



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

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

DATE OF REPORT

11/3/2020

DVN

002400619

FACILITY NAME

BRIGHT START ACADEMY, INC.

FACILITY ADDRESS

3250 BEARFIELD

CITY

COLUMBIA

ZIP CODE

65201

PHONE NUMBER

(573) 447-0005

COUNTY

BOONE

ASSIGNED SPECIALIST

PARSLEY, JIM

RULE/STATUTE VIOLATION(S)

VIOLATION(S)

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

Caregivers shall not leave any child without competent adult supervision.

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

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

CONCLUSION SUMMARY

The SCCR has determined that Bright Start Academy was in violation of the above regulations, based upon statements made by the director of the facility, Michelle Purdy, indicating that Child A was left alone on the playground for approximately 2 minutes on the afternoon of November 2, 2020. One of the teachers in Child A's classroom, Carla Hopsecker, stated that, while the children were lined up and waiting to come back inside, she and the other teacher, Kristin Traeger, noticed that the door was locked. Carla Hopsecker stated that she went inside through the door of an adjacent classroom, opened the door to her own classroom, and that the children filed back inside. Carla Hopsecker stated that she conducted a name-to-face attendance check before discovering that the door to her classroom was locked, counted children as they crossed the threshold, but did not conduct a name-to-face attendance check after the children returned to their classroom. Carla Hopsecker stated that she did not realize that Child A had been left outside until she heard a knock on the door, opened the door, and found the teacher in the adjacent classroom, Mary Dubach, standing there with Child A. Carla Hopsecker stated that Child A was alone on the playground for approximately 2 minutes. Kristin Traeger stated that, as they were lining the children up outside, they noticed that the door to their classroom was locked. Kristin Traeger stated that Carla Hopsecker knocked on the door of the adjacent classroom, went inside, and opened the door to her own classroom. Kristin Traeger stated that Carla Hopsecker took the name-to-face attendance sheet inside with her when she went through the door of the adjacent classroom. Kristin Traeger stated that she counted children after Carla Hopsecker went inside, and that Child A was among them, but that she did not re-count children after they came back inside. Kristin Traeger stated that she heard a knock on the door, Carla Hopsecker opened the door, and that the teacher in the adjacent classroom, Mary Dubach, was standing there with Child A. Kristin Traeger stated that Child A was alone on the playground for approximately 2 minutes. Mary Dubach stated that, when she took her class outside, she found Child A on the playground alone, knocked on the door of his classroom, and returned him to Carla Hopsecker and Kristin Traeger. This determination is also being based upon an incident report prepared by Michelle Purdy and an injury/accident report signed by Carla Hopsecker and Kristin Traeger. Michelle Purdy's report indicates that a review of the facility's video footage revealed that Child A was left alone on the playground for approximately 2 minutes. The report signed by Carla Hopsecker and Kristin Traeger indicating that Child A was left alone on the playground for less than a minute. Finally, video footage related to the aforementioned incident was reviewed by Child Care Facility Specialist, Jim Parsley, during the inspection on November 3, 2020, and it revealed that Child A was left alone on the playground for a little over 2 minutes.

CORRECTIVE MEASURES

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Bright Start Academy will revise its transition policies to include using the name-to-face attendance sheet when children are conveyed from the classroom to the playground, after arrival on the playground, before returning to the classroom, and after returning to the classroom. A copy of these revised policies will be provided to the SCCR.

COMPLETED (Y/N)

Yes

COMPLETED DATE

1/15/2021

CORRECTIVE MEASURE Bright Start Academy will submit sample copies of its revised name-to-face attendance sheet and manager transition log to the SCCR for review and have copies of completed attendance sheets and logs available for review by the SCCR during inspections.	COMPLETED (Y/N) Yes	COMPLETED DATE 1/15/2021
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CORRECTIVE MEASURE Bright Start Academy will provide training for each of its staff members regarding the facility's revised transition policies, obtain signed and dated written statements from each staff member indicating that he or she has completed this training, and submit copies of these written statements to the SCCR.	COMPLETED (Y/N) Yes	COMPLETED DATE 1/15/2021
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DISPOSITION SUBSTANTIATED	DISPOSITION DATE 12/30/2020
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APPROVING SUPERVISOR BRUCE, CHRISTINA
