

# TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

## Initial Inspection of Proposed New Service

<b>Tusla I.D:</b>	TU2025DL001												
<b>Name of Service:</b>	Naoínra Ghaoth Beara												
<b>Address of Service:</b>	Suíomh Scoil Bhríde, Leitir Mhic an Bhaird, Donegal, F94 R962												
<b>Email Address:</b>	ray@cngg.ie												
<b>Name of Proposed Registered Provider:</b>	Ray MacPháidin												
<b>Type of Proposed Service:</b>	<table border="1"> <tr> <td><b>Full Day Care</b></td> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td><b>Part-Time</b></td> <td><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td> <td><b>Drop-In</b></td> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>Sessional</b></td> <td><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td> <td><b>Childminding</b></td> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td><b>Temporary</b></td> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> </table>	<b>Full Day Care</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Part-Time</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<b>Drop-In</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Sessional</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<b>Childminding</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Temporary</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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<b>Proposed service type:</b>	Part-Time, Sessional												
<b>Proposed Number of Children:</b>	22												
<b>Outcome of the F06 Inspection</b> (e.g., type of service, numbers, age ranges, times,)	Part-time and sessional provision for 22 preschool children aged 2-6 years, between the hours of 9am to 2pm, for 38 weeks of the year.												
<b>Registered service:</b>													
<b>Date of Inspection:</b>	1   9   0   8   2   0   2   5												
<b>Inspection Undertaken by:</b>	N. McEndoo.												
<b>Title:</b>	Early Years Inspector.												
<b>Tusla Early Years Inspectorate Address:</b>	Child and Family Agency, St. Conal's Campus, Kilmacrennan Rd, Letterkenny, Donegal. F92 XK94.												

### Rationale for Inspection

### Proposed New Service

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

<b>Registration Status:</b>	Part-time and Sessional service for 22 Children
<b>Date of Registration:</b>	29 <sup>th</sup> August 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>	Naoinra Ghaoth Beara is a new preschool service that is proposing to operate from a local primary school, located in the rural village of Leitir Mhic an Bhaird, Donegal. The proposed service will provide part time, sessional preschool care through the medium of Irish for children aged two to six years. The service will operate on weekdays between the hours of 9:00am and 2:00pm, throughout the school calendar year.
<b>Premises</b>	The proposed preschool will be run from a single large care room within the primary school building. The children will use the main entrance to the school which is secured by lock and key. The care room is accessed from the hallway of the school building. Sanitary accommodation and a storage room are located within the classroom. There is a large enclosed outdoor play area to the rear of the building. Children have exclusive use of this area, which is accessed directly across the hallway from the care room door. The service has access to a shared kitchen within the school building, where food can be reheated and prepared.
<b>Staffing</b>	It is proposed that three staff members will be employed to work in the service, with a fourth person on call for relief work. The registered provider does not work in the service on a daily basis. There is a named person in charge and a named deputy in their absence.
<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 four 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 the registering application. 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>Acknowledgement</b>	The Inspector wishes to acknowledge the cooperation of the proposed registered provider and/or person in charge who were present on the day of the inspection.

# TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

## Initial Inspection of Proposed New Service

### 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 a proposed designated person in charge and a proposed person to deputise 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.

(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.

#### Requirement met:

The requirement has been met.

(1) The service proposes to cater for a maximum of 22 preschool children on a sessional and part-time basis. There will be three staff members employed, and fourth person available to provide relief cover if necessary. The proposed allocation of staff to children is accepted as meeting the required adult child ratios.

(2) The service representative confirmed that they are aware of the minimum ratio of adults to children specified in Part 2 of Schedule 6 and will ensure that an adequate number of adults will at all times work directly with the number of children attending 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.

(2) A registered provider—

(a) of a full day care service, a part-time day care service, a sessional preschool service or a childminding service that is registered for the first time on or after 30 June 2016,

*shall ensure that a suitable, safe and secure outdoor space to which the preschool children attending the service have access on a daily basis is provided on the premises.*

