

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 Little Land Learning Centre Inc.	Licence Number 2018342	Inspection Date April 25, 2023	
Facility Name Little Land Learning Centre		Telephone Number (506) 458-5552	
Address 435 Brookside Drive Fredericton NB E3A 8V4			
Name of Early Learning and Childcare Licensing Staff Sabrina Diotte		Position Title Inspector	

Order for Compliance	Regulation	Date to be corrected	Date corrected
10(1) The number of educators that are required for a group of children of mixed ages receiving services at a full-time or part-time early learning and childcare centre is calculated as follows: (a) by multiplying the number of children of the same age by the corresponding factor set out in Schedule A; and (b) by adding the results obtained under paragraph (a).	10(1)	Apr 25, 2023	
<p>Comments: One child ran outside of the daycare into the mall and had to be intercepted by the inspector. The child was unsupervised for a short period of time. The door of the daycare must be changed to a hand push handle so it remains locked and only adults can reach the handle to open the door.</p> <p>Inspectors had to help and be counted in ratio on many occasions such as taking children to the bathroom due staff shortage. The operator must ensure there is enough staff on site to meet ratio but also to ensure the safety and well-being of children.</p> <p>A Support Worker cannot be counted in ratio while working with a child.</p>			
11.1(1) An operator of a designated facility shall, when providing services to infants or preschool children, use a curriculum established by the Minister for the language in which services are provided.	11.1(1)	May 16, 2023	
<p>Comments: There is little to no use of the NB curriculum framework. The children are playing from one toy to another with no structure or planned activities. There is no routine or transitions. By the end of the day, there were toys everywhere in the classrooms. Children are also not being taught age-appropriate life skills such as cleaning up toys, hygiene like washing their hands before meals, putting their lunch boxes away after meals, sharing with friends.</p> <p>The only observation done related to the use of the curriculum was where an educator was playing in the kitchen area with the children, she extended her learning by creating menus with the children using flyers to add to their kitchen accessories.</p> <p>The educators must read the NB curriculum framework provided by the department and must implement the curriculum.</p>			
21 The daily activities of a licensed facility shall be purposely planned in advance and documented and shall respond to the capabilities, needs and interests of each child.	21	May 16, 2023	

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<p>Comments: There is no evidence of planned programming.</p> <p>In addition, there is a high level of staff rotation in the rooms due to covering staff breaks which leaves no time for planned programming. Between 8:30 and 10:00 a.m., there was six different staff who worked in the Adventure Island room. There needs to be a reduction in staff rotation in the classrooms to allow for more stability, consistency for the children, learning and programming.</p>			
21 The daily activities of a licensed facility shall be purposely planned in advance and documented and shall respond to the capabilities, needs and interests of each child and shall include (c) opportunities (ii) to explore various forms of literacy.	21(c)(ii)	Apr 05, 2023	Apr 25, 2023
<p>Comments: New books and bookshelves were added. Many new literacy learning materials on the walls.</p>			
21 The daily activities of a licensed facility shall be purposely planned in advance and documented and shall respond to the capabilities, needs and interests of each child and shall include (c) opportunities (iii) to express creativity and interests.	21(c)(iii)	Apr 05, 2023	Apr 25, 2023
<p>Comments: There was a reduction in plastic toys and battery-operated toys. More natural toys and loose parts were added. New blocks and games were also added.</p>			
21 The daily activities of a licensed facility shall be purposely planned in advance and documented and shall respond to the capabilities, needs and interests of each child and shall include (c) opportunities (iv) to explore the arts and sciences.	21(c)(iv)	May 16, 2023	
<p>Comments: New science-related learning was posted on the walls and new science-related toys such as funnels and magnifying glasses were added. New art materials were added, and some rooms had new art supply cabinets were added. The Silly Street room did not have any arts supplies for the children, and this must be added and displayed in a way that is visible and accessible to the children. There were also many music instruments added in all rooms.</p>			
21 The daily activities of a licensed facility shall be purposely planned in advance and documented and shall respond to the capabilities, needs and interests of each child and shall include (c) opportunities (v) to experience accomplishment and success.	21(c)(v)	May 16, 2023	
<p>Comments: Again today, there was limited conversations and interaction between staff and the children. No conversation regarding successes, accomplishments or achievements was observed.</p>			
21 The daily activities of a licensed facility shall be purposely planned in advance and documented and shall respond to the capabilities, needs and interests of each child and shall include (c) opportunities (vii) to develop trusting, respectful and supportive relationships with educators and children.	21(c)(vii)	May 16, 2023	
<p>Comments: Again, today there was very little positive interaction between the staff and the children. The staff are more often observed ordering the children around by saying things such as "stop" "no" "don't do that". One staff member was observed walking around the classrooms all day with his jacket on and at one point he also had his backpack on. He was asked by the inspector to remove his backpack and interact and engage with the children. Staff must be present with the children; they must also present themselves in a way that indicates their desire to be there, and they must also engage with the children and have conversations with them.</p>			
22 The daily routine of a licensed facility shall include (b) a period of rest for a length of time that meets the needs of each infant and preschool child receiving services at the licensed facility but that does not exceed two consecutive hours unless there is a written request from a child's parent or guardian to extend the length of time.	22(b)	May 16, 2023	
<p>Comments: All rooms must provide a nap/rest period. If children don't sleep, they should still be provided with mats and a quiet period. The Kindergarten Crossing room did not have any mats out nor an obvious quiet period. The lights were turned off while the children were still eating. If the lights are being turned off before children are done eating, then appropriate lighting needs to be provided to the children so they can see their food. Also, once nap/quiet time was over, the children and some staff yelled loudly "yeeeeeee" and raised their hands in their air. It was extremely loud, and some young children were still sleeping. This would not be a positive way for children to wake up and so the practice is not recommended.</p>			
25 An operator of a licensed facility shall post in a clearly visible and prominent place on the premises: (a) the daily routine.	25(a)	May 01, 2023	

