

## **Tusla Early Years Inspectorate launches research reports into its Early Years Inspection process**

**Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> February 2021:** Tusla - Child and Family Agency has launched three reports detailing the findings from early years' inspections, and parents' views and requirements on inspections. The three reports launched were:

- Tusla Early Years' Inspections - Parents Consultation.
- Early Years' Inspection Reports 2018-2019, Analysis and Trends.
- The Early Years' Regulatory Enforcement Process – Outcomes.

The first report presents the findings of a consultation which sought parents' views about Tusla's inspections of Early Years Services, and the best way to include these views in the inspection process. This will, for the first time, provide a concrete way for parents to be involved in the inspection process.

The other reports published (from independent research) examined the impact of the early years' inspection process from 2018-2019. It identified those regulations that providers are most compliant and non-compliant with and the proportion of services that come into compliance during the regulatory process. We also conducted a review of our regulatory enforcement processes which found that inspection has a positive impact in improving levels of compliance.

Speaking about the reports, Fiona McDonnell, National Service Director, Childrens Services Regulation, Tusla, said:

“This research has helped us to design and target effective inspection processes to support the participation of parents which ultimately will inform service provision and positively impact children. It will for the first time provide a way for parents to share their positive experiences with their service, and when any areas of significant concerns are raised this may result in an inspection of the service being undertaken.

We are particularly grateful to the parents who gave their time and shared their knowledge with us as part of this consultation, and their valuable input will ensure that parents will now be given an opportunity to contribute to the inspection process going forward.”

The reports are available on the Tusla website at [www.tusla.ie/services/preschool-services/general-information/publications-and-forms/](http://www.tusla.ie/services/preschool-services/general-information/publications-and-forms/)

**-Ends -**