Department of Children & Youth

Licensing Inspection Full Report

All licensed early care and education programs are inspected at least once each year. Non-compliances are documented and grouped by risk level. Documenting statements, technical assistance provided and supplemental information may be included in this report. Licensing inspection reports from the previous three years can be viewed on the Department of Children & Youth website at https://childcaresearch.ohio.gov/ . This includes complaint investigation reports with substantiated allegations. For any other early care and education records, please contact the Family and Customer Support Center at 1-844-234-5437.

Program Details		
Program Name SMALL STEPS - BIG STRIDES CHILD CARE	Program Number 000000100242	Program Type Child Care Center
Address 4530 KENT ROAD STOW OH 44224		County SUMMIT

Inspection Information			
Inspection Type Annual	Inspection Scope Full	Inspection Method On-site Inspection	Inspection Notice Unannounced
Inspection Date 10/07/2026	Begin Time 9:45 AM	End Time 5:05 PM	Reviewer: BETH RAGLE

Summary of Findings			
No. Requirements Verified 67	No. Requirements with Non-compliances 5		No. Requirements Compliant 58
No. Serious Risk 0	No. Moderate Risk Findings 2	No. Other Non-compliance Findings 3	No. Technical Assistance Provided 4

License Capacity and Enrollment at the Time of Inspection				
Age Group	License Capacity	Enrollment		
	Totals	Full Time	Part Time	Total
Infant (Birth to < 18 m)		11	0	11
Young Toddler		23	0	23
Total Under 2 ½ Years	36	34	0	34
Older Toddler		7	0	7
Preschool		47	0	47
School Age		0	63	63
Total Capacity/Enrollment	196	54	63	151

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Staff-Child Ratios at the Time of Inspection				
Group	**Age Group/Range**	**Ratio Observed**	**Compliance**	**Comment**
Green 1- Preschool	4 years to < 5 years	1 to 10	In Compliance	11:30 a.m. - Lunch
Green 1- Preschool	4 years to < 5 years	1 to 10	In Compliance	10:00 a.m. - Centers
Green 1- Preschool	4 years to < 5 years	1 to 7	In Compliance	1:45 p.m. - Nap
Yellow - Toddlers	18 months to < 30 months	2 to 11	In Compliance	10:00 a.m. - Centers
Yellow - Toddlers	18 months to < 30 months	2 to 11	In Compliance	11:30 a.m. - Lunch
Yellow - Toddlers	18 months to < 30 months	2 to 12	In Compliance	1:45 p.m. - Nap
Infants	0 to < 12 months	2 to 10	In Compliance	10:00 a.m. - Infant activities
Infants	0 to < 12 months	4 to 9	In Compliance	1:45 p.m. - Naps; tummy time
Infants	0 to < 12 months	2 to 10	In Compliance	11:30 a.m. - Diapering; naps
Toddlers	12 months to < 18 months	2 to 7	In Compliance	10:00 a.m. - Outdoor play
Toddlers	12 months to < 18 months	3 to 7	In Compliance	1:45 p.m. - Nap
Toddlers	12 months to < 18 months	2 to 7	In Compliance	11:30 a.m. - Lunch
Purple - Preschool	3 years to < 4 years	1 to 9	In Compliance	11:30 a.m. - Lunch
Purple - Preschool	3 years to < 4 years	1 to 8	In Compliance	1:45 p.m. - Nap
Purple - Preschool	3 years to < 4 years	1 to 9	In Compliance	10:00 a.m. - Gym
Red - Toddler/Preschool	30 months to < 36 months	2 to 11	In Compliance	11:30 a.m. - Lunch
Red - Toddler/Preschool	30 months to < 36 months	2 to 9	In Compliance	10:00 a.m. - Play time
Red - Toddler/Preschool	30 months to < 36 months	1 to 11	In Compliance	1:45 p.m. - Nap
Green 2 - Preschool	4 years to < 5 years	1 to 10	In Compliance	1:45 p.m. - Nap
Green 2 - Preschool	4 years to < 5 years	2 to 14	In Compliance	11:30 a.m. - Lunch

Green 2 - Preschool	4 years to < 5 years	1 to 13	In Compliance	10:00 a.m. - Gym
Blue 1 - School Age	School-Age to < 11 years	2 to 17	In Compliance	10:00 a.m. - Centers; delayed school start
Blue 2 - School Age	School-Age to < 11 years	2 to 15	In Compliance	10:00 a.m. - Table toys; delayed school start

Summary of Non-Compliances

If a program disagrees with a licensing finding, the program may request a review of the finding(s). Ohio Administrative Code 5180:2-12-03, 5180:2-13-03, 5180:2-19-10 and 5180:2-20-02 detail the process for submitting a request for review. The request for review must be submitted within ten business days from the receipt of the licensing report. In addition, if the program is Step Up To Quality rated, the rating may be impacted if a serious or moderate risk non-compliance is cited.