<b>Requirement met:</b>	<p>This requirement has been met.</p> <p>(1)(a) With regard to the number and age range of preschool children which the service proposes to cater for and the amount of time they spend on the premises there were adequate and suitable indoor play facilities in place.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The large care room contained a well stocked array of play equipment and materials divided into clearly defined interest areas. These included arts and crafts, construction, tabletop, small world items, dress up materials, a play kitchen, a relaxation corner with a library area, problem solving toys and manipulative play resources.</li> <li>• There were open low level shelving units provided, ensuring all items are readily available to the children.</li> <li>• There were suitable sized tables and chairs available for play activities and mealtimes.</li> <li>• There were adequate and suitable outdoor play facilities in place within a dedicated area at the rear the building, fully enclosed and secure for children’s play. Ground cover consisted of tarmacadam. The area was sufficient in size to accommodate a large group of children to engage in gross motor physical play such as ball games, cycling, running and jumping. Play equipment in the area consists of ride on trikes and bikes with plans to further develop the area when in operation.</li> </ul> <p>(1)(b) Stackable floor beds were available for children to sleep if required and were equipped with appropriate bedding.</p> <p>(2) (a) There was a suitable, safe and secure outdoor space that will be available to the children. The boundary of the outdoor play area was secured with both block walls, fencing and locked gates. The location of the outdoor play area on site allowed for unrestricted daily access.</p>
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# TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

## Initial Inspection of Proposed New Service

### Part V – Care of Children in Pre-School Services

#### 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.

- It is proposed that children will bring their main meal of the day from home. The service proposes to provide daily snacks with a selection of fruit and dried foods to supplement the food brought from home.
- A refrigerator is available for the storage of food items brought in from home contained within the children’s lunchboxes.
- Children can bring their own drinks to pre-school. A supply of drinking water will be available to the children.
- The service has a healthy eating policy available that will be communicated to parents and guardians. The policy contains guidance on the provision of healthy food for children attending the pre-school.

### 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 main entrance to the school premises is secured by lock and key, preventing unauthorised entry to the premises. Children will be met at the main entrance by staff and taken to their care room.
- Internal doors are fitted with elevated handles positioned out of children's reach, preventing unsupervised exit from the care room.
- Windows have been risk assessed, and window restrictors are in place.
- Blind cords on windows in the care room have securing devices in place.
- The kitchen is inaccessible to the children.
- A refrigerator is available to store perishable food items.
- The service’s oil tank is located in the outdoor play area but inaccessible to children. The oil tank is surrounded by a tall wooden fence, with a locked padlocked gate.
- All toys and resources are in good condition and free from pinch or crunch points.
- A locked storage room, located within the care room is used for the safe storage of for cleaning products and supplies. The room is inaccessible to the preschool children.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bathrooms are stocked with liquid soap and paper towels for effective hand washing.</li> <li>• Foot pedal operated bins are used for waste disposal.</li> <li>• The warm water in the sanitary accommodation is thermostatically controlled and can be maintained to a safe temperature no great than 43°C. Water temperatures on the day of inspection were measuring 42.8°C, this was reduced by maintenance on the day and when rechecked water temperature was measured at 23.6°C.</li> </ul>
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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:

- (1) All staff members employed in the proposed service have up to date certification in First Aid Response (FAR) training.
- (2) (a) (b)  
There was a suitably equipped first aid box available to the preschool children if required.

### 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)  
The registered provider demonstrated that monthly fire evacuation drills will take place in the service and that provision for recording fire drills is available.
- (b)  
A record of the maintenance of all firefighting equipment was available with the most recent maintenance date of 10<sup>th</sup> of July 2025.
- (4)  
Fire evacuation procedures are clearly displayed on the wall of the care room. The fire assembly point is located to the front of the premises, at the bottom of the ramp.

**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 certificate of insurance for part-time day-care services commencing 30th June 2025 for a maximum of 22 children at any one time with an expiry date of 27th March 2025.

**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) On a visual inspection the service appeared to be of a sound and stable structure. The registered provider confirmed that they were not aware of any deficits with the building.  
 (b) The care room and outside play area were observed to be safe and secure.  
 (c) Adequate lighting is available in the proposed care room with the provision of a mix of natural and artificial lighting. Large openable windows provide adequate light and ventilation, while natural light is supplemented by fluorescent lighting.  
 (d) The service is clean and appears well maintained.  
 (e) The proposed care room has sanitary accommodation which consists of two toilets and two wash hand basins for the use of the preschool child. Staff sanitary facilities are in the main school building.

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).*
- (5) *A registered provider of a temporary pre-school service shall ensure that a minimum of 2 square metres of clear floor space is available for each child attending the service.*

**Requirement met:**

This requirement has been met:

(1)

Adequate floor space is provided in the proposed classroom for the free movement of children to work, rest and play.

(4)

It is proposed that a maximum of 22 children will attend the proposed new room on a sessional basis. The service demonstrated adequate free floor space for this number of children. The care room measured 64.71m<sup>2</sup>.

This room provided adequate floor space for those children wishing to stay on for the part time care service.