



Name of Service:	Naíonra na nDéise - Iarscoile
Address and contact details of service:	Gaelscoil na nDéise, Bóthar Charraig Phiarais, Port Láirge, Waterford. X91 KP2H
TUSLA Identifier:	TU2022WD005SA
Type of Service and age profile:	School Age Care for children aged 4 to 12 years old
Name of Registered Provider:	Marc De Grás
Inspection Date:	5 September 2023
Previous Inspection Date(s):	Not applicable
Inspectors:	A. Bradshaw - Inspector A. Spain - Registration Support Manager
Registration Status:	Registered
Date of Registration:	10 October 2022
Conditions Attached to Registration:	None attached

Additional Information:	The inspection was completed on receipt of information the service submitted to the Inspectorate.
Legislation:	Tusla's Early Years Inspectorate is the independent statutory regulator of School Age Care Services in Ireland, and its role is to promote and monitor the safety and quality of school age care provision in accordance with the following legislation: • The Child and Family Agency Act 2013 Part 12 58 (G). • The Child Care Act 1991 (Early Years Services) Registration of School Age Services Regulations 2018 (S.I. 575 of 2018). A School Age Care Service is one which caters for children under the age of 15 years enrolled in a school providing primary or post primary education. The service may provide a range of activities that are developmental, educational and recreational in manner, which take place outside of school hours, the primary purpose of which is to care for children where their parents are unavailable. It is the responsibility of a registered provider to ensure the safety and well-being of school age children and the above legislation authorises Tusla to assess compliance with the Regulations.
Inspection Methodology:	The inspection was unannounced to assess compliance with the Child Care Act 1991 (Early Years Services) Registration of School Age Services Regulations 2018 (S.I. 575 of 2018) and the Child Care Act 1991, Section 58 as amended by Part 12 of the Child and Family Agency Act, 2013. The findings on inspection are based on: • Information obtained through examination of documentation. • Direct observation • Discussion with relevant staff This inspection aims to determine the extent to which service is appropriate for the care, safety and wellbeing of children in accordance with the regulations cited above. 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 corrected the non-compliance and will prevent them 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.
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Description of Service:

Naíonra na nDéise – larscoile is located on the outskirts of Waterford city surrounded by new housing developments and close to a commercial area near the city. The service which opened in September 2022 is overseen by the board of management of the Gaelscoil na nDéise National School and is based in the main school building. Naíonra na nDéise – larscoile offers care through the medium of the Irish language to children between the ages of 4 and 12 years. The service operates during the school term from 1.30 to 5.30pm. There is one large, dedicated school age room in the school building with direct access to an outdoor playground. The room has a sanitary area adjacent to it. The service has the use of a general-purpose room to serve meals and for the purposes of completing homework.

Staffing:

The service employs six staff members including the registered provider, person in charge, three staff members, and an auxiliary staff member who provides support if required. All staff members are fluent in the Irish language. The registered provider does not work directly with the children.

Acknowledgements:

The inspectors wish to acknowledge the co-operation of the children, person in charge, and staff who were present on the day of inspection.

Summary of Findings:

On the day of inspection, the registered provider was found to have met compliance in relation to:

Regulation 8(1)(c): Vetting disclosures.

Regulation 9(1)(2)(4): Staffing levels.

Regulation 10: Policies etc. of a school age service.

Regulation 12: Insurance.

Health, Safety and Welfare of Children, Child Care Act 1991, Section 58(G) as amended by Part 12 of the Child and Family Agency Act, 2013.

On the day of inspection, the registered provider was found to be non-compliant in relation to:

Regulation 8(1)(a)(b)(d)(2): Vetting disclosures.

Health, Safety and Welfare of Children, Child Care Act 1991, Section 58(G) as amended by Part 12 of the Child and Family Agency Act, 2013.

Conclusion and follow-up actions:

The inspectors reviewed the actions and evidence that the registered provider submitted as part of the CAPA process. The non-compliances found on inspection have been adequately addressed.

Regulation 8: Vetting disclosure
Purpose As the registered provider, you must ensure that an effective management structure is in place, and appropriate people are recruited to ensure the quality and safety of the care provided to the children attending the service. Core Regulatory Requirements Does the service have clearly defined governance arrangements and structures?
Regulatory requirement met
The files of the registered provider and five staff members were reviewed. (1)(c) There was a Garda vetting disclosure in place for the registered provider and five staff members.
Regulatory requirement not met
(1)(a)(b) Of the 12 references reviewed (9 which required validation), the registered provider did not ensure one reference was validated. (1)(d) There were no records available to determine if police vetting was required for one staff member. (2) There was evidence available to show that Garda Vetting was not in place prior to one staff member beginning their employment.
Corrective & Preventive Action Response submitted by the Registered Provider
(1)(a)(b) On 13 September 2023, the registered provider furnished the agency with evidence to demonstrate that the outstanding reference was validated on 7 September 2023. (1)(d) On 13 September 2023, the registered provider submitted evidence to the agency to show that police vetting was not required for one staff member. (2) The registered provider stated that the service will ensure that the Garda Vetting process has been completed before any future employee commences work in the service.

