

TUSLA PRE- REGISTRATION REGULATORY INSPECTION REPORT

Inspection Due to a Proposed Change of Circumstances

Tusla I.D:	TU2015WD059							
Name of Service	Naionra Scoil Gharbain							
Address of Service:	Abbeyside, Dungarvan Co. Waterford							
Email Address:	naionragharbhain@gmail.com							
Name of Registered Provider:	Silvia Ui Sheanloaich							
Type of Proposed Service:	Full Day Care		Part-Time	✓	Sessional			
	Drop-In		Childminding		Temporary			
Proposed change:	The registered provider proposes the following changes: The session moves to a new room on the original site. Opening hours from 08:00 to 14:00 operating 2 sessions: 08:00 – 13:00 and 09:00 – 14:00. Number of children from 60 to 64							
Proposed Number of Children:	64							
Recommended Change Following Inspection:	The service can care to up to 62 sessional children or 57 part- time children.							
Registered change:	Change in number of children that can be accommodated from 60 to 62 (Max 57 Part Time) Change in hours of operation from 09:00 – 12:00 to 08:00 – 13:00 & 09:00 – 14:00							
Date of Inspection:	2	4	0	8	2	0	2	6
Inspection undertaken by:	A. Bradshaw							
Title:	Early Years Inspector							
Tusla Early Years Inspectorate Address:	Community Care Offices, Cork Road, Waterford City							
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 60 Children (Max 57 Part Time)
Date of Registration	31st August 2026

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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	The service is registered to care for up to 60 children aged from 2 to 6 years on a part-time basis and wished to increase the number of children to 64. The service is currently registered to operate between the hours of 09:00 to 12:00 and proposes to operate from 08:00 to 14:00, running two sessions from 08:00 to 13:00 and 09:00 to 14:00. The service offers care for school age children also.
Premises	Naíonra Scoil Gharbháin is based in the ground of the local Gaelscoil on the outskirts of Dungarvan town. There are two care rooms in a purposely built premises at the rear of the school with a third room in a new building adjacent. There are sanitary facilities in each room, an office and kitchen. The outdoor space is to the side of the building, and the children have the use of a nearby football pitch.
Staffing	The registered provider employs 10 staff and does not work directly with the children.
Methodology	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. 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.
Acknowledgements	The inspector wishes to acknowledge the cooperation of the person in charge, 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 has been met

(1)(a) The proposed registered provider does not work directly with the children but has a designated person in charge and a deputy person in charge if 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:

(1)(2)

The registered provider is proposing that an adequate number of adults will care for the children attending the service. There will be 3 staff members working with 22 children in the new room. The person in charge will also be available to offer support of required.

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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 has been met.

(1)(a)

The room is bright with clear floor space available to enable children to move freely around the room. Areas of interest are clearly defined with the use of solid furniture and floor coverings which create distinct themed spaces such as construction areas, dress up area, small world and imagination play. Each area has supporting materials and equipment to complement the various play opportunities.

The following are examples of the material and equipment available to the children:

- There is a large mat for construction play on the floor which accommodated extended floor play for large groups of children.
- The low shelving is equipped with toys for imaginative play including cars, trucks, building blocks, farm toys, and dress-up clothes.
- The manipulative activities include jigsaws, puzzles, threading and sorting activities.
- There are sufficient tables and chairs to accommodate children to sit and eat their snacks or work independently with tabletop materials.
- There is a pretend shop to facilitate children to role play.

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	(1)(b) The proposed room has a cosy area with two low comfortable couches and a blanket where children can rest or take a break from their activities. Suitable window blinds are available in the room to darken the space if children required a sleep. The proposed service does not provide an overnight pre-school service. (3) There is an outdoor area to the side and front of the service. The children also have the use of a large football pitch at the rear of the building.
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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:	The requirement has been met. A healthy eating policy has been updated and signed off by the registered provider. Parents will supply the children's snack and food during the morning. Examples of healthy snacks are included in the healthy eating policy which will be given to the parents during their child's enrolment. There is a fridge in the kitchen to store perishable food. The person in charge stated that they will provide breakfast and additional snacks and water or milk throughout the day should a child become hungry.
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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:

The requirement has been met.

- The entrance door which leads to the care room is secured to prevent a child from exiting unsupervised and to prevent unauthorised access to the service.
- The window openings of the service are positioned at high levels.
- The play materials and equipment in the service are stored on stable-based low-level shelving units and secure high-level shelving units. The play materials and equipment are observed to be safe and suitable for the developmental age of the proposed children.
- The tables and chairs in the room that are used for tabletop activities and mealtimes are the appropriate height for the age of children accommodated in the room
- The emergency exit doors of the service are unobstructed.
- All storage of waste both indoors and outdoors is inaccessible to the children at the side of the school building.
- A system is available for the safe storage of cleaning agents and equipment in a locked storage room.

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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 has been met.

(1)

The registered provider has ensured that two of the staff caring for the children are trained in a PHECC accredited first aid course and are available at all times.

(2)(a)(b)

The first aid box is suitably equipped and safely stored in a readily accessible and conspicuous position on the top of the shelving unit.

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.*

Requirement met:

The requirement has been met.

(1)(a)(b)

The person in charge confirmed that fire drill is carried out monthly between all the three classrooms. A copy of the number, type and maintenance of the firefighting equipment of the service is available in the service.

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(4)

A notice of the procedures to be followed in the event of a fire is displayed in the classroom. There are illuminated fire exit signs on all the exit doors of the building. A fire assembly sign is evident at the front of the building beside a large tree.

Part VI – Safety

Regulation 28 – Insurance

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

Requirement met:

The requirement is met.

The registered provider submitted evidence of insurance for the children attending on part-time basis.

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:

The requirement has been met.

During the inspection, the following is noted:

- (a) The walls, flooring, doors, and windows are suitably maintained, and the person in charge did not identify any safety issues or concerns.

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	(b) The entrance door to the service is adequately secured to prevent children from exiting unsupervised and to prevent unauthorised access to the service. (c) The windows in the room provide natural lighting which can be augmented with artificial ceiling lighting as required. Ceiling lights are fitted with shatterproof coverings. The room is heated by electricity and can be managed within the room. (d) The room was in a clean condition on the day of inspection. A cleaning schedule is available to ensure a record is maintained of the regular cleaning of the service. (e) The sanitary facilities for the children are adjacent to the room. There are two toilets and two wash-hand basins in this area. Warm water is thermostatically controlled not to heat the water above 43°C. Pedal bins are provided for the disposal of paper hand towels. Adults have their own dedicated sanitary facilities.
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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:

The requirement has been met.

- (1) The registered provider has allowed for adequate clear floor space to be available to allow children free movement to work and play.

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(3)

Room	ECCE Room 1
Clear floor space	36.5 sqm
Age Range	2-6 years
Proposed number of children	20 sessional or 16 part-time children

Room	ECCE Room 2
Clear floor space	36.5 sqm
Age Range	2-6 years
Proposed number of children	20 sessional or 16 part-time children

Room	ECCE Room 3 (new room)
Clear floor space	57.7 sqm
Age Range	2-6 years
Proposed number of children	22 sessional or 25 part-time children

The above table illustrates that the minimum clear floor space is available for children based on their age range and attending the service on a sessional or part-time basis.