

Statement of Deficiencies

1509-A.1: Child Abuse and Neglect Policy

Not Met

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- 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 Based on interview(s): 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). After interviewing two staff members, it was stated that they both observed suspected abuse by S13 to C1 and failed to report the abuse to Child Protection. The staff members interviewed were unable to recall specific dates and times of the incidents, however stated it had been happening for months.

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 Based on interview(s)/observation: Center staff failed to abide by the behavior management policy developed by the center. 2 staff members stated that they witnessed S13 both verbally abuse, yank and even purposely trip C1 in the classroom on several occasions. The staff members were unable to provide specific dates and times of the instances. Specialist was informed by a staff member during an interview of a specific date, staff, time and location of the policy not being adhered to. Specialist viewed video footage of a one year old classroom in which S10 used her legs as restraints for a one year old placed in time out. A staff member stated that it was told in a staff meeting that using their legs to restrain children for time out was acceptable.

1509-A.8.c: Behavior Management Policy - Time Out

Not Met

1509-A.8.c: Time Out

Time out shall not be used for children under age 2.

A time out shall take place within sight of staff.

The length of each time out shall be based on the age of the child and shall not exceed 1 minute per year of age. For children over age six, a time out may be extended beyond 1 minute per year of age, if a signed and dated statement, including a maximum time limit, from the parent granting such permission, is on file at the center.

Finding:

1509-A.8.c Based on observations: Center staff failed to abide by the center's behavior management policy - time out. Specialist was informed by a staff member during an interview of a specific date, staff, time and location of the policy not being adhered to. Specialist viewed video footage of a one year old classroom in which S10 used her legs as restraints for a one year old placed in time out. A staff member stated that it was told in a staff meeting that using their legs to restrain children for time out was acceptable.