Order for Compliance	Regulation	Date to be corrected	Date corrected
Comments: There is no routine in the classrooms. A proper routine must be established and posted in each classroom.			
30(3) An operator shall maintain the indoor play area of a licensed facility to ensure the safety of the children.	30(3)	May 16, 2023	
Comments: Rooms were cleaned. Walls were painted. The soiled interlocking mats were removed. Carpets were steam cleaned. The toys and shelves were cleaned and reorganized. Despite the changes above, there are still outstanding items: - The entrance area of the centre near the cubbies must be cleaned and decluttered. Bags and boxes removed. - The floors need to be deep cleaned and all green tap removed. - There is still a strong smell coming from the bathroom in the infant room. The toilet does not appear to have a seal and isn't secured to the floor and that may be the cause of the smell. The smell must be rectified. - There is still an ongoing smell in the other bathrooms, this may be also caused by the toilets or proper garbage cans need to be provided to lock in the smell. - Must clean under carpets and behind and around toys and shelves also. - The large black cabinet in Kindergarten Crossing must be kept organized or must be removed. There was still a large amount of clutter on top. - There are latches hanging on the side of the brown shelves that need to be removed as they can pose a risk of injury. - The protective base around the pole in Kindergarten Crossing needs to be repaired, it's currently being held by tape. - The ceiling vents must be cleaned. - The infant table needs to be replaced as its cracked with build up dirt and it's unsanitary. - Must clean under the change mat in the infant room. - Tables need to be cleaned after meals and the children's food put away. One room left the children's lunch boxes open and the table and floor dirty after lunch and did not clean up until later when the children were sleeping. Another group left lunch boxes open on the table and went outside. - The highchair in the infant room needs to be deep cleaned. - There are stain ceiling tiles and so the area should be inspected for leaks and the tiles replaced.			
31(3) An operator shall maintain the outdoor play area of a licensed facility to ensure the safety of the children.	31(3)	May 16, 2023	
Comments: In the infant playground; the grounds must be cleaned, and garbage removed. The playhouse roof needs to be secured or the house removed. The swing/slide structure must be removed as it's broken. The picnic table must be removed as it's broken. The toy box needs to be cleaned out and all broken toys must be removed. All push toys that are broken must be removed. In the larger playground; all rusted and broken toys must be removed. The identified structure must be removed as it's broken. The toy bin needs to be cleaned all broken toys removed.			
31(4) An operator shall ensure that the outdoor play area of a licensed facility (a) includes a shaded area that is at least 10% of the outdoor play area.	31(4)(a)	Jun 01, 2023	
Comments: 10% shade must be added in the infant space.			
32(1) An operator of a licensed facility shall provide indoor play area materials and equipment that are (d) clean and in good repair.	32(1)(d)	May 16, 2023	
Comments: Some cleaning and decluttering was completed. Many battery- operated toys were removed, or batteries replaced. Damaged toys or toys missing parts and are not able to be uses as intended need to be removed. Play kitchens that are missing parts need to be repaired or replaced.			
33(1) An operator of a licensed facility shall provide outdoor play area materials and equipment that are varied and in sufficient quantity for the number and ages of the children receiving services at the licensed facility.	33(1)	May 16, 2023	
Comments: The children need more outdoor play materials that are recommended by the NB Curriculum Framework.			
36(1) A full-time early learning and childcare centre and an early learning and childcare home shall have a rest area.	36(1)	Apr 05, 2023	Apr 25, 2023
Comments: The nap room will remain a storage room and a change in service has been submitted to change the age of the room to 15 months and above.			

