



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

COMPLAINT INVESTIGATION OF
SUBSTANTIATED STATUTE OR RULE VIOLATIONS

DATE OF REPORT
4/11/2023

DVN
002454526

FACILITY NAME

DEXTER LEARNING TREE, LLC

FACILITY ADDRESS

808 CHAUTAUQUA LN

CITY

DEXTER

ZIP CODE

63841-1931

PHONE NUMBER

(573) 421-0228

COUNTY

STODDARD

ASSIGNED SPECIALIST

GRAHAM, JESSICA

RULE/STATUTE VIOLATION(S)

VIOLATION(S)

5 CSR 25-600.020 (1)

Prior to the employment or presence of a child care staff member in a licensed , regulated, or registered child care facility not exempted by section 210.1080.13, RSMo, the child care provider shall request the results of a criminal background check for such child care staff member from the department.

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 25-500.102(1)(E)

Caregivers shall have knowledge of the needs of children and shall be sensitive to the capabilities, interests, and problems of children in care.

5 CSR 25-500.102(1)(F)

Caregivers shall be capable of handling emergencies promptly and intelligently.

5 CSR 25-500.102(1)(P)

The child care provider shall conduct a Family Care Safety Registry screening prior to employment for any newly hired child care staff member who has a qualifying criminal background check result.

CONCLUSION SUMMARY

Compliance Inspector (CI) Jessica Graham conducted an investigation of the allegation that on April 11 , 2023, at approximately 10:27am, Child A (3-years-old) was located walking on Chautauqua Lane near One Mile Road and was located by a community member who contacted law enforcement to pick up the child. Child A belonged to the daycare and they were unaware that Child A was missing. The allegation is substantiated based on the following information:

5 CSR 25-500.182(1)(A)1. which states: "Caregivers shall not leave any child without competent adult supervision."

AND

5 CSR 25-500.182(1)(A)3. which states: "Caregivers shall provide frequent, direct contact so children are not left unobserved on the premises."

On April 12, 2023, CI Graham observed the police report dated April 11, 2023, narrated by Police Officer Don Donner. The report noted the following information:

-On April 11, 2023, at approximately 1021 hours, Stoddard County 911 received a call about a child in the roadway near the intersection of Chautauqua and One Mile Road.

-Two officers responded to the area.

-A subject had taken the child into their safe keeping and were at One Mile Road and Fannetta Street .

-An officer took custody of the child later identified as Child A and transported him to Dexter Police Department .

-Two officers went to Dexter Learning Tree and at approximately 1046 hours and staff indicated that all children in their care were accounted for.

- At approximately 1054 hours Resa Trammell called Dexter Police Department and advised the child in custody may be from

their daycare.

-An officer went to Dexter Learning Tree and requested Child A's parent's information.

-Resa Trammell contacted Parent A and advised of what had occurred .

-The officer spoke with Resa Trammell about how Child A could have left their care without their knowledge of it and Trammell stated she was not at the daycare when Child A escaped .

-The officer spoke with Breanna Flanagan who stated that Child A must have gone through the back door , navigated through the facility, and exited the front door.

On April 12, 2023, CI Graham interviewed director Resa Trammell and caregivers Breanna Schroeder and Denisha "Dede" Flanagan. All staff acknowledged that Child A (3-years-old) eloped from Dexter Learning Tree on April 11, 2023, however all staff had differing accounts of how long Child A could have been gone or when Child A was last seen at Dexter Learning Tree , that differ even from the police report. An exact length of time that Child A was gone or how Child A escaped is unknown .

5 CSR 25-500.102(1)(E) which states: "Caregivers shall have knowledge of the needs of children and shall be sensitive to the capabilities, interests, and problems of children in care."

On April 12, 2023, director Resa Trammell stated that in the past, there had been numerous talks with Parent A about Child A being a runner. When the children came in that day, Breanna said that Child A had asked to go to the baby room and Breanna told him no. The staff and kids were all busy with shoes and getting drinks when they came inside and that is when they think Child A left. There were text messages in the past sent to Parent A about Child A's behavior. Usually, they couldn't let Child A know when Parent A pulled up to get him because Child A would try to leave the building . Child A would chase Parent A out the door when dropped off in the mornings. She tried talking to Child A several times about running out the door .

On April 12, 2023, caregiver Breanna Schroeder stated that it is common sense on what to do with a child that is a runner. She does head counts and makes sure to check the surroundings. She touches each child's head to count them and has any other staff member with her do the same thing. Child A has tried to run before but it is usually when Parent A drops off .

On April 12, 2023, caregiver Denisha "Dede" Flanagan stated that Child A has not been listening the past couple weeks , has been screaming and kicking, and it will take 20 to 30 minutes for Child A to calm down. When she first started working, Child A got upset and ran to the gate and tried getting out the door. Child A is always moving around and staff have to keep an eye on him. She is not sure if Parent A ever told Resa that Child A was a runner .

On April 12, 2023, CI Graham reviewed the file for Child A. A behavior guide was in place designed by Parent A and given to the facility. This plan did not state anything about Child A having elopement issues .

Although the facility was aware that Child A was a runner , there was no plan in his file relating to this issue.

5 CSR 25-500.102(1)(F) which states: "Caregivers shall be capable of handling emergencies promptly and intelligently."

On April 12, 2023, director Resa Trammell stated that when she got back to the daycare after running to the bank and to Walmart, there was an officer pulling in. The officer said he was looking for some parents of a child or where the child belonged . Instead of confirming first, she waited until after the officer left to do another head count .

On April 12, 2023, caregiver Breanna Schroeder stated that when a police officer showed up and asked if they were missing a kid, she told him they were not. She was confident that there was no child missing but she did not double check.

5 CSR 25-600.020 (1) which states: "Prior to the employment or presence of a child care staff member in a licensed , regulated, or registered child care facility not exempted by section 210.1080.13, RSMo, the child care provider shall request the results of a criminal background check for such child care staff member from the department ."

AND

5 CSR 25-200.102(1)(P) which states: "The child care provider shall conduct a Family Care Safety Registry screening prior to employment for any newly hired child care staff member who has a qualifying criminal background check result ."

Caregiver Denisha "Dede" Flanagan began working at the facility in March, 2023. As of April 12, 2023, there was no criminal background check or Family Care Safety Registry screening results on file.

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

COMPLETED (Y/N)

Yes

COMPLETED DATE

7/31/2023

with all licensing violations cited. A copy of the memo, letter, or staff meeting agenda(s) shall be submitted to the Office of Childhood."

DISPOSITION

SUBSTANTIATED

DISPOSITION DATE

7/5/2023

APPROVING SUPERVISOR

CHRISCO, MARLA L