

Statement of Deficiencies

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

Not Met

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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, record review and observations on 04/05/2023 at 10:45 a.m., although the center has a Behavior Management Policy, S3 (DOH 08/08/2022) used a prohibited method of discipline, when C1, age 4-years-old, was subject to physical punishment after biting a classmate for knocking over his blocks. Specialist reviewed recorded video footage of the center's cameras that show on 03/24/2023 at 7:50 a.m., S3 pulled C1 by the hand, then pushed him with the palm of her hand on the back of his head, with enough force to shake his hair, as she directed him to the door. A behavior report for C1 documents on 03/24/2023 at 7:50 a.m., C1 bit a classmate for knocking over his blocks. S3 was terminated on 03/24/2023.

Corrective Action Plan: Effective 03/24/2023, S1 reviewed the center's behavior management policies and procedures with each staff to ensure compliance with this regulation.