Order for Compliance	Regulation	Date to be corrected	Date corrected
36(7) A nap mat shall be at least 5 cm in thickness and stored in a way that avoids contact with the surface of another nap mat or disinfected on both sides after each use.	36(7)	Apr 05, 2023	Apr 25, 2023
Comments: The educator was observed cleaning the mats after being used for the ones being stored together and the others are stored in bags separately.			
39(1) A licensed facility shall have storage space that includes: (b) easily accessible space to store the personal belongings of each child receiving services at the licensed facility.	39(1)(b)	May 16, 2023	
Comments: Although there is space provided for children's personal belongings, the areas are cluttered and unorganized and does not provide easy access. When it was time for children to get ready to go outside, it caused a lot of confusion and chaos for the children and staff because children could not find their belongings. When children come in and out from outside, they need to put their personal belongings back in their designated space. All entrance and cubby area must be cleaned and remain organized.			
39(2) A licensed facility shall have a separate locked storage space that is inaccessible to the children for each of the following: (b) medications.	39(2)(b)	Apr 05, 2023	Apr 25, 2023
Comments: Medication was removed from the fridge. The medication in the staff room was removed.			
40(1) An operator of a licensed facility shall ensure that personal belongings of a child receiving services at the licensed facility that are brought to the licensed facility, including combs, brushes, toothbrushes, towels, washcloths, bedding, pacifiers and soothers, are (a) labelled with the name of the child.	40(1)(a)	May 16, 2023	
Comments: Not all children's personal belongings are labelled. Parents/staff must ensure all personal belongings are labelled.			
40(1) An operator of a licensed facility shall ensure that personal belongings of a child receiving services at the licensed facility that are brought to the licensed facility, including combs, brushes, toothbrushes, towels, washcloths, bedding, pacifiers and soothers, are (b) used only for the intended child.	40(1)(b)	May 16, 2023	
Comments: Some children had bathroom accidents and they had no change of clothes. Parents must ensure their children have a change of clothes at the daycare and replenished when used. Children cannot remain at daycare with soiled clothing due to a toilet accident and if there is no change of clothes for the child, parents will need to pick up the child or drop off clothing urgently. Because some children did not have a change of clothes, the staff used clothing from other children.			
41(2) Despite subsection (1), a changing mat used exclusively for diaper changing may be used as a surface for diaper changing for children who are at least 15 months of age.	41(2)	Apr 05, 2023	Apr 25, 2023
Comments: A change table was added.			
46(1) An operator of a licensed facility shall only administer medication to a child receiving services at the licensed facility in the following cases: (c) if the medication is not prescribed, the medication is (i) in the original container with the original label, (ii) in a container with child protective caps (iii) labelled with the child's name and the dosage.	46(1)(c)	Apr 05, 2023	Apr 25, 2023
Comments: Medication was removed from the fridge.			
49(1) An operator of a licensed facility shall ensure that the guidance of the children receiving services at the licensed facility is positive and includes positive reinforcement, encouraging efforts and recognizing accomplishments.	49(1)	Apr 25, 2023	

Order for Compliance	Regulation	Date to be corrected	Date corrected
<p>Comments: More then one staff was observed raising their voices and getting frustrated with children. Licensing staff had to intervene on two occasions. One staff was observed standing near the entrance of the room, telling children with a frustrated tone and raised voiced "absolutely not", "not in my classroom" "stop now".</p> <p>One staff was also observed during nap time, getting frustrated with the children who did not want to sleep, requesting over and over for the children to lay down and was also observed picking up and laying a child down multiples time in a row and at one point was holding the child down so he would not get up.</p> <p>One staff member was also heard talking very loudly and saying things like "hey girlfriend" to the children. Staff were also observed often telling children to "stop" and giving them orders instead of using positive child guidance such re-directing negative energy.</p> <p>The environment is not set up to encourage positive behavior such has a balance routine, preparing children for transition or involving children in age-appropriate tasks.</p> <p>The bathroom routine is not working, creating chaos, stress, and causing child guidance concerns as staff are getting frustrated with the children. The constant request and demand of the younger children to sit for an extended period while waiting for the other children to get their diaper changed is not age/developmentally appropriate. A new bathroom routine needs to be established in consultation with the inspector.</p> <p>Positive child guidance must be used at all times and changes to the routine and environment is required.</p>			
6.4(2) The operator shall implement and monitor the quality improvement plan and revise it each year.	6.4(2)	May 16, 2023	
<p>Comments: Not all aspects of the Quality Improvement Plan and the three-step plan provided by the curriculum team has been met. All aspects of both plans must be met.</p>			

General Comments

original signed by
Sabrina Diotte

Signature of Early Learning and Childcare Licensing Staff

May 08, 2023

Date

original signed by
Nicolle Leblanc

Signature of Operator/Designate

May 08, 2023

Date