FAMILY DAY CARE INSPECTION
OFFICE OF LICENSING & ACCREDITATION

South Dakota Department of Social Services

Provider's Name	**Karen Gibson**	Provider Number	**011100752**
City	**Aberdeen**		
Inspection Type	**Annual**	Date of Inspection	**September 21, 2026**
Inspector	**Clint Rux**		

A. Provider Practices/Maximum Capacity/Care of Children	**Requirement Met**
1. Is the number of children in care 12 or less, including the provider's own children who are under six years of age? 67:42:17:23	**Yes**
2. If the provider is caring for more than four children under the age of two, or more than three children under one year of age, is a family day care assistant present? 67:42:17:23 NOTE: With an assistant present, a provider and assistant may not care for more than 8 children under the age of two, and no more than a total of 12 children.	**N/A**
3. Does the provider and family day care assistants demonstrate and maintain the ability to provide care that attends to the child's physical growth and development and to the physical, emotional, cognitive, and social needs of the children? 67:42:17:10	**Yes**
4. Is the family day care assistant at least 14 years old? 67:42:17:12	**Yes**
5. Is the provider or family day care assistant at least 18 years old and always present to supervise children? 67:42:17:12 NOTE: Assistants under 18 years of age are not to be left alone on the premises with children in care.	**Yes**
6. Are children supervised at all times, including during outdoor play, by seeing or hearing, and the provider is close enough to intervene? 67:42:17:23	**Yes**
7. Do behavior management strategies used with children in care offer limits with positive guidance and direction, and assist with developing self-control and respect for the rights of others? 67:42:17:41	**Yes**
8. Are behavior management techniques appropriate to the child's age and development level and do they include strategies to prevent shaken baby syndrome and abusive head trauma? 67:42:17:41	**Yes**
9. Are children never punished by any type of physical discipline; verbal abuse; humiliating punishment; restriction of movement; isolating the child in an area where they cannot be seen or supervised; withholding or forcing of meals, snacks, naps, or outdoor time; punishment for a lapse in toilet training; demanding excessive rest or physical exercise; use of substances such as soap, pepper, or hot sauce; or delegating discipline to other children in care? 67:42:17:41	**Yes**
10. Are parents allowed to enter the provider's home at any time to observe their child when present unless the provider has a copy of the court order restricting access to a parent? 67:42:17:49	**Yes**

11.	Are child and family information, records, and photos kept confidential and not released to unauthorized individuals? Is written parental consent obtained before publicly sharing information, including photos? 67:42:17:16	**Yes**
12.	Are parents immediately notified regarding any serious injuries their child receives while under the care of the provider? 67:42:17:49	**Yes**
13.	Are parents notified within 24 hours of any changes with the provider's registration such as a suspension, revocation, closure, or a change of location? 67:42:17:49	**Yes**
14.	Does the provider and family day care assistant comply with their legal responsibility to immediately report any suspicion of child abuse and neglect to the child protective services, law enforcement or the State's Attorney's office? 67:42:17:47	**Yes**
15.	Does the provider comply with their responsibility to report to the Office of Licensing & Accreditation within 24 hours any incidents or changes in circumstances that may affect their ability to meet registration standards? 67:42:17:06 Note: This includes but is not limited to moving to a new home, change in household composition, using space not yet approved, involvement with child protective services or law enforcement, serious injury or death of a child in care, damage to the home, etc.	**Yes**
16.	Does the provider report to the Department of Health when a child in care contracts a communicable disease and follow their recommendations? 67:42:17:24	**Yes**
17.	Are children who become ill while in the provider's care separated from other children, yet supervised, and parents notified of the illness? 67:42:17:24	**Yes**
18.	Is written consent obtained from each child's parent before administering all prescription and non-prescription medication? Does the consent include the child's name, name of medication and the dates, times, and dosage of the medication to be administered? 67:42:17:27	**Yes**
19.	Is medication administered to each child documented, which includes the child's name, dose, time, date given, and name of the individual administering the medication? 67:42:17:27	**Yes**
20.	Is the medication documentation maintained for six months? 67:42:17:27	**Yes**
21.	Are medications provided by the parent kept in their original container with the original label? For prescription medications, does the label include the child's name, instructions including the amount and frequency, expiration date, and physician or licensed practitioner's name? 67:42:17:27	**Yes**
22.	Are medications returned to the parent when no longer needed or the medication has expired? 67:42:17:27	**Yes**
23.	Are medications stored out of reach from children and placed in a non-absorbent container labeled medication if refrigeration is required? 67:42:17:28	**Yes**
24.	Does the provider, family day care assistants, and children wash their hands with soap, before preparing food or beverages, eating, handling food, or feeding a child, and after changing a diaper, using the toilet, helping a child use a toilet, or coming into contact with bodily fluid? 67:42:17:25	**Yes**
25.	If night-time care is provided, is the provider accessible and responsive to children who awaken during the night and require attention? 67:42:17:48	**N/A**

