

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.A.-D. Critical Incident and Required Notifications: Based on interview(s) on 6/5/19 the center failed to notify within 24 hours of the incident the Licensing Section and other appropriate agencies of the following critical incident: S9 stated that O1 made a complaint to her in December of 2018, that a staff person called C1 a derogatory name. S9 stated that she questioned all of her staff and older children in care to identify what happened with C1. S9 stated that she was unable to identify if one of her staff called C1 a name. O1 stated that she informed S9 that S11 made the comment about C1. S4 stated that she had heard S11 call C1 out of his name but had not made a report. The center should have made a report to the department within 24 hours of the O1 making the complaint to S1 in December of 2018. S9 stated that she failed to contact the department because she was unaware that she needed to make a report.

S8 stated that on 5/13/19 at approximately 4:00PM that S10 raised her shoe up to C2 because he was trying to obtain his brother (C3) from her class as directed by S9. S8 stated that S10 was very aggressive and was not playing with C2. S8 stated that C2 was very afraid, so he grabbed C3 and ran out of the room. S8 stated that she reported it to S9 at around 5:00 PM on 5/13/19. The center failed to contact the Department on the critical incident report on or by the end of the business day on 5/14/19.

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

Not Met

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

- 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: Child Abuse and Neglect: Based on interviews on 6/5/19 center staff although mandated reporters, they did not report suspected abuse/neglect of a child to the Child Protection Statewide Hotline as evidenced by the Specialist being informed by current and former employees that the S11 called S11 a derogatory name. Current staff and previous employees failed to contact S1, S9 or the Child Protection State Hotline after witnessing this incident.

Statement of Deficiencies

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.: Behavior Management Policy: Based on interview on 6/5/19 S11 and S9 used a prohibited method of discipline; verbal abuse. S11 was witnessed by current and previous employees calling C1 out of his name; using derogatory remarks to address him. S9 was witnessed on 5/13/19 by S8 raising a shoe up to C2 in attempts to hit him. S8 stated that C2 was afraid and abruptly left the room with C3.
