

Statement of Deficiencies

1509.A.1.: Child Abuse and Neglect Policy

Not Met

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- a. As mandated reporters, all staff and owners shall report any suspected abuse or neglect of a child to the Louisiana Child Protection Statewide Hotline 1-855-4LA-KIDS (1-855-452-5437);
- b. An early learning center shall not delay the reporting of suspected abuse or neglect to the Child Protection Statewide Hotline in order to conduct an internal investigation to verify the abuse or neglect allegations; and
- c. An early learning center shall not require staff to report suspected abuse or neglect to the center or management prior to reporting it to the Child Protection Statewide Hotline.

Finding:

1509.A.1. Based on interview(s): Although the center developed and implemented a written child abuse and neglect policy, staff failed to adhere to the Center's policy as multiple staff were interviewed on 01/09/2020 and stated they either saw or suspected S18 harm C1, age 11 months, and C2, age 1 year old. Although mandated reporters, staff did not report suspected abuse/neglect of a child to the Child Protection Statewide Hotline.

1509.A.8.a.&b.: Behavior Management Policy

Not Met

1509.A.8.a.&b.: Behavior Management Policy

Each center shall develop and implement a written behavior management policy describing the methods of behavior guidance and management that shall be used at the center.

The behavior management policy shall prohibit children from being subject to any of the following:

- i. physical or corporal punishment which includes but is not limited to yelling, slapping, spanking, yanking, shaking, pinching, exposure to extreme temperatures or other measures producing physical pain, putting anything in the mouth of a child, requiring a child to exercise, or placing a child in an uncomfortable position.
- ii. verbal abuse, which includes but is not limited to using offensive or profane language, telling a child to "shut up", or making derogatory remarks about children or family members of children in the presence of children;
- iii. the threat of a prohibited action even if there is no intent to follow through with the threat;
- iv. being disciplined by another child;
- v. being bullied by another child;
- vi. being deprived of food or beverages;
- vii. being restrained by devices such as high chairs or feeding tables for disciplinary purposes; and
- viii. having active play time withheld for disciplinary purposes, except timeout may be used during active play time for an infraction incurred during the playtime.

Finding:

1509.A.8.a.&b.: Based on interview(s): Although the center developed and implemented a written behavior management policy, the Provider failed to adhere to the Center's policy as during Specialist's interviews on 01/09/2020, staff stated that on 01/06/2020, S18 used a prohibited method of discipline as two children, C1 age 11 months, and C2 age 1 year old, were subject to physical punishment. Staff stated that S18 slammed C1, age 11 months, in a crib and pinched him, and dragged C2, age 1 year old, by his jacket on the playground and pinched him in the classroom. Per S1, S18 was terminated immediately as a result of the complaints.

Corrective Action Plan: S1 stated that the center will be installing cameras for staff and children to be monitored.

1915.A.: Health Services - Observation

Not Met

1915.A.: Observation. Upon arrival at the center, the physical condition of each child shall be observed for possible signs of illness, infections, bruises or injuries, and when something is observed, it shall be documented and such documentation shall include an explanation from the parent or child.

Finding:

1915.A. Based on record review: The provider did document observations, when something is observed, noted on children upon arrival to the center. However, results including an explanation from parent and/or child failed to be documented. During the visit on 01/09/2020, at 12:00pm, Specialist reviewed written observations, but no explanations for the following observations:

On 12/26/2019, a child had red marks on her face, on 01/03/2020 a child had a bruise on her leg and rosy cheeks, and another child had a mark on hand.

On 01/07/2020, a child had rosy cheeks, and C1 had scratches on his foot.

Corrective Action Plan: S1 stated she will print the form made by the Department to write observations to ensure staff write an explanation.