



MISSOURI DEPARTMENT OF ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION
OFFICE OF CHILDHOOD - CHILD CARE COMPLIANCE

COMPLAINT INVESTIGATION OF
SUBSTANTIATED STATUTE OR RULE VIOLATIONS

DATE OF REPORT
2/17/2021

DVN
002592930

FACILITY NAME

THOMPSON EARLY LEARNING CENTER

FACILITY ADDRESS

3750 W 10TH ST

CITY

SEDALIA

ZIP CODE

65301-2516

PHONE NUMBER

(660) 851-0198

COUNTY

PETTIS

ASSIGNED SPECIALIST

DOUGLAS, SUSAN MARIE

RULE/STATUTE VIOLATION(S)

VIOLATION(S)

19 CSR 30-62.082 (2)(A)(5)

The facility shall be dry, temperature controlled, well-ventilated and free of drafts. Children shall not be overheated or chilled. The temperature of the rooms shall be no less than sixty-eight degrees Fahrenheit (68F) and no more than eighty-five degrees Fahrenheit (85F) when measured two feet (2') from the floor.

CONCLUSION SUMMARY

Section for Child Care Regulation has determined that Thompson Early Learning Center was in violation of the above licensing rule on February 19, 2021, based the statements from staff. Kaitlin Thompson that on February 17, 2021, at 3:10 pm, the room temperature in the Infant 1 classroom was 65 degrees and one time this week the thermostat read 55 degrees. Courtney Busco stated that on February 15, 2021, at 5:30 am, her classroom thermostat read 53 degrees. Ashlynn Peck stated that on February 15, 2021, at 5:30 am, thermostat in the hallway of the facility read 52 degrees. MacKenzie White stated that she noticed, two to three weeks ago, the air vents were blowing cold air. Kylee Wolfe stated that on February 8 to 12, 2021, the thermostat in her classroom read between 50 to 60 degrees and she noticed in January that cold air was blowing through the vents. Bailey Newcomb stated that she notice cold air blowing out the vents in the classroom. Alexis Brownfield stated that in the last two weeks, her classroom thermostat read, on average, 63 degrees and that on February 18, 2021, the classroom thermostat read 67 degrees.

This decision is also based on Child Care Facility Specialist (CCFS) Susan Douglas' observation on February 19, 2021, of cold air blowing through the vents in all classrooms and all thermostat read below 68 degrees. She also observed the attendance records for February 15, 2021, provided by director, Wendy Larsen and there were 6 children under the age of 2 years old, 7 children age 2 years old, and 9 children age 3 to 5 years old present while the temperatures were below 68 degrees.

VIOLATION(S)

19 CSR 30-62.087 (13)(A)

Unvented fuel-fired room heaters, portable electrical space heaters, or floor furnaces shall not be used during child care hours. The provider shall sign a compliance letter verifying that such equipment will not be used.

CONCLUSION SUMMARY

Section for Child Care Regulation has determined that Thompson Early Learning Center was in violation of the above licensing rule on February 19, 2021, based the following staff statements.

Director Wendy Larsen stated that on February 12, 2021, Melinda McAloose brought space heaters for each classroom because of the upcoming extreme cold temperatures and the heating system has problems heating the building; on February 15, 2021, she arrived at the facility and the classrooms felt warm to her, but she did not know what the temperatures where; and she did text staff on February 14, 2021, requesting staff to bring space heaters from home due to the extreme cold temperatures. Melinda McAloose stated that on February 12, 2021, she brought space heaters to the classrooms; she asked director, Wendy Larsen to call staff on February 14, 2021, and request them to bring a space heater from home; and the facility's heating system had difficulty maintaining heat on February 15th and 16th due to the extreme cold temperatures. Courtney Busco stated that in January 2021, she received a space heater for the classroom from Wendy Larsen; she had heard that the building was having heating problems; the first time she used the space heater in her classroom was February 1, 2021; on February 15, 2021, she had the space heater running from 5:30 am to 9:00 am and 12:00 pm; the space heater was up on a

high shelf, out of reach of the children; and she received a text message from Ms. Larsen to bring space heaters from home, but she did not bring a space heater from home. Ashlyn Peck stated that in January 2021, she received a space heater for her classroom from Wendy Larsen; she used her space heater in the classroom on February 12, 2021, just during naptime; on February 15, 2021, she turned on all the classroom's space heaters; she had her space heater on between 5:30 am to 8:30am; and that the space heaters were removed from the facility on February 17, 2021, because "State" was coming in. Mackenzie White stated that the space heaters were present in the classrooms sometime in February; the preschool room used the space heaters in February throughout the day; and that the space heaters were removed on February 16th. Kylee Wolfe stated that they received the space heaters in January 2021, from Melinda Alloose; Ms. Alloose told her that the space heaters can be used at naptime because the weather was getting cold outside; and that she used the space heater in the classroom between February 8th and February 16th. she received a text message from Ms. Larsen to bring space heaters from home, but she did not bring a space heater from home. Kaitlin Thomlinson stated that at the end of January 2021, she received a space heater for the infant classroom from Wendy Larsen; Ms. Larsen told her that space heaters may be used during naptime, but they had to be up off the floor and out of reach of the children; and that February 15, 2021 was the first time she used the space heater in her classroom. Bailey Newcombe stated that the space heaters were given out in January 2021, but the first time she used a space heater in her classroom was February 15, 2021. Alexis Brownfield stated that the space heaters were used in her classroom throughout the day for the last two weeks since the weather had turned cold and that the space heaters were removed from the classrooms two to three days ago. Alexis Brownfield also stated she received a text message from Ms. Larsen to bring a space heater from home, but she did not bring a space heater.

CORRECTIVE MEASURES

CORRECTIVE MEASURE	COMPLETED (Y/N)	COMPLETED DATE
Thompson Early Learning Center will have the heating system repaired by professional heating and air company. The facility will submit pictures of the temperature reading of each classroom after heating system has been repaired.	Yes	2/22/2021
CORRECTIVE MEASURE	COMPLETED (Y/N)	COMPLETED DATE
Thompson Early Learning Center will remove all space heaters in child care space	Yes	2/19/2021

DISPOSITION

SUBSTANTIATED

DISPOSITION DATE

4/9/2021

APPROVING SUPERVISOR

BRUCE, CHRISTINA