

Statement of Deficiencies

1103.A.-C.: Critical Incidents and Required Notifications

Not Met

1103.A.-C.: A. An early learning center shall make immediate notification to emergency personnel, law enforcement as applicable, and other appropriate agencies for the following types of critical incidents involving children in care:

1. death;
2. serious injury or illness that required medical attention;
3. a child left unsupervised for any amount of time;
4. use of prohibited behavior management as described in §1509. of this Part;
5. allegations or suspicion of child abuse or neglect by center staff;
6. an accident involving the transportation of children;
7. any child given the wrong medication or an overdose of the correct medication;
8. any loss of power over two hours while children are in care;
9. a physical altercation between adults in the presence of children on the premises;
10. reportable infectious diseases and conditions outlined in LAC 51:II.105;
11. any other significant event relating to the health, safety, or well-being of any child, including but not limited to a lost child, an emergency situation, fire or other structural damage, or closure of the center.

B. Prioritization of Notifications. The following shall be notified immediately and in the order listed below as applicable:

1. emergency personnel when dealing with any medical incident.
2. law enforcement.
3. parent.

C. The following, as applicable, shall be notified via email within 24 hours of the incident, or no later than the next business day if the incident occurred on a Friday or on a recognized state holiday:

1. LDOE. This written notification shall be made for all of the critical incidents identified above, shall be made on the LDOE critical incidents report form, and shall contain all information requested on the form.
2. DCFS. Report all incidents that might constitute child endangerment including examples provided in mandated reporting training.
3. LDH. Report all incidents related to LDH regulations such as safety and sanitation issues as well as infectious diseases and conditions.
4. OSFM. Report all incidents related to OSFM regulations.
5. Any other appropriate agencies, including but not limited to, local or city fire marshal or the Department of Environmental Quality.

Finding:

1103.A.B.1.C.2. Based on record review/interview on 2/6/2024, at 11:23 a.m., S1 failed to immediately notify Emergency Personnel and failed to notify Child Welfare within 24 hours of the following critical incident: On 1/23/2024, at 8:50 a.m., C1, age two-year-olds, was in the cafeteria for breakfast when S3 placed a hot bowl of oatmeal on the table accessible to 11 two-year-old children. C1 reached across the table and pulled his spoon from the bowl and the oatmeal fell off the spoon onto C1's chest burning him. O1 was notified at 9:00 a.m. O1 took C1 to the doctor to receive medical attention. S1 reported the incident to the Department on 1/23/2024. The incident was not reported to Child Welfare. S1 completed a report to Child Welfare during the visit.

Corrective Action Plan: Effective 2/26/2024, S1 stated all incidents will be reported to Child Welfare along with the Department within 24 hours, to ensure compliance with this regulation.

1509.A.9.: Electronic Devices Policy

Not Met

1509.A.9.: Electronic Devices Policy that provides that all activities involving electronic devices, including but not limited to television, movies, games, videos, computers and hand held electronic devices, shall adhere to the following limitations:

- a. electronic device activities for children under age two are prohibited; and
- b. time allowed for electronic device activities for children ages two and above shall not exceed two hours per day, with the exception that television, DVD, or video viewing shall be limited to no more than one hour per day;

Finding:

1509.A.9.a. Based on observations on 2/6/2024, at 10:46 a.m., S1 failed to follow the Electronic Devices Policy, as the Specialists observed 12 one-year-old children watching a cartoon on a television in the classroom with S8 and S9. This was corrected at 10:48 a.m. when S8 turned the television off.

Corrective Action Plan: Effective 2/26/2024, S1 stated she will complete random walkthroughs of classrooms that have televisions, laptops, computers, and any other electronic devices with children under age two, to ensure compliance with this regulation.

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1901.J.&K.: Items That Can be Harmful to Children

Not Met

1901.J.&K.: J. Items that can be harmful to children, such as medications, poisons, cleaning supplies and chemicals, and equipment, tools, knives and other potentially dangerous utensils, shall kept in a locked cabinet or other secure place that ensures they are inaccessible to children.

K. Plastic bags, when not in use, regardless of purpose or use, shall be made inaccessible to children.

Finding:

1901.J. Based on observations/record review/interviews on 2/6/2024, at 1:39 p.m., S3 failed to ensure items that can be harmful or potentially dangerous were inaccessible to children. On 01/23/2024, at 8:50 a.m., C1, age two-year-old, wasted a spoonful of hot oatmeal onto his chest during breakfast time, causing his skin to be removed from his chest. S3 was unaware that the food was too hot to serve to the children.

Corrective Action Plan: Effective 2/26/2024, S1 stated she will purchase thermometers to check the temperature of the food before it is served to the children, to ensure compliance with this regulation.

1917.F.: Topical

Not Met

1917.F.: Topical. The center shall not apply topical ointments, sprays or creams without a written authorization signed and dated by the parent.

Finding:

1917.F. Based on record review/interview on 2/6/2024, at 2:11 p.m., S1 failed to obtain a written authorization signed and dated by the parent to apply mustard and A&D ointment on C1, age two-year-old, to treat a burn on his chest.

Corrective Action Plan: Effective 2/26/2024, S1 stated she will have parents include what can be used on children on the topical form and not use home remedies, to ensure compliance with this regulation.