



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

**COMPLAINT INVESTIGATION OF
SUBSTANTIATED STATUTE OR RULE VIOLATIONS**

DATE OF REPORT

3/29/2019

DVN

000174216

FACILITY NAME

THE LITTLE RASCALS PRESCHOOL

FACILITY ADDRESS

901 BIEKER RD

CITY

WASHINGTON

ZIP CODE

63090-6619

PHONE NUMBER

(636) 239-5629

COUNTY

FRANKLIN

ASSIGNED SPECIALIST

DIXON, LEATRICE L

RULE/STATUTE VIOLATION(S)

VIOLATION(S)

19 CSR 30-62.182 (1)(A)(2)

A caregiver personally shall admit each child upon arrival and personally shall dismiss each child upon departure . Children shall be dismissed only to the parent(s), guardian, legal custodian or to individuals approved by the parent(s), guardian or legal custodian.

CONCLUSION SUMMARY

On April 2, 2019 Child Care facility Specialist (CCFS) Leatrice Dixon conducted interviews regarding the allegation that toddlers are unsupervised on the playground.

19 CSR 30-62.182 (1)(A)(2) states "A caregiver personally shall admit each child upon arrival and personally shall dismiss each child upon departure."

Brenda Emann, director and all teachers interviewed stated that it is the daily operating procedure to transfer the pre-k children from the main building to the pre-k room after breakfast by sending the child across the playground while a teacher watches until the child goes into the building. Parents of the children in the pre-k building go to the pre-k building, sign their child in and bring them to the main building for breakfast. After breakfast, the teacher in the main building sends the child back to the pre-k building. The teacher stands at the door and watches as the child crosses the playground. Teachers in the pre-k building know that children will be coming back over after breakfast. Children are only crossing the fenced playground.

Teachers Michelle Roethli and Elizabeth Marquart agreed that they didn't know how they are sure another teacher is in the pre-k building

Cheryl Westhoff stated that teachers just they just know to expect children to come back after breakfast and that teachers do not call the pre-k building to check if any teachers are there first.

CCFS Dixon observed a preschool child outside with no adult on the playground upon arrival when the child walked out of the main building and into the pre-k building. There was a staff member standing at the door, watching the child, until the child entered the building and about 1 minute later, a preschool aged child came out of the main building's two year old class entrance and crossed the playground to enter the pre-k building. There was a teacher watching the child from the window of the 2 year old room.

Based on the interviews and observation, this allegation is substantiated. Children are being sent alone and unescorted, out of one building, crossing the playground and entering another building. Staff members confirm that they do not verify that a staff member is aware the child has entered the building. There is no certainty that there is another staff member in the building to personally admit the child into care in that room. There was no verification on the part of staff members sending children to the other building that there was any staff present to supervise children.

CORRECTIVE MEASURES

CORRECTIVE MEASURE

The facility shall create a plan and procedure describing how children will be transferred from building to building to ensure a chain of care, custody and control

COMPLETED (Y/N)

Yes

COMPLETED DATE

5/7/2019

of children is maintained from the start to the end of the transfer. The plan shall include how staff will verify that there is a staff member on both ends of the transfer process. The plan shall be reviewed with all staff members and paid or unpaid volunteers. A copy of the plan shall be submitted to the Section for Child Care Regulation along with signatures of all staff and paid or unpaid volunteers verifying they have reviewed the facility's plan and procedure and agree to follow it.

DISPOSITION

SUBSTANTIATED

DISPOSITION DATE

4/23/2019

APPROVING SUPERVISOR

KOCH, DENISE ELAYNE