

Early Learning and Childcare Facility Inspection Report

Type of Inspection:
Monitoring Inspection

Pursuant to section 21 of the *Early Childhood Services Act*, operators of licensed early learning and childcare facilities must post their most recent inspection report in a clearly visible and prominent place in the facility.

Name of operator Start Smart Family Learning Center Inc.	Licence Number 2010207	Inspection Date August 14, 2025	
Facility Name Start Smart Family Learning Centre		Telephone Number (506) 363-3765	
Address 20 617 Route Burtts Corner NB E6L 2X3			
Name of Early Learning and Childcare Licensing Staff Angela Tozer		Position Title Quality Assurance Monitor	
Order for Compliance	Regulation	Date to be corrected	Date corrected
31(3) An operator shall maintain the outdoor play area of a licensed facility to ensure the safety of the children.	31(3)	Aug 15, 2025	
Comments: The gazebo has staples sticking out on one side and evidence of some damage or rot at the bottom of one of the posts. The protective surfacing needs to be raked to ensure proper protection. Please ensure the outdoor play space is safe and free from hazards at all times.			

General Comments
<p>When licensing staff arrived, children were still arriving for the day. The afterschool and preschool children were combined in one room with the educators and shortly after arriving, the afterschool educator took the older children to the cafeteria. More children arrived and the educator in the preschool room noted the ratio of children on the whiteboard for an easy reference. Staff to child ratio was met with two educators and a student in the preschool room and two educators in the afterschool room.</p> <p>Documentation is posted throughout the preschool room beginning on the door with photos and descriptions of activities with a photo of an open-ended invitation to create a log face showing the intentional placement of materials along one side of the table and logs on the other for children to imagine and create. The centre had celebrated Christmas in July by combining the summer feel with Christmas ideas in their artifacts such as snow people created with sand and palm trees decorated like Christmas trees. A question was documented on the wall asking what children would request from Santa in the summer and each child's name and response was noted. The educator also made connections to the curriculum providing evidence to families of the importance of learning. An additional question was posed in another area with children's responses and connections along with individual art pieces. The educator stated that they place photos and additional documentation online for parents and grandparents to view.</p> <p>The educators give many reminders to children of transitions and while children were getting their shoes with one educator, a second educator started a game of Simon Says with the children waiting. Licensing staff observed an educator reminding a child that only three children were allowed to sit on the foam couch and removing the child when they disagreed. In discussion with the educator, they stated that the couch is relatively new and a novelty with the children with several children sitting on it with children laying across the children sitting. The educators came up with the solution of allowing only three on at a time to ensure safety. Licensing staff reflected with the educator on allowing children to negotiate the space which may decrease the stress for</p>

General Comments

children and educators of policing the number of children sitting. The educator mentioned they talk about respecting one another's bodily space which is an important aspect of trusting children to negotiate the space.

The children lined up to go outside this morning and educators counted the children to ensure everyone was present, counting again as they entered the outdoor play space. One child imitated the educators by counting the educators. The fence has been damaged in one area and lattice placed over the space to keep environment contained. The educators mentioned some vandalism in the outdoor play space that has limited their efforts to keep materials for children. A new fence is planned in the coming weeks that is higher and hopefully will discourage further vandalism. The educators have been planning changes to the outdoor space to replace some of the damaged resources and have already received new elements to support their vision. Currently there are no seating areas besides the bench and in a discussion between the licensing staff and educators, a suggestion was made to utilize the deck space for a table or blanket for picnics.

The educators were observed encouraging children throughout the morning and when one child wanted to jump off a higher surface, the educator stated, "As long as you feel safe doing it." showing they trusted the child to understand their own limitations instead of causing them to question their limitations by saying be careful. Other children wanted to try jumping and the educator would ask if they needed help or not respecting their responses.

The school age children went outside this morning using the school playground independently choosing where they wanted to play. The educators would check in with children and when the weather changed dramatically, they listened to the children to return inside. Children washed their hands and visited the washroom before grabbing their lunch boxes for lunch. The educators sat with the children as they ate. Once children were finished their lunches, they chose paper and writing materials to color and create.

Child files were reviewed, and a reminder given to ensure children had two emergency contacts on file with addresses to confirm they can be available within one hour, in case of an emergency. The educator stated they were going to review each file ensuring all information was updated such as Medicare expiry dates and medical forms.

original signed by
Angela Tozer

Signature of Early Learning and Childcare Licensing Staff

August 14, 2025

Date

original signed by
Lisa Hill

Signature of Operator/Designate

August 14, 2025

Date