



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

COMPLAINT INVESTIGATION OF
SUBSTANTIATED STATUTE OR RULE VIOLATIONS

DATE OF REPORT
11/3/2021

DVN
002081036

FACILITY NAME

THE GODDARD SCHOOL

FACILITY ADDRESS

1633 KEHRS MILL RD

CITY

CHESTERFIELD

ZIP CODE

63005

PHONE NUMBER

(636) 519-0808

COUNTY

ST LOUIS

ASSIGNED SPECIALIST

SPAULDING, STEPHANIE

RULE/STATUTE VIOLATION(S)

VIOLATION(S)

5 CSR 25-500.112(1)

The following staff/child ratios shall be maintained on the premises at all times:

5 CSR 25-500.112(1)(A)

Birth Through Two (2) Years. Groups composed of mixed ages through two (2) years shall have no less than one (1) adult to four (4) children, with no more than eight (8) children in a group;

CONCLUSION SUMMARY

On November 3, 2021, the Office of Childhood received an allegation that the "Squirrels" classroom had seven children (ages 12-18 months) with one staff member. This ratio has been observed four other times from October to now. Based on interviews with staff of The Goddard School and attendance documentation provided by the director, Christine Smith; there is evidence to indicate that the "squirrels" classroom was out of ratio during the month of October, 2021. Therefore, the report is being substantiated and the following rule violations are being cited.

5 CSR 25-500.112(1): The following staff/child ratios shall be maintained on the premises at all times:

AND

5 CSR 25-500.112 (1) (A): Birth Through (2) Years. Groups composed of mixed ages through two (2) years shall have no less than one (1) adult to four (4) children, with no more than eight (8) children in a group;

On November 17, 2021 caregiver, Mia Gapsch stated usually it is her and Ms. Shadia in the classroom. She knows the ratio is 2:8 or 1:4 in the infant/toddler classroom. She comes in at 7:30 am daily. Ms. Shadia comes in at 7:00 am daily. There are 9 children enrolled in her classroom. The chipmunks classroom teacher comes in at 8:30 am daily and she has this classrooms children also until that teacher arrives at 8:30 am. Between 8:00 am and 8:30 it would not be unusual to have 12 children (1 year old) in her classroom and they can not be moved because there isn't another teacher available. She calls the front office, and sometime someone comes down, but other times no one is available. She turns in all attendance sheets for her classroom.

On November 17, 2021 caregiver, Shadia Bakeer stated the infant/toddler classroom is opened at 7:00 am daily. There are usually about 6 or 7 children present before Ms. Mia arrives at 7:30 am depending on the the day. She knows that the ratio is 1:4 children. There is no staff available to come in the classroom until Ms. Mia gets in. She has called the front office, but there isn't anyone available to come to the classroom. There are usually about 13 or 14 children present at about 8:00 am daily. Sometimes the ducks room (also an infant/toddler classroom) is over ratio and her classroom may get the ducks children also. She does have the chipmunk classroom children until their teacher comes in at 8:30 am. Ms. Mia does call the front office a lot and she gets frustrated because no one comes to the classroom and it seems that the office could care less. Business partner, Nicole just keeps enrolling even without enough staff. She doesn't know how her classroom only had 7 children present today (November 17, 2021).

On November 17, 2021, CI Spaulding received and observed attendance documents for the "squirrels" classroom. Based on observation, there are multiple days from October 11, 2021 to November 12, 2021 that the squirrels classroom was out of ratio with anywhere from 6 children to 13 children 1 year old present with 1 caregiver. In addition, On November 17, 2021, CI Spaulding observed the attendance at the time of inspection. While the "squirrels" classroom was in ratio at the time of inspection, there was another infant/toddler classroom that was out of ratio with 9 children 1 year old with 2 caregivers present.

CORRECTIVE MEASURES**CORRECTIVE MEASURE**

The facility shall notify all staff members of the violations which were substantiated, and specify the actions to be taken by all staff in order to comply with all licensing violations cited. A copy of the memo, letter, or staff meeting agenda(s) shall be submitted to the Office of Childhood.

COMPLETED (Y/N)

Yes

COMPLETED DATE

4/8/2022

CORRECTIVE MEASURE

Signs shall be posted at all entrances of the rooms displaying the required staff/child ratios.

COMPLETED (Y/N)

Yes

COMPLETED DATE

4/8/2022

DISPOSITION

SUBSTANTIATED

DISPOSITION DATE

3/28/2022

APPROVING SUPERVISOR

CHRISCO, MARLA L