



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

COMPLAINT INVESTIGATION OF  
SUBSTANTIATED STATUTE OR RULE VIOLATIONS

DATE OF REPORT

1/9/2020

DVN

002397099

FACILITY NAME

KIDDIE ACADEMY OF O'FALLON

FACILITY ADDRESS

4088 WINGHAVEN BLVD

CITY

O FALLON

ZIP CODE

63368-3621

PHONE NUMBER

(636) 265-3444

COUNTY

ST CHARLES

ASSIGNED SPECIALIST

WILMESHER, LAURA

RULE/STATUTE VIOLATION(S)

VIOLATION(S)

19 CSR 30-62.192 (2)(B)

Each child's parent(s) shall be notified immediately when any contagious disease occurs in the facility.

CONCLUSION SUMMARY

Child Care Facility Specialist (CCFS) Laura Wilmesher conducted an investigation regarding the allegation that parents are not notified of illnesses. After conducting the investigation, CCFS Wilmesher finds this allegation is substantiated. This conclusion is based on evidence of the following rule violation:

19 CSR 30-62.192 (2)(B) which states: "Each child's parent(s) shall be notified immediately when any contagious disease occurs in the facility."

On January 13, 2020, CCFS Wilmesher conducted an unannounced inspection of the facility. During the inspection, CCFS Wilmesher conducted interviews with director, Allie Zamkus, who stated that the facility had one confirmed illness in one classroom of Influenza A, and that although she hasn't seen either of the parents of that child in person to have any documentation of the child having been diagnosed, that is what the parents told her.

Allie Zamkus stated that typically, the facility staff will verbally tell the parents that there has been a confirmed illness to the parents in that classroom, but that they don't send anything in written form to parents unless a second case has been diagnosed, at which time a formal letter is sent to parents via the facility's Tadpoles system and the facility posts the parent information sheet from the DHSS website as well. Allie Zamkus stated that all parents in the facility have access to the Tadpoles system. Staff member Alexa Douglas also stated that she had recently sent out notification to the parents about lice, and that they have also notified parents of illnesses such as impetigo and hand, foot and mouth. Staff member Rachel Smith stated she has a copy of the letter which was sent to parents the day after Christmas 2019, which notified parents about hand, foot and mouth.

During this inspection, CCFS Wilmesher observed and obtained a copy of several examples of notifications in the facility's Tadpoles electronic system in which parents were notified of illnesses in the facility. CCFS Wilmesher also obtained copies of letters notifying parents of illnesses. However, each of these letters and notifications are directed to specific classrooms, such as "Dear Families of Room 6."

CCFS Wilmesher discussed with director, Allie Zamkus, that although the rule regarding notifying parents of contagious illnesses immediately is not required to be written notification, that it is best practice to notify parents in writing, so that the facility can maintain documentation of compliance with the rule. CCFS Wilmesher also advised that the rule specifies that all parents shall be notified immediately of contagious illnesses, not just the parents of that particular classroom. Director Allie Zamkus stated that going forward, communication with all parents notifying them of illnesses would be in writing after the first notice of a child having a contagious illnesses within the facility.

On January 13, 2020, CCFS Wilmesher obtained a copy of a letter which was sent to all staff members, instructing staff members on the procedures to take to ensure all parents are notified of contagious illnesses going forward.

PROVIDER COMMENTS

Our practice has now changed to alert families of all reported contagious illness. We now indicate on each notice whether a

parent reported or doctor substantiated what the child has, if it is a contagious illness. This practice has been communicated to and actively practiced by team prior to receiving the final report of the complaint.

## CORRECTIVE MEASURES

### CORRECTIVE MEASURE

The facility shall hold a staff meeting notifying all staff members of the facility (paid or unpaid, including volunteers) of the facility's procedure which will ensure that all parents are notified immediately when a contagious illness occurs within the facility.

### COMPLETED (Y/N)

Yes

### COMPLETED DATE

1/13/2020

### DISPOSITION

SUBSTANTIATED

### DISPOSITION DATE

1/31/2020

### APPROVING SUPERVISOR

CLARK, ANGELA