26.	If transporting children, is written permission from each child's parent obtained? 67:42:17:45	**N/A**
27.	If transporting children, does the driver have proof of liability insurance for the vehicle(s) used to transport children? 67:42:17:45	**N/A**
28.	If transporting children, is the driver of the vehicle at least 18 years of age and have a valid driver's license? 67:42:17:45	**N/A**
29.	If transporting children, is the vehicle's passenger capacity adhered to? 67:42:17:45	**N/A**
30.	If transporting children, is each child who is under age 5 and/or less than 40 pounds, secured in a child passenger restraint system; and children 5 years of age and older, and over 40 pounds, secured in a seat belt as required by SDCL26-6-16, 67:42:17:45	**N/A**

Comments

B. Record Keeping and Emergency Preparedness		**Requirement Met**
31.	Do children's records include name and DOB of child, parent/s names and contact information, emergency contact information, permission for emergency medical treatment, names of authorized individuals to pick up the child, health information including immunizations, allergies, or special needs, and start and end date of enrollment? 67:42:17:42	**Yes**
32.	Does the provider have verification of current immunization records for their own children under the age of six or not enrolled in school? 67:42:17:24	**N/A**
33.	Are attendance records maintained for all children in care? 67:42:17:42	**Yes**
34.	Does the provider review and update all children's records annually? 67:42:17:42	**Yes**
35.	Do provider and family day care assistant's records contain all required information? 67:42:17:15	**Yes**
36.	Does the provider review and update all family day care assistant's records annually? 67:42:17:15	**Yes**
37.	Are family day care assistant's records retained for six months after employment has ended? 67:42:17:15	**Yes**
38.	Have all family day care assistants completed orientation training within 90 days of date of employment and before caring for children unsupervised? 67:42:17:17	**Yes**
39.	If a child in care has a known food allergy, does the provider have a written plan which includes instructions regarding food allergens, steps to be taken to avoid the food, and a detailed treatment plan to be implemented if the child has an allergic reaction? 67:42:17:29	**N/A**

40.	Is there a written emergency preparedness and response plan in place which covers all areas required to include: evacuation; relocation; shelter-in-place; lock-down procedures; procedures for communication & reunification with families; continuity of operations; and accommodation of infants & toddlers, children with disabilities and children with chronic medical conditions? 67:42:17:43	**Yes**
41.	Are all family day care assistants knowledgeable on the emergency preparedness and response plan and procedures? 67:42:17:43	**Yes**
42.	Does the provider have documentation showing two fire evacuation drills, two shelter-in-place drills, and two lockdown drills conducted in the past calendar year? 67:42:17:43	**Yes**

Comments

C. Health and Safety Features of the Home- Indoor Environmental Observations		Requirement Met
43.	Is the department's website and phone number (displayed on the registration certificate) prominently displayed in the provider's home? 67:42:17:04	**Yes**
44.	Are toys which have been placed in a child's mouth or have contact with other bodily fluids cleaned and sanitized daily in a dishwasher or using a product approved by the department? 67:42:17:25	**Yes**
45.	Is all equipment, utensils, kitchenware, dining tables and food contact surfaces used for the care of children, washed, rinsed, and sanitized after each meal? 67:42:17:25	**Yes**
46.	In food preparation areas, including tables and countertops, are surfaces smooth, non-porous, kept clean and sanitized, free of cracks and in good repair? 67:42:17:32	**Yes**
47.	Is there a weekly menu posted or available for parents to view, which includes meals and snacks to be served that week? 67:42:17:30	**Yes**
48.	Are infants fed according to their individual schedule and bottles are not propped? 67:42:17:31	**Yes**
49.	Is food, including breastmilk and formula, properly stored, kept at the proper temperature, and protected from potential contamination? 67:42:17:31	**Yes**
50.	Is there a fully charged, portable fire extinguisher, with a minimum 2A rating, kept in or within 15 feet of the kitchen or food prep area? 67:42:17:37	**Yes**
51.	Is there an operating smoke detector with audible alarm located on each level of the home (regardless if level is used for care of children or not)? 67:42:17:37	**Yes**
52.	If a fuel burning appliance is present in the home, is there a carbon monoxide detector installed according to the manufacturer's directions? 67:42:17:37	**N/A**
53.	Is the hot water temperature at hand washing sinks used by children in care maintained at 120 degrees F or lower? 67:42:17:33	**Yes**

