

Statement of Deficiencies

1513.A.1.&2.: Schedules

Not Met

1513.A.1.&2.: An early learning center shall establish in writing and post the following schedules:

1. Schedule of days and hours of operation, including scheduled days and holidays when center is closed; and
2. Daily schedule that includes times of planned activities, including early learning activities, allowing for flexibility and change.

Finding:

1513.A.1.&2.: Schedules: Based on observation/record review on 8/19/19 & 8/20/19 the center did not have a Posted Daily schedule that includes times of planned activities, including early learning activities, allowing for flexibility and change for 5 of the 6 classrooms. S1 stated that the schedules would be replaced by the next Licensing inspection.

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 Policy: Based on interview(s) on 8/19/19 and 8/20/19 the center staff although mandated reporters, did not report suspected abuse/neglect of a child to the Child Protection Statewide Hotline as evidenced by two current center employees stating that they had witness S7 mishandling C4 and C5, in the month of May or June 2019, while trying to get them to go to sleep. An additional staff person heard S7 talking rough to children in the baby room by saying "go to sleep, it's nap time, this is enough, and this is ridiculous". The staff stated that they failed to contact Child Welfare because they did not know they had to and because they were afraid they would get in trouble or lose their jobs. S1 made a report to Child Welfare prior to the Specialist leaving the center on 8/20/19.

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 observation/record review/interview(s) on 8/19/19 and 8/20/19, S7 used a prohibited method of discipline as verbal abuse, restrained by staff to requiring lying face down in crib as evidenced by center staff heard S7 talking rough to children in the baby room by saying "go to sleep, it's nap time, this is enough, and this is ridiculous". The staff stated that she was working in the room with S7 at the time (May or June, 2019) and that every time S7 would raise her voice that her back would be turned. The staff stated when she would turn around to see what was going on S7 would be walking away from a baby's crib. The staff stated that the babies would be crying and screaming when S7 was yelling at them.

Specialist review of the center's video recording identified that on 8/1/19 from 11:22 AM-11:27 AM, S7 was pushing C4 and C5's head into their mattress at an attempt to get them to go to sleep. Both C4 and C5 heads popped up on multiple times at an attempt to get up and S7 would repeatedly push them down with force into the mattress to make them lie down.