



GRETCHEN WHITMER  
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN  
DEPARTMENT OF LICENSING AND REGULATORY AFFAIRS  
LANSING

ORLENE HAWKS  
DIRECTOR

April 19, 2023

Leta Bowman  
Leta's Educational Childcare LLC  
1260 N. Jebavy Dr.  
Ludington, MI 49431

RE: License #: DC530392431  
Investigation #: 2023D1073007  
Leta's Educational Childcare

Dear Ms. Bowman:

I conducted a special investigation because the child care licensing division received a complaint against your facility that related to licensing rules or law. The allegations were related to the following:

<b>R 400.8125(1)</b>	<b>Staff; volunteer; requirements</b>
<b>R 400.8182(3)(a)</b>	<b>Ratio and group size requirements.</b>
<b>R 400.8134(3)(b)</b>	<b>Handwashing.</b>
<b>R 400.8155(1)(c)</b>	<b>Child accidents and incidents; child and staff illness.</b>
<b>R 400.8330(6)</b>	<b>Food services and nutrition generally.</b>

The details of the allegations are in the attached report. To investigate the allegations:

- I interviewed the program director, licensee designee, caregivers, parents, or others with relevant information.
- I completed an onsite inspection on 2/21/2023.

As a result of this investigation, I found the following violation(s):

<b>R 400.8125(1)</b>	<b>Staff; volunteer; requirements</b>
<b>R 400.8179(2)(d)</b>	<b>Program.</b>
<b>R 400.8134(3)(b)</b>	<b>Handwashing.</b>

I recommend no change to the current license status.

Due to the violations, you must send us a corrective action plan by 4/27/2023. You can use our [corrective action plan](#) form or create your own.

If you need help writing the corrective action plan, please contact me. If you do not send a corrective action plan, you may face disciplinary action. The corrective action plan must include the following:

- How compliance with each rule will be achieved.
- Who is directly responsible for implementing the corrective action for each violation.
- Specific time frames for each violation as to when the correction will be completed or implemented.
- How continuing compliance will be maintained once compliance is achieved.
- The signature of the responsible party and a date.

<b>During this special investigation:</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>
A rule or law violation was found and a serious injury or death occurred.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
A rule or law violation was found and abuse and/or neglect of a child occurred.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

This report and any related corrective action plans must be filed in your licensing notebook. This report and any related corrective action plans will be online for parents to review under the [Statewide Search for Licensed Child Care Centers and Homes](#).

Sincerely,



Tarah Kline, Licensing Consultant  
Child Care Licensing Bureau  
611 W. Ottawa Street  
P.O. Box 30837  
Lansing, MI 48909  
Cell: 616-916-2490  
Fax: 517-763-0217

enclosure

**MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF LICENSING AND REGULATORY AFFAIRS  
BUREAU OF COMMUNITY AND HEALTH SYSTEMS  
SPECIAL INVESTIGATION REPORT**

**I. IDENTIFYING INFORMATION**

<b>License #:</b>	DC530392431
<b>Investigation #:</b>	2023D1073007
<b>Complaint Receipt Date:</b>	02/07/2023
<b>Investigation Initiation Date:</b>	02/10/2023
<b>Report Due Date:</b>	04/08/2023
<b>Licensee Name:</b>	Leta's Educational Childcare LLC
<b>Licensee Address:</b>	1260 N. Jebavy Dr. Ludington, MI 49431
<b>Licensee Telephone #:</b>	(231) 852-0055
<b>Administrator:</b>	Leta Bowman, Designee
<b>Licensee Designee:</b>	Leta Bowman, Designee
<b>Name of Facility:</b>	Leta's Educational Childcare
<b>Facility Address:</b>	900 N. Washington Ludington, MI 49431
<b>Facility Telephone #:</b>	(231) 425-9191
<b>Original Issuance Date:</b>	08/31/2018
<b>License Status:</b>	REGULAR
<b>Effective Date:</b>	02/28/2021
<b>Expiration Date:</b>	02/27/2023
<b>Capacity:</b>	30
<b>Program Type:</b>	CHILD CARE CENTER

## II. ALLEGATION(S)

	<b>Violation Established?</b>
During circle time in the toddler room, toddlers are restrained in highchairs and cribs while Ms. Leta Bowman cares for 12 toddlers on her own.	Yes
Children sent home with pinkeye are allowed to come back the next day even if they are still contagious.	No
Children in care are not given water when they request it; they are only given a half cup of water in the afternoons.	No
Children do not wash hands before meals or after they go to the bathroom.	Yes
Additional Findings	Yes

