



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

COMPLAINT INVESTIGATION OF
SUBSTANTIATED STATUTE OR RULE VIOLATIONS

DATE OF REPORT
10/25/2022

DVN
002783813

FACILITY NAME

FREEMAN LEARNING CENTER

FACILITY ADDRESS

3606 INDIANA AVE

CITY

JOPLIN

ZIP CODE

64804-4728

PHONE NUMBER

(417) 347-3608

COUNTY

NEWTON

ASSIGNED SPECIALIST

RADNEY, HEATHER E

RULE/STATUTE VIOLATION(S)

VIOLATION(S)

5 CSR 25-500.182(1)(A)1.

Caregivers shall not leave any child without competent adult supervision.

5 CSR 25-500.182(1)(A)3.

Caregivers shall provide frequent, direct contact so children are not left unobserved on the premises.

5 CSR 25-500.192(5)(A)

In case of accident or injury to a child, the provider shall notify the parent(s) immediately. If the child requires emergency medical care, the provider shall follow the parent's(s') written instructions.

CONCLUSION SUMMARY

Compliance Inspector (CI) Heather Radney conducted an unannounced investigation of the allegation that Child A was left alone on the playground with no adult supervision for approximately 6 minutes. The allegation is substantiated based on the following evidence:

On October 25, 2022, Director, JS, contacted the Office of Childhood (OOC) by phone to notify OOC of an incident that occurred on October 21, 2022, where Child A (2 years old) was left alone on the playground with no adult supervision for approximately six minutes by Caregivers SR and CR.

On October 26, 2022, CI Radney interviewed Director, JS, and Caregivers MG, KR and MC. Staff reported that on October 21, 2022, Caregiver SR and CR were outside with their 2 year old classroom. SR and CR brought their children inside but Child A was left outside on accident. Caregiver KR reported that she was in her classroom with the 3-4 year olds, standing in the doorway to the playground preparing to let her children outside when she saw Child A on the playground alone. KR reported Child A did not appear hurt or crying. KR stated Caregiver MG walked into her classroom at that time and she told MG that Child A was outside. Caregiver MG reported walking out of the classroom and over to Child A who was not crying or hurt and taking Child A back into her classroom where Caregivers SR and CR and the rest of her class was. MG reported Caregivers SR and CR "both looked 'taken aback' and seemed like they hadn't realized Child A was left outside." MG reported she did not contact Parent A. Director JS, reported that the Licensing Rules and Regulations and the facility's Staff Handbook have both been printed for each staff member and he will go through those at the next staff meeting. Director JS, reported that both caregivers responsible have been put on administrative leave at this time and will be required to obtain training in response to the incident. JS reported that they will be deciding on a facility-wide face-to-name procedure for transitions and will implement this after a training has been conducted. JS reported that he contacted Parent A about the incident on Tuesday, October 25, 2022 when he returned to work and was informed that the caregivers had not.

On January 7, 2023, CI Radney conducted telephone interviews with Caregivers LN, SR and CR. Caregivers SR and CR reported not knowing how Child A was left outside. Neither caregiver reported being in charge of counting the children. Both caregivers report it was an accident that Child A was left outside. Caregivers reported Child A appeared normal after returning to the classroom and was not upset. Caregivers LN, SR and CR reported they did not notify Parent A of the incident when it happened.

On January 7, 2023, CI Radney received and reviewed camera footage of the incident with Child A from three different camera angle views. The timeline is as follows: At 3:32:51, the first Child can be seen in the camera view coming into the classroom from the playground. At 3:33:50, Caregiver closes the door to the classroom. At 3:39:41, Caregiver MG begins walking toward

Child A. At 3:40:11 Caregiver, MG and Child A enter Child A's classroom. Per video footage, Child A appears to have been unobserved on the premises for six minutes.

On January 10, 2023, CI Radney attempted to reach Parent A. CI Radney left a voicemail but no return call was received. Additionally, on January 7, 2023, CI Radney attempted to reach Caregiver SB. CI Radney left a voicemail but no return call was received.

CORRECTIVE MEASURES

CORRECTIVE MEASURE	COMPLETED (Y/N)	COMPLETED DATE
The facility shall conduct a staff meeting to review the center's policies and all licensing rules and regulations regarding accidents and injuries. The facility must provide the Office of Childhood with a statement, signed by all staff (paid employees or unpaid volunteers), to indicate they understand and agree to follow those rules and regulations.	Yes	11/29/2022
CORRECTIVE MEASURE	COMPLETED (Y/N)	COMPLETED DATE
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 shall be submitted to the Office of Childhood.	Yes	11/29/2022
CORRECTIVE MEASURE	COMPLETED (Y/N)	COMPLETED DATE
All staff and volunteers must obtain two clock hours on supervision. Training may be obtained from the Missouri Workshop Calendar. The training calendar can be found at http://www.moworkshopcalendar.org/ . Verification of training completion shall be from the Open Initiative Toolbox report.	Yes	7/17/2023

DISPOSITION

SUBSTANTIATED

DISPOSITION DATE

2/14/2023

APPROVING SUPERVISOR

NURNBERG, TONY A