

Statement of Deficiencies

7306-G: Abuse and Neglect

Not Met

7306-G: As mandated reporters, all center staff shall report any suspected abuse and/or neglect of a child in accordance with LA R.S. 14:403 to the local child protection agency. This written policy as well as the local child protection agency's telephone number shall be posted.

Finding:

7306-G Based on interview(s): As mandated reporters, center staff did not report suspected abuse and/or neglect of a child in accordance with LA R.S. 14:403 to the local child protection agency.

Findings Include:

*An incident that involved a child (C1) being left alone on a bus was not reported to Child Welfare as required. On Thursday, March 8, 2012 (C1) was left alone on Bus #596 by S2 (Bus Aide) and S3 (Bus Driver) following the completion of the AM bus route. C1 was found at around 8 am standing beside Bus #596 which was parked at a school (LCB) that is about 1 1/2 miles from Brenda H. Hunter Head Start. A substitute teacher at LCB found C1. Bus #596 is equipped with a buzzer that goes off once the bus engine is stopped. The only way to shut this buzzer off is for someone to walk to the back of the bus and push a button that turns it off. S2 stated to S1 that she had indeed walked to the back of the bus on the morning of 3/8/12 to turn off the buzzer but she did not perform the visual check as required because she did not look in and under all the seats. On 3/19/12 specialist observed S1 report this incident to Child Welfare.

7315-A: Child-to-Staff Ratio

Not Met

7315-A: Child/staff ratios are established to ensure the safety of all children. Only those staff members directly involved in child care and supervision shall be considered in assessing child/staff ratio. Child/staff ratios shall be met at all times as the number of children supervised by one staff person shall not exceed the ratios as indicated below; however, there shall always be a minimum of two child care staff present during hours of operation when children are present:

Ages of Children	Child/Staff Ratio
Infants under 12 months	5:1
One year old	7:1
Two year old	11:1
Three year old	13:1
Four year old	15:1
Five year old	19:1
Six year old and up	23:1

An average of the child/staff ratio may be applied to mixed groups of children ages two, three, four, and five. Ratios for children under two or over five years old are excluded from averaging. When a mixed group includes children less than two years of age, the age of the youngest child determines the ratio for the group to which the youngest child is assigned. When a mixed group includes children both older and younger than six years old and older, the ages of the children less than six determine the ratio for the group. During naptime, required staffing shall be present in the center to satisfy child/staff ratios.

Finding:

7315-A Based on record review/interview(s): Child staff ratio was not met at all times.

Findings Include:

*On Thursday, March 8, 2012 a child (C1) was left alone on Bus #596 by S2 (Bus Aide) and S3 (Bus Driver) following the completion of the AM bus route. C1 was found at around 8 am standing beside Bus #596 which was parked at a school (LCB) that is about 1 1/2 miles from Brenda H. Hunter Head Start. A substitute teacher at LCB found C1. Bus #596 is equipped with a buzzer that goes off once the bus engine is stopped. The only way to shut this buzzer off is for someone to walk to the back of the bus and push a button that turns it off. S2 stated to S1 that she had indeed walked to the back of the bus on the morning of 3/8/12 to turn off the buzzer but she did not perform the visual check as required because she did not look in and under all the seats.

Statement of Deficiencies

7317-A: Direct Supervision

Not Met

7317-A: Children shall be under direct supervision at all times including naptime. Children shall never be left alone in any room or outdoors without a staff present. Children, excluding infants, may be grouped together at naptime with one staff supervising the children sleeping. All children sleeping shall be in the sight of the naptime worker.

Finding:

7317-A Based on interview(s): Children were not under direct supervision at all times.

Findings Include:

*On Thursday, March 8, 2012 a child (C1) was left alone on Bus #596 by S2 (Bus Aide) and S3 (Bus Driver) following the completion of the AM bus route. C1 was found at around 8 am standing beside Bus #596 which was parked at a school (LCB) that is about 1 1/2 miles from Brenda H. Hunter Head Start. A substitute teacher at LCB found C1. Bus #596 is equipped with a buzzer that goes off once the bus engine is stopped. The only way to shut this buzzer off is for someone to walk to the back of the bus and push a button that turns it off. S2 stated to S1 that she had indeed walked to the back of the bus on the morning of 3/8/12 to turn off the buzzer but she did not perform the visual check as required because she did not look in and under all the seats.

7335-A.1.f: Visual Check of Vehicle

Not Met

7335-A.1.f: The staff shall check the vehicle at the completion of each trip to ensure that no child is left on the vehicle. Documentation shall include the signature of the person conducting the check and the time the vehicle is checked. Documentation shall be maintained on file at the center whether provided by center or contract.

Finding:

7335-A.1.f Based on record review/interview: The center staff did not check the vehicle at the completion of each trip to ensure that no child is left on the vehicle and staff partially completed documentation ahead of time for visual checks on future dates that had not occurred yet.

Findings Include:

*On March 8, 2012 S2 signed the daily trip visual check form documenting that she completed a visual check at 7:48 am however she in fact did not complete this visual check. A child (C1) was left alone on Bus #596 by S2 (Bus Aide) and S3 (Bus Driver) following the completion of the AM bus route. C1 was found standing beside Bus #596 which was parked at a school (LCB) that is about 1 1/2 miles from Brenda H. Hunter Head Start. A substitute teacher at LCB found C1. Bus #596 is equipped with a buzzer that goes off once the bus engine is stopped. The only way to shut this buzzer off is for someone to walk to the back of the bus and push a button that turns it off. S2 stated to S1 that she had indeed walked to the back of the bus on the morning of 3/8/12 to turn off the buzzer but she did not perform the visual check as required because she did not look in and under all the seats.

*On 3/8/12 while reviewing the vehicle visual check form for the week of 3/5/12 S1 discovered that S2 had signed her name for the remainder of the week's visual check documentation ahead of time and S2 had whited out her signature before she gave the form to S1 for her to review.