



**MISSOURI DEPARTMENT OF ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION  
OFFICE OF CHILDHOOD - CHILD CARE COMPLIANCE  
COMPLAINT INVESTIGATION OF  
SUBSTANTIATED STATUTE OR RULE VIOLATIONS**

**DATE OF REPORT**  
11/16/2020

**DVN**  
002636606

**FACILITY NAME**

WINTERSET MONTESSORI, LLC

**FACILITY ADDRESS**

812 SW FORESTPARK LN

**CITY**

LEES SUMMIT

**ZIP CODE**

64081-2136

**PHONE NUMBER**

(816) 246-9300

**COUNTY**

JACKSON

**ASSIGNED SPECIALIST**

DUMERCY, MADELINE L

**RULE/STATUTE VIOLATION(S)**

**VIOLATION(S)**

19 CSR 30-62.182 (1)(C)(3)

Only constructive, age-appropriate methods of discipline shall be used to help children develop self-control and assume responsibility for their own actions.

19 CSR 30-62.182 (1)(C)(4)

Praise and encouragement of good behavior shall be used instead of focusing only upon unacceptable behavior.

19 CSR 30-62.182 (1)(C)(6)

Firm, positive statements or redirection of behavior shall be used with infants and toddlers.

19 CSR 30-62.182 (1)(C)(7)

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

19 CSR 30-62.182 (1)(C)(8)

No discipline technique which is humiliating, threatening or frightening to children shall be used. Children shall not be shamed, ridiculed or spoken to harshly, abusively or with profanity.

19 CSR 30-62.182 (1)(C)(9)

Punishment or threat of punishment shall not be associated with food, rest or toilet training.

19 CSR 30-62.192 (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) written instructions.

**CONCLUSION SUMMARY**

Based on the investigation, Section for Child Care Regulations determined that Winterset Montessori, LLC violated the licensing rules above.

On November 16, 2020, the reporter stated that Aimee Lucas had three separate incidents with three children . Aimee pulled Child A's hair, Aimee slammed Child B onto a cot, and Aimee covered Child B's mouth to prevent Child B from screaming. Child C had a spoon full of food shoved into their mouth, and the reporter heard Aimee Lucas state, "I am going to break her spirit," and shoved a sippy cup into Child C's mouth. On November 17, 2020, CCFS Madeline Dumercy conducted an announced inspection at Winterset Montessori, LLC. During the inspection, CCFS Madeline Dumercy interviews were conducted with Acting Director Amie Stickley and three caregivers, and CCFS Madeline Dumercy held phone interviews with Director Cinda Eastabrooks, Caregiver Aimee Lucas, and three parents.

Director Cinda Eastabrooks stated that caregivers had told her things about Caregiver Aimee and had in -person conferences with her in the office. Also, Cinda observed her one time but did not observe any concerning behavior. Cinda did not report any of these incidents to the parents but did have one report of her speaking to Aimee about one reported incident . In addition, Cinda stated that Aimee submitted a resignation letter the day before of the investigation .

Cinda said that Caregiver Lenora reported to her that she had witnessed Aimee grab Child A's hair. Cinda explained to Caregiver Aimee that it was unacceptable and grounds for dismissal if it occurred again. Caregivers Lenora Chatman and Jeanne McVietty stated that they reported to Director Cinda, observing Aimee being too rough and screaming at the children . Caregiver Jeanne said that Aimee would shout at the children when she was having a tough day, such as yell at the children to sit and roughly

handle them to sit on a chair.

Caregiver Kayle Kessinger observed Aimee rough handling the children during nap time , where Child B would refuse to lay on the cot. Aimee was seen grabbing the child under their arms and slammed on the cot. Then Aimee would pat hard on the child's back to where you can hear the sound of the pat. Also, Caregiver Jeanne stated that Aimee pats on children's back too hard to where you can hear the loud sound. Caregiver Kayle Kessinger reported to the acting Director Amie Stickley that she had witnessed Aimee place her hand behind Child C's head and shoved a spoon full of food into Child's C mouth because the child refused to eat. Then, Aimee said, "I am going to break her spirit," and shoved a sippy cup in Child C's mouth. Acting Director Amie stated she reported the incident immediately to Director Cinda.

Based on interviews, there is sufficient evidence that the complaint is substantiated .

### CORRECTIVE MEASURES

CORRECTIVE MEASURE	COMPLETED (Y/N)	COMPLETED DATE
All staff and volunteers of WInterset Montessori shall obtain 2 hours of mandated reporter training. Training may be obtained from the Missouri Workshop Calendar. The training calendar can be found at <a href="http://www.moworkshopcalendar.org/">http://www.moworkshopcalendar.org/</a> . Verification of training completion shall be from the Open Initiative Toolbox report .	Yes	6/1/2021

CORRECTIVE MEASURE	COMPLETED (Y/N)	COMPLETED DATE
All staff and volunteers of Winterset Montessori, LLC must obtain one (2) clock hour of training approved by the the Section for Child Care Regulation, on age appropriate discipline. The training must be held by an approved and qualified source, outside of the Winterset Montessori, LLC network. Training may be obtained from the Missouri Workshop Calendar. The training calendar can be found at <a href="http://www.moworkshopcalendar.org/">http://www.moworkshopcalendar.org/</a> . Verification of training completion shall be from the Open Initiative Toolbox report.	Yes	6/1/2021

CORRECTIVE MEASURE	COMPLETED (Y/N)	COMPLETED DATE
The facility shall conduct a staff meeting to review all licensing rules and regulations. The facility must provide the Section for Child Care Regulation 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	3/11/2021

DISPOSITION	DISPOSITION DATE
SUBSTANTIATED	1/23/2021

APPROVING SUPERVISOR
LIMPUS, RACHEL L