

Notice of Findings

Notice To: Colette R Venzor - Director
Facility Name: Smart Start Quality Child Care
Owner: Smart-Start Quality Child Care, Inc., Donna Harrison
Site Address: 1022 North 8th West
City/State/Zip: Riverton, WY 82501

The Department of Family Services has completed the investigation regarding alleged violation(s) of the Wyoming Child Care Rules received on 11/30/2020, and investigated by Regien Hasperhoven.

A statement of childcare allegation, CPL-5023, was provided on 12/01/2020.

The finding is listed below for each individual alleged violation of the Wyoming Child Care Licensing Rules:

1. Finding: Non-Compliant

Regulation: Chapter 4. General Requirements
Section 6. Discipline and Guidance

(b) When "time out" is used, it shall:

(iii) Be used infrequently and for very brief periods of time-out using one (1) minute for each year of the child's age. It shall be used selectively, taking into account the child's developmental stage and the usefulness of "time out" for the particular child.

Allegation: It was reported that within two months prior to 11/30/2020 a child was put in time out for longer than the one (1) minute for each year of the child's age allowed by Wyoming child care licensing rules. This happened in the 3 and 4 year old room.

Explanation of Findings: Through evidence and interviews it was established that in the week before Thanksgiving 2020, a 3 year old child was put in time out for more than the 3 minutes allowed for his age as per Wyoming child care licensing rules. Reports varied from the time out having lasted 7-12 minutes, to it having lasted for 15 minutes. In either case it would have been more than the 3 minutes allowed as per Wyoming Child Care Licensing Rules.

Action Required: Please develop a Corrective Action Plan describing how you ensure this will not happen in the future.

Corrective Action Plan Due Date: 01/22/2021

Corrective Action Plan Achieved Date:

Compliance Due Date: 12/01/2020

Compliance Achieved Date:

2. Finding: Compliant

Regulation: Chapter 4. General Requirements

Section 6. Discipline and Guidance

(d) The following behavior shall be prohibited in all child care settings:

(v) Any form of emotional maltreatment including rejecting, terrorizing, corrupting, isolating or ignoring a child. Children can be removed from a group, but not isolated. Behaviors of a child may be ignored, but not the child; and

Allegation: It was reported that within the two months prior to 11/30/2020 a child was isolated for time out in the rest room. This happened in the 3 and 4 year old room. Isolation is not allowed as per Wyoming child care licensing rules.

Explanation of Findings: There is not enough evidence to find a child was isolated in the rest room of the 3 and 4 year old room at any time.

Action Required: None

Corrective Action Plan Due Date:

Corrective Action Plan Achieved Date:

Compliance Due Date:

Compliance Achieved Date:

3. Finding: Compliant

Regulation: Chapter 4. General Requirements

Section 6. Discipline and Guidance

(d) The following behavior shall be prohibited in all child care settings:

(vi) Any form of confining a child's movement or restraining a child as a means of punishment.

Allegation: It was reported that within the two months prior to 11/30/2020 a child's movement was restrained in a chair as a means of discipline. This happened in the 3 and 4 year old room. Wyoming child care licensing rules prohibit confining a child's movement or restraining a child as a means of punishment.

Explanation of Findings: There is not enough evidence to support a rule violation in relation to punishment.

Corrective Action Plan Due Date:

Corrective Action Plan Achieved Date:

Compliance Due Date:

Compliance Achieved Date:

The Department requests your cooperation in ensuring compliance is met. In the absence of cooperation, the Department may take whatever steps are necessary to ensure the safety of children.

The Department's information may be shared with the authorized individuals or agencies, which include, but are not limited to, the Attorney General, County Attorney, and law enforcement.

If you disagree with the Department's finding of non-compliance for a violation, you may request an Administrative hearing within (10) days of your receipt of this letter (W.S. 14-4-108). Administrative hearing procedures are included in the Department of Family Services' **Wyoming Child Care Licensing Rules, Chapter 3, Section 5: Contested Case Hearing Rules**, and based upon the above statute. If you have questions, or need a copy of the Rules, you may contact the Department of Family Services Field office in the county where you live.

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Signature:



Date: 01/08/2021

Regien Hasperhoven for Regien Hasperhoven

CC:

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