

Statement of Deficiencies

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

Not Met

1103.A.-D.: 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. reportable infectious diseases and conditions listed in LAC 51.II.105; and
 4. 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. The parent shall be contacted immediately following any immediate notifications made under Subsection A.
- C. The department and other appropriate agencies shall be notified via email within 24 hours of the incident.
- D. The department shall be notified by written report within 24 hours of the incident or the next business day. This written notification shall be made on the department's Critical Incidents Report Form and shall contain all information requested on the form.

Finding:

1103.C.: Based on Specialist's review of records/interview conducted on 2/20/2020, at 12:30pm, S1 failed to notify Child Welfare within the allotted 24 hours of the following critical incident: on 1/30/2020, S31, teacher, turned C1, a four year-old, in the time-out chair in a forceful manner by grabbing C1's leg with her hand, resulting in two bruises on C1's upper left leg. S1 submitted a Critical Incident Report to the Department on 1/31/2020; however she failed to notify Child Welfare. S1 stated she was unaware she needed to notify Child Welfare for that particular situation.

Corrective Action Plan: S1 stated going forward, if she is on the fence about reporting an incident to Child Welfare, she will report it and let them decide if it meets the criteria to be investigated. She will also keep all correspondence sent from Child Welfare.

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.a.&b.: Based on Specialist's review of records/interview conducted on 2/20/2020, at 12:00pm, although the center had a behavior management policy in place, S31, teacher, used a prohibited method of discipline as C1, a four year-old, was subject to corporal punishment on 1/30/2020. According to Specialist's interview with S1, director, S31 admitted to placing her hand on C1's left leg and forcefully turning C1 in the time-out chair, resulting in two bruises. S31 stated to S1 that she must have grabbed C1's leg "too hard." S31 was terminated on 1/31/2020.

Corrective Action Plan: S1 stated on 2/25/2020, a training will be held for all center staff, covering topics such as: handling difficult children in the classroom, effective behavior management, classroom organization.