## III. METHODOLOGY

02/07/2023	Special Investigation Intake 2023D1073007
02/10/2023	Special Investigation Initiated - Telephone Spoke with licensing consultant, Amanda Wendell
02/21/2023	Inspection Completed On-site 10:05 AM-11:42 AM Spoke with licensee designee Leta Bowman
02/22/2023	Contact - Document Received Text message received from Ms. Bowman
02/24/2023	Contact - Document Sent Sent text message to Ms. Bowman
03/28/2023	Contact - Telephone call made Spoke with Child A's Mother, Child B's Mother and Child C's Mother
04/03/2023	Inspection Completed-BCAL Sub. Compliance
04/17/2023	Exit Conference

**ALLEGATION:** During circle time in the toddler room, toddlers are restrained in highchairs and cribs while Ms. Leta Bowman cares for 12 toddlers on her own.

**INVESTIGATION:** During my onsite inspection on 2/21/2023 I spoke with program director/licensee designee Leta Bowman, Child Care Staff Member (CCSM) 1, CCSM 2, CCSM 3, CCSM 4, CCSM 5, and CCSM 6.

Ms. Bowman and I spoke first. She explained that she is primarily in the preschool classroom but does like to do the board time in the toddler classroom so she can start to get to know the children in this classroom. During board time they work on colors, letters, calendar, weather, etc. She does this alone in the back of the room while the other two child care staff members prep for the rest of the day in the front of the classroom. Ms. Bowman likes to do this because the toddlers are distracted by the other staff members when they are involved in board time.

Ms. Bowman explained that some of the toddlers are still young and need two naps a day, so during board time they are placed in the cribs that are in the back of the room so if they do not fall asleep, they can “sponge” off the lessons she is teaching the rest of the infants. If the younger toddlers that do not need two naps cannot sit at the toddler table during this board time, she puts them in highchairs so they can hear the lesson without moving all around. They are given books, musical instruments, etc. while in the highchairs so they are included in the lesson. Ms. Bowman indicated that typically the board time lasts about 45 minutes to an hour. Ms. Bowman indicated that she is up front with all her parents about what each classroom looks like and that the young toddlers are still gaining knowledge from listening to the lesson.

CCSM 1 works primarily in the toddler room. She stated that Ms. Bowman likes to do the board time, so during that time she works on lesson plans or crafts for later in the day with the other child care staff member that is in the room. CCSM 1 believes the youngest child in the room is just over 12 months and still requires a morning nap. They are placed in the crib in the back of the room by the other children during board time so they can hear the lesson if they are not sleeping. When toddlers do not do well sitting at the toddler table, they are placed in highchairs but still included in the lesson. For example, they are given books to look through or musical instruments if they are singing a song.

CCSM 2 sometimes works in the infant room but works in the toddler room primarily. They explained that during board time Ms. Bowman works with the toddlers in the back of the room while herself and other child care staff members work on things in the front of the room. She does observe where the children are sitting during the board time and reported that the older toddlers will sit at the toddler table in the back, the young ones will lay in cribs if they still need to nap and the ones that can't sit at the table and will run around are placed in the highchairs. Staff let toddlers try it

out at the table before they just put them in the highchairs. If they can't sit to listen and are distracting the other kids, they are put in the highchair.

CCSM 3 is not typically in the toddler room when Ms. Bowman is in there because she switches places with her and goes into the preschool classroom. She stated that board time is typically 45 minutes to an hour and that she knows that the older toddlers sit at the table unless they wander off during the lesson, then they are placed in highchairs so they can engage better with the lesson. There are two toddlers that are younger and sometimes need a morning nap. They are placed in the cribs in the same space the board time is occurring so if they do not fall asleep, they can listen to the lesson. CCSM 3 stated that Ms. Bowman is never alone with 12 toddlers, that there are always two other child care staff members in the classroom.

CCSM 4 is in the toddler and preschool classroom. Sometimes she switches with Ms. Bowman during board time, so she does not always observe the entire thing. She has never witnessed Ms. Bowman being alone with 12 toddlers as the other staff members are in the front of the classroom working on the things for the rest of the day. CCSM 4 stated that board time is usually days of the week, what holiday they are celebrating, weather, colors, etc. If the toddlers are old enough, they sit at a small toddler table. If they get up and run around, they are put in highchairs so they can still hear the lesson. There are a couple of toddlers that go in the cribs because they nap on occasion.

