely and explore their environment, both indoors and outdoors.

SUPPORTING RELATIONSHIPS AROUND CHILDREN:

- The early years inspector was informed that staff provided daily information to the parents/guardians regarding their child's experiences at drop off and collection time or via text message, phone calls and email when required.
- Each child had a profile scrapbook that captured in writing and by photographs, various activities a child engaged in - their art and craftwork, themes, and learning experiences.
- The staff were observed to be interested in the children, spoke in low tones, listened to them, and responded to their requests. The staff interacted in a positive way with the children e.g., they sat at children's level, maintained good eye contact, showed empathy and a good understanding of each child, and were observed to be caring and supportive in their interactions.

- The programme of care was flexible and guided by the children's choices. Staff advised while the weather was fine and dry the children were predominately in the outdoor play area and the themes were discussed based on the children's ideas and emerging interests to promote their language and communication skills.
- The staff supervised children while they engaged in free play, role-play, creative play, building blocks, at drawing, engaged in-group games, at sand play and action songs. The children sang songs during circle time.
- Children played outside for a significant duration of the inspection, with the environment becoming an extension of the indoor area. The children enjoyed the fresh air, playing in groups and socialising eating together. The children enjoyed free play outdoors. They were observed running, jumping, kicking football, having fun with building sandcastles.

Physical & Material Environment:

Indoor environment:

- There was one playroom namely the naíonra which was bright, spacious and well laid out with a variety of defined interest areas. The resources were well organised and were easily accessible to each pre-school child. There was a well-equipped home corner, construction area, transport area, arts, and crafts, jigsaws and puzzles, sand and water basins, instruments, a library, and rest area along with a dress up corner with pretend small world toys, castles, farms, building blocks, figurines, animals shapes, threading material and counting toys.
- Visual aids and educational posters were displayed at low levels for the children to see, including, the children's family photos, months of the year, birthday pot display, daily routine, and painted pictures.
- Appropriately sized chairs and half circle tables were provided in the playroom.
- The playrooms had a quiet rest area with child size chairs, and soft matting to provide an opportunity for a child to rest and relax or opt out of an activity if he/she wishes to do so.

Outdoors:

The outdoor surface area was covered by with artificial grass and concrete paths. The area was secure with wooden fencing and gates. Age-appropriate play equipment was provided in the outdoor play area, including sand and water basins with buckets and utensils, a dolls playhouse and figurines, scooters, tricycles, a slide, balance beams, balls, blocks, and mounted chalk boards.

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.*
Compliance Information
(1) The service provided evidence that a person trained in first aid was available at all times to the children attending the pre-school service. Two staff had training in first aid. (2)(a) There was a first aid box with content items within date, safely stored, easily accessible and stored in a conspicuous position. (b) The service demonstrated that the first aid box was fully equipped and available to the children attending the pre-school 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 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.*
Compliance Information
(1)(a) A written record was available of the monthly fire drills completed in the service. The last recorded fire drill was in 8.06.2023. (b) Records were available in relation to the number, type, and maintenance of fire-fighting equipment with the annual service dated 18.11.2022.

(4)	Notices were displayed within the service of the procedures to be followed in the event of fire in the premises.
Non-Compliance Information	
(1) (b)	Records were available in relation to the smoke and fire detection alarm system for the premises; however, the last annual service was dated 24.08.2021. It is acknowledged that a reputable professional had been contacted to service the fire detection and alarm system.
Corrective & Preventive Action submitted by the Registered Provider	
On the 28.06.2023 and 1.08.2023 the registered provider advised of the following **Corrective and Preventive Action** The annual fire detection alarm system has been serviced and a record maintained. The fire alarm system will be serviced annually. **Supporting documentation submitted** A copy of the service docket from a reputable company was submitted to the office of the early years inspectors.	
Summary Comment	
The evidence submitted to date has met the regulatory requirements under this part of the regulation and will be reviewed on the next inspection.	

Part VI - Safety
Regulation 28 - Insurance
A registered provider shall ensure that the pre-school service is adequately insured.
Compliance Information
The service’s insurance with an expiry date 27.03.2024 was for a sessional service for 22 children.