Summary

The inspector reviewed the actions and evidence that the registered provider submitted. The non-compliances identified under Regulation 8(1)(a)(b)(d)(2) have been adequately addressed.

Regulation 9: Staffing levels**Purpose**

Your service must ensure that an adequate number of staff are available at all times during the provision of services to meet the needs of the children attending. At all times, the number of staff within the service will be appropriate to the needs of children, the type of service and the care provided.

Core Regulatory Requirement

Is there an adequate number of adults working directly with the children at all times?

Regulatory requirement met

(1)(2)(4)

An adequate number of staff were available for the duration of the inspection to meet the needs of the children in attendance. Three staff members cared for a total of 21 school age children. On the inspector's arrival, a fourth staff member was on the premises to support staff and children with the transition between school and the service. The person in charge informed the inspectors that it was the second day the service had reopened since the summer break, and the additional staff member was available to provide relief cover as necessary. The person in charge was also available to offer support to the children if necessary.

Regulation 10: Policies etc of a school age service

Purpose

As a registered provider, you must develop, approve, distribute and review policies, procedures and statements in a consistent way. Policies and procedures will standardise your service's approach to implementing best practice and ensuring compliance with the legislation and regulations.

Core Regulatory Requirement

Are all the policies, procedures and statements in place for the school aged service?

Regulatory requirement met

On the day of inspection, the following policies and statements were in place for the service: child safeguarding statement, infection control policy, medication policy, behaviour management policy, drop off/collection policy, fire safety policy, and the complaints policy which met the requirements of the regulations.

Regulation 12: Insurance

Purpose

As a registered provider, you must ensure that the school age service is adequately insured.

Core Regulatory Requirement

Has the service obtained adequate insurance for the type of care and number of children attending the service?

Regulatory requirement met

The service had insurance cover for a maximum of 44 children in attendance daily. The insurance was valid from 28 November 2022 to 27 November 2023.

Health, Safety and Welfare of children

Child Care Act 1991, Section 58 as amended by Part 12 of the Child and Family Agency Act, 2013

Purpose

The protection and welfare of the children in your service is paramount, and the children's safety and wellbeing is the priority. As a registered provider, you must be committed to safeguarding the health, safety and welfare of children in your care, and to providing a safe environment where they can play, learn and develop.

Core Regulatory Requirements

Does the service provide appropriate care and attention in a safe environment and meet the safeguarding and welfare requirements of children?

Regulatory requirement met

During the inspection, the inspectors observed the health, safety, and welfare of children being supported by the following:

- There was a strong ethos of engagement with parents. For example, documents were available to demonstrate parents were confidentially surveyed regarding the running of the service. One hundred per cent of the parents who took part in the survey stated they were satisfied with the service being provided.

Regulatory requirement not met

1. There were inconsistencies in relation to the information in the service's policy documents, and the practice and procedures in place on the day of inspection. This type of inconsistency creates a risk that staff would not have the information they need to ensure children are provided with quality and safe care. For example:
 - The service's safeguarding statement referred to the service having a staff recruitment policy and a staff induction policy in place. The person in charge informed the inspectors that these policies were not in place.
 - The drop-off and collection policy had not been updated to reflect a new collection procedure that was put in place following an incident in June 2023. The new collection procedure had been introduced in partnership with the primary school.
2. There were no written staff work rosters or staff attendance records in respect of the day before the inspection and the day of the inspection. The absence of these records creates a risk to the

safety of children and staff where an evacuation of the building is required and there is no record of persons in the building.

Corrective & Preventive Action Response submitted by the Registered Provider

1. The registered provider stated that the services safeguarding statement and the drop-off and collection policy have been upgraded to reflect the current procedures in place in the service. A copy of the policies was submitted to the Inspectorate.
2. The registered provider stated that the staff have been reminded to sign in the roll book each day and that this will be regularly checked by management.

Summary

The inspectors reviewed the actions and evidence that the registered provider submitted as part of the CAPA process. The non-compliances listed above, under the Health, Safety, and Welfare of Children, Child Care Act 1991, Section 58 as amended by Part 12 of the Child and Family Agency Act, 2013, have been adequately addressed.

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