CCSM 5 stated that she floats between all three classrooms. She has observed the toddler room while Ms. Bowman is teaching at the board and has never seen her alone. If toddlers are able, they are placed at the table to participate in the lesson. If they cannot sit at the table without getting up and running around then they are placed in highchairs. Ms. Bowman gives them a book or musical instruments to help them during times of inactivity.

CCSM 6 does not work in the toddler room, so she does not have firsthand knowledge of how many children Ms. Bowman has or what board time looks like.

On 3/28/2023 I reached out to Child A's Mother, Child B's Mother and Child C's Mother.

Child A's Mother stated that Child A (male, age 11 months) is in the infant room, so she does not have any knowledge about how the toddler room functions.

Child B's Mother stated that her daughter has been in the toddler room previously and she had no concerns with how she was cared for in this classroom. Child B (female, age 3) loves goes to child care and has not had any bad experiences that she knows of.

Child C's Mother stated that she asks a lot of questions about what Child C's (male, age 2) day looks like, but she does not know specifically what board time looks like for him. She did state he goes in a highchair when he gets there to wait for his other friends. Child C loves child care so she believes he must enjoy board time.

<b>APPLICABLE RULE</b>	
<b>R 400.8125</b>	<b>Staff; volunteer; requirements.</b>
	<b>(1) All staff and volunteers shall provide appropriate care and supervision of children at all times.</b>
<b>ANALYSIS:</b>	Ms. Bowman did not provide appropriate care for the toddlers when she requires them to sit and participate in an activity for 45 minutes to one hour of time. When children are not engaged in the activity, Ms. Bowman had children placed in a highchair or crib to stop them from moving or distracting others is not appropriate.
<b>CONCLUSION:</b>	<b>VIOLATION ESTABLISHED</b>

<b>APPLICABLE RULE</b>							
<b>R 400.8182</b>	<b>Ratio and group size requirements.</b>						
	<b>(3) In each room or well-defined space, the maximum group size and ratio of child care staff members to children, including children related to a staff member or the licensee, must be as shown in Table 4:</b>						
	<table border="0"> <thead> <tr> <th><b>Age</b></th> <th><b>Child Care Staff member to Child Ratio</b></th> <th><b>Maximum Group Size</b></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td><b>a) Infants, and toddlers, birth until 30 months of age</b></td> <td><b>1 to 4</b></td> <td><b>12</b></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	<b>Age</b>	<b>Child Care Staff member to Child Ratio</b>	<b>Maximum Group Size</b>	<b>a) Infants, and toddlers, birth until 30 months of age</b>	<b>1 to 4</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>Age</b>	<b>Child Care Staff member to Child Ratio</b>	<b>Maximum Group Size</b>					
<b>a) Infants, and toddlers, birth until 30 months of age</b>	<b>1 to 4</b>	<b>12</b>					
<b>ANALYSIS:</b>	All child care staff members and Ms. Bowman report that Ms. Bowman does the board time with two other child care staff members in the room working on other projects for the children's day. There is no evidence to support they are out of ratio.						
<b>CONCLUSION:</b>	<b>VIOLATION NOT ESTABLISHED</b>						

<b>APPLICABLE RULE</b>	
<b>R 400.8179</b>	<b>Program.</b>
	<b>(2) A center shall implement a program plan that includes daily learning experiences appropriate to the developmental level of the children. Experiences must be designed to develop all of the following: (d) Cognitive development.</b>
<b>ANALYSIS:</b>	Ms. Bowman did not ensure that daily learning experiences were appropriate to the cognitive development of the toddlers in care. Ms. Bowman was covering such topics as colors, letters, calendar, and the weather during a 45 minute to an hour group time. Ms. Bowman expected children to sit during this time and for those not able to sit with the group, Ms. Bowman expected some children to “sponge’ off from the activities while confined to a highchair or crib.
<b>CONCLUSION:</b>	<b>VIOLATION ESTABLISHED</b>

**ALLEGATION:** Children sent home with pinkeye are allowed to come back the next day even if they are still contagious.

**INVESTIGATION:** Ms. Bowman stated that they have had pinkeye throughout the center, and it typically has gone one of two ways. The first is they go to the doctor and get eye drops for it, then they are allowed to come back 24 hours after they started the drops. Or they may go to the doctor and the doctor says it is not contagious. In this case, they must get a note from the doctor saying that they are not contagious so they can be in care. Sometimes they do not go to the doctor, so they must be out 48 hours or until there is no discharge.

