



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

COMPLAINT INVESTIGATION OF
SUBSTANTIATED STATUTE OR RULE VIOLATIONS

DATE OF REPORT
1/4/2023

DVN
002897450

FACILITY NAME

LITTLE LEARNERS SPECTRUM CENTER, INC.

FACILITY ADDRESS

840 PROGRESS DR

CITY

FARMINGTON

ZIP CODE

63640-9157

PHONE NUMBER

(573) 915-5075

COUNTY

ST FRANCOIS

ASSIGNED SPECIALIST

GRAHAM, JESSICA

RULE/STATUTE VIOLATION(S)

VIOLATION(S)

5 CSR 25-500.182(1)(C)7.

Physical punishment including, but not limited to, spanking, slapping, shaking, biting, or pulling hair shall be prohibited.

CONCLUSION SUMMARY

At approximately 3:00-3:15 PM employee Lily Estes reported to Ashley that she heard Parent/Caregiver A smack her own son's hand, Child A, DOB 11/17/2021. Ashley questioned Parent/Caregiver A about the incident and she stated that she had smacked Child A's hand and didn't know she couldn't do that. This allegation is substantiated based on the following rule violation:

5 CSR 25-500.187(1)(C)7. which states: "Physical punishment including, but not limited to, spanking, slapping, shaking, biting, or pulling hair shall be prohibited."

On January 10, 2023, caregivers Laila Mast and Lily Estes all agreed that they had heard Parent/ Caregiver A talking to Child A and then a sound followed by what they assumed was a smack. Neither caregiver saw the interaction. Lily heard Parent/Caregiver A say to Child A "I told you three times, now stop" and then the sound of the smack followed.

Volunteer Mckayla Halbert was in the room with Parent/Caregiver A. She was sitting in a rocker and Parent/Caregiver A was getting frustrated with Child A and then popped him on the hand.

Tammy Martin, office manager, was notified as soon as the incident occurred by Laila Mast and McKayla Halbert. Tammy called in Ashley Smith, caregiver in charge, and Ashley addressed the incident with Parent/Caregiver A. At first Parent/Caregiver A said that she did not remember smacking Child A's hand, but then said that she did smack his hand. Ashley dismissed Parent/Caregiver A immediately and had all caregivers take training on conscious discipline as well as review the licensing rules on discipline.

CORRECTIVE MEASURES

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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

3/24/2023

DISPOSITION

SUBSTANTIATED

DISPOSITION DATE

3/8/2023

APPROVING SUPERVISOR

CHRISCO, MARLA L