

Sample of Items DCF Reviews During Inspections

Staff/Child Interaction:

- Are children always supervised and tracked as appropriate to their age?
- Are the staff/child ratios correct?
- Does the center have a written discipline policy that is positive, and that indicates that a child should not be disciplined for failing to eat, sleep or for soiling himself?
- Do staff interact positively with children?
- Does the center have a variety of activities that are appropriate for children's age levels, including activities directed by the caregiver as well as free play?
- Are the children under 2½ years old assigned a primary caregiver?
- Are infants/toddlers taken out of their cribs when they are awake?
- Does the center provide rest periods that allow an alternate activity for children who don't sleep after 30 minutes of rest?

Health and Safety:

- Is the equipment safe and sturdy and are the facilities sanitary?
- Are all surfaces kept clean and in good repair?
- Are outdoor play areas and walkways free from hazards?
- What is the policy for hand washing for children and staff?
- How are diapering surfaces, tables and toys sanitized?
- Are toxic products stored in locked cabinets?
- Is there a staff member trained in First Aid and CPR at the center at all times?
- What is the center's policies and procedures regarding accidents and illnesses?
- What is the center's medication policy?
- What is the center's diapering and toilet training policies and procedures?
- What are the center's procedures for fire drills and emergency evacuation?

Management, Policies and Procedures:

- Is there a chain of command in the absence of the director?
- What are the credentials of your staff?
- Do staff have the required background checks?
- Have staff had the required trainings in child growth and development, positive guidance and discipline, and health and safety procedures?
- Does the center have a staff substitute system?
- What is the center's policy on release of children?
- What is the center's policy on the expulsion of children from the center?
- What opportunities are provided to parents for involvement with the center?