All staff members that I spoke with stated that Ms. Bowman is very strict about different illnesses that are contagious, pinkeye being one of them. They all reported the same requirements Ms. Bowman stated for children that are observed in care having pinkeye; Children must go home and have requirements that must be met before they can come back to care.

Child A’s Mother stated that Child A did get pinkeye on a Saturday once and she got him antibiotics. She kept him home until he was no longer contagious. She felt that Ms. Bowman was in regular contact with them about different illnesses that are going around and will include in the newsletters small reminders about how to prevent spread of illness in general.

Child B's Mother reported that any time Child B is sick she knows she needs to keep her home for 24 hours after she is fever-free or has no other symptoms.

Child C's Mother is a nurse for the health department and has been impressed with Ms. Bowman's communication on different illnesses going around the center and has not had any concerns about sanitization at the center.

<b>APPLICABLE RULE</b>	
<b>R 400.8155</b>	<b>Child accidents and incidents; child and staff illness.</b>
	<b>(1)A center shall have a written plan for how and when a parent is notified when personnel observe any of the following: (c) A child is too ill to remain in the group.</b>
<b>ANALYSIS:</b>	There is no evidence to support the allegation that children that are contagious are allowed to be in care.
<b>CONCLUSION:</b>	<b>VIOLATION NOT ESTABLISHED</b>

**ALLEGATION:** Children in care are not given water when they request it; they are only given a half cup of water in the afternoons.

**INVESTIGATION:** Ms. Bowman stated that in the toddler room children never really ask for water but are given water with their snacks and milk at meals. She stated that in the summertime she does make sure the toddlers get more water during the day because they play outside much more and does not want them to get dehydrated. In the preschool classroom they have their own water bottles and can have them anytime they want when they ask for them. However, on occasion, there has been a child that asks for water constantly to keep them from conducting different academic lessons so they may be told to wait or that they just had it. This very rarely happens and could not think of a specific time it happened last.

CCSM 1 stated that in the toddler room the children have cups in the refrigerator and if they ask for them, they can have them. CCSM 2 stated that toddlers do not really ask for drinks outside mealtime. Maybe they ask in the summer and then they are given water.

CCSM 3 and CCSM 4 stated that at no time has a child been denied water when they ask for it.

CCSM 5 reported that when a child asks for water, they are typically given it unless they are using it as an excuse not to lay down for rest time or participate in academic activities.

<b>APPLICABLE RULE</b>	
<b>R 400.8330</b>	<b>Food services and nutrition generally.</b>
	(6) A center shall make water available to drink throughout the day to children 1 year of age and older.
<b>ANALYSIS:</b>	There is no evidence to support that children do not get water when they request it.
<b>CONCLUSION:</b>	<b>VIOLATION NOT ESTABLISHED</b>

**ALLEGATION:** Children do not wash hands before meals or after they go to the bathroom.

**INVESTIGATION:** I asked Ms. Bowman when children are required to wash their hands, she stated before/after meals, when they come in from outside, after using the bathroom and after diapering.

CCSM 1, CCSM 2, CCSM 3, CCSM 4, and CCSM 5 reported that the potty-trained children wash after they go to the bathroom and all children wash their hands before and after eating. They reported that the hands of toddlers after a diaper change are usually cleaned with a wipe. CCSM 2 reported they use wipes to sanitize the children’s hands after diapering because they need to stay in ratio and there is not a sink in the classroom. Some staff also reported that hands are washed if soiled after outdoor play.

CCSM 6 stated that she washes infants’ hands after diapering them if it is safe to do so. She also washes them before they eat.

After speaking with caregivers, I asked Ms. Bowman about toddlers having their hands wiped instead of washing their hands. She stated that she had a portable sink in the toddler room but moved it to the infant room because it would make it easier in infant room. I asked about adding another sink in the toddler room and she stated that at this time it is not feasible so they will bring them across the hall to the sink to wash their hands.

<b>APPLICABLE RULE</b>	
<b>R 400.8134</b>	<b>Hand washing.</b>
	<b>(3) Staff and volunteers shall ensure that children wash their hands at all of the following times: (b) After toileting or diapering.</b>
<b>ANALYSIS:</b>	Child care staff members report that they use wipes on children's hands after they are diapered instead of washing them.
<b>CONCLUSION:</b>	<b>VIOLATION ESTABLISHED</b>

#### IV. RECOMMENDATION

After the receipt of an acceptable corrective action plan, I recommend no change in license status.




4/19/2023

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Tarah Kline  
Licensing Consultant

Date

Approved By:



4/19/2023

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Candice Case-French  
Area Manager

Date