54.	When children are in care, is the home's temperature maintained between 65-75 degrees F? 67:42:17:32	**Yes**
55.	Are all walls, ceilings, floors, and equipment easily cleanable, kept clean and in good repair? 67:42:17:32	**Yes**
56.	Are bathroom facilities easily accessible to children and providers? 67:42:17:33	**Yes**
57.	Are toilets and hand sinks kept clean and in good repair? 67:42:17:33	**Yes**
58.	Are hazardous cleaning supplies inaccessible to children and stored in their original container, used and disposed of in accordance with manufacturer's instructions? 67:42:17:44	**Yes**
59.	Are soiled diapers promptly disposed of in a leakproof, non-absorbent container with a tight-fitting lid? 67:42:17:44	**Yes**
60.	Is there a designated area for diaper changing that is easily cleanable and non-absorbent? 67:42:17:44	**Yes**
61.	Is the diaper changing area cleaned and sanitized after each diaper change with a sanitizing solution approved by the department? 67:42:17:44	**Yes**
62.	Are all bio-contaminants properly disposed? 67:42:17:44	**Yes**
63.	Does each child over one year of age have a nap mat, blanket, or other sleep surface other than the floor to lie on during nap or rest periods? 67:42:17:26	**Yes**
64.	If night-time care is offered, do children have a cot or bed for sleeping? 67:42:17:48	**N/A**
65.	For children under one year of age, are safe sleep recommendations provided by the American Academy of Pediatrics followed which includes: placing infants on their back to sleep using a firm, flat, non-inclined sleep surface, and infants are not placed to sleep in equipment such as swings, bouncy seats, car seats, etc.? 67:42:17:26	**N/A**
66.	For children under one year of age, is the sleep area free of soft objects and bedding including loose blankets, pillows, stuffed animals, bumper pads, sleep positioning devices, bibs, etc.? 67:42:17:26	**N/A**
67.	Is bedding changed between use if the sleep environment is used by more than one child? (i.e., crib, pack-and-play, bed)? 67:42:17:26	**Yes**
68.	Are all sleep surfaces maintained in good condition? 67:42:17:26	**Yes**
69.	Does the provider, and anyone present in the home, refrain from smoking in the home when day care children are present? SDCL 34-46-14	**Yes**
70.	Are the following hazards inaccessible to children: fire arms; pellet guns; BB guns; cap guns; ammunition; matches; lighters; tobacco products; items capable of being pulled or tipped onto a child such as a TV, shelf, dresser; sharp objects such as knives and scissors; small objects the size of a half-dollar or smaller that could present a choking hazard; or strangulation hazards such as dangling cords? 67:42:17:38	**Yes**

71.	Are all unused electrical wall sockets covered with outlet plug covers, tamper-resistant covers or made inaccessible to children? 67:42:17:39	**Yes**
72.	Are portable space heaters, fireplaces, and wood burning stoves inaccessible to children when in use? 67:42:17:37	**Yes**
73.	For each level of the home used for the care of children, are there 2 unblocked exits separate and remote from each other? 67:42:17:37 Note: Window wells or outside structures of building etc. cannot inhibit or prevent exiting.	**No**
74.	If windows are used as a second exit, does the window provide a clear opening that is at least 20 inches wide and 24 inches high and 5.0 square feet in area to ensure a person can exit from the window, and easily opened from the inside to allow evacuation? 67:42:17:37	**Yes**
75.	Are all open-sided floor and wall openings, and platforms inside & outside the home which are more than 30 inches above ground level, guarded by a barrier that is at least 36" tall and no more than 5" between openings? 67:42:17:38	**Yes**
76.	Are all pets confined and kept away from children if there is a history of aggression? 67:42:17:40	**Yes**
77.	Is there documentation showing pets have current vaccination records? 67:42:17:40	**No**
78.	Are pet's living quarters clean and sanitary? 67:42:17:40	**Yes**

Comments

73: The path to the egress window was blocked by stored toys. This path needs to be kept clear as the window is the second exit.
77: Vaccination records were not available for the dog.

D. Health and Safety Features of the Home- Outdoor Environmental Observations		Requirement Met
79.	Is the outside play area safe, in good repair, and free of debris, trash, weeds and hazardous material? 67:42:17:35	**Yes**
80.	Is the playground equipment installed according to the manufacturer's instructions and in good repair? 67:42:17:35	**Yes**
81.	Are all play areas which are near an area that is dangerous or life-threatening that could pose a risk of a serious injury to children enclosed with a fence that is at least 42" high? 67:42:17:35 Note: This includes but is not limited to pools, water filled ditches, high traffic areas, etc.	**Yes**
82.	In areas where any bodies of water are present, is the provider outside and able to see and hear the children, and close enough to intervene at all times? 67:42:17:36 NOTE: This includes but is not limited to pools, wading pools, and water filled ditches.	**N/A**
83.	If a wading pool is used, is it drained after each use? 67:42:17:36	**N/A**

84.	If a pool is used, but not drained after each use, is there a five foot fence or barrier surrounding all sides of the pool and a latched gate restricting access into the pool area? 67:42:17:36	**N/A**
85.	If a hot tub is present, does it have a secure cover? 67:42:17:36	**N/A**

Comments

N/A

Additional Comments

All applicable requirements of this inspection have been met	**No**