Serious Risk Non-Compliances

A serious risk non-compliance is a licensing rule violation that has the potential to lead to a great risk of harm to a child and is observable and/or based on facts.

No serious risk non-compliances were observed during this inspection

Moderate Risk Non-Compliances

A moderate risk non-compliance is a licensing rule violation that has the potential to lead to a great risk of harm to a child and is observable and/or based on facts.

Domain: **08 Staff Files**

Rule: 5180:2-12-09 Background Check Requirements

Requirement: The program is required to have all staff request background checks as required and receive a DCY 01176 or preliminary approval from DCY prior to allowing an individual to engage in assigned duties or be near children.

Finding: In review of the staff records, it was determined that background checks did not meet the requirements of the rule for the person listed on the Employee Record Chart.

The following was observed: The individual(s) had engaged in assigned duties or were near children or otherwise have access to children and preliminary approval from DCY was not on file.

Submit the program's corrective action plan, which includes a copy of the DCY 01176, or a copy of the preliminary approval or a statement that the individual(s) are no longer engaged in assigned duties and are not near children until the preliminary approval has been received, to the Department to verify compliance with the requirements of this rule.

Corrective Action Plan Due: 11/06/2026

Domain: **09 Children's Files**

Rule: 5180:2-12-25 2026 Medication Documentation

Requirement: The program is required to obtain parent permission and retain current documentation to administer medications. The program is required to administer medication only if it has the prescription label attached or had written instructions from a licensed physician. The program is also required to have each medication to be administered stored in its original container.

Finding: During the inspection, it was determined the program did not meet the requirements for administering a medication or medical food or a prescription topical product to a child.

The following was observed: physician instructions were missing as required by rule; parent instructions conflict with either the manufacturer or physician instructions.

Submit the program's corrective action plan, which includes the completed written parent permission for each child needed, record of medication administration, verification that the prescription label is now attached, and/or verification that the medication or product is now in its original container, and a statement that training was provided, to the Department to verify compliance with the requirements of this rule.

Corrective Action Plan Due: 11/06/2026

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Other Non-Compliances

This section includes other rule violations that are observable and/or based on facts.

Domain: **02 Safe & Sanitary Environment**

Rule: 5180:2-12-12 Safe Environment

Requirement: The program is required to provide an environment that protects the children in care from any items and conditions that may threaten their health, safety, and well-being.

Finding: During the inspection, it was determined that children were not protected from item(s) or condition(s) which may threaten their health, safety, or well-being.

The following was observed: Access to a closed cutting tool in an unlocked drawer in the school age room.

Provide staff training. Submit the program's corrective action plan, which includes a statement that training was provided, to the Department to verify compliance with the requirements of this rule.

Corrective Action Plan Due: 11/06/2026

Domain: **09 Children's Files**

Rule: 5180:2-12-15 Child Record Requirements

Requirement: The program is required to keep children's records confidential.

Finding: During the inspection, it was determined that children's records had not been kept confidential in that health conditions were openly posted. Provide staff training. Submit the program's corrective action plan, which includes a statement that training was provided, to the Department to verify compliance with the requirements of this rule.

Corrective Action Plan Due: 11/06/2026

Domain: **10 Written Policies & Procedures**

Rule: 5180:2-12-16 Emergency Preparedness and Response Plan

Requirement: The program is required to have an emergency preparedness and response plan (EPRP).

Finding: During the inspection, it was determined the program's emergency preparedness and response plan (EPRP) did not meet the requirement or was missing the information.

The following was observed as missing: medical or dental emergencies, including emergency transportation; emergency numbers for medical, dental, and transport-related emergencies in addition to 9-1-1

Make the necessary revisions to the EPRP. Submit the program's corrective action plan, which includes the revised information, to the Department to verify compliance with the requirements of this rule.

Corrective Action Plan Due: 11/06/2026

Technical Assistance Provided

This section documents technical assistance provided to the program when the program demonstrated an overall level of compliance with a rule requirement.

Domain: 05 Health & Safety

Rule: 5180:2-12-16 Management of Communicable Disease

Requirement: The program is required to post the DCY 08087 "Ohio Communicable Disease Chart".

Findings: During the inspection, it was determined the 2025 Communicable Disease chart is not posted as required. Technical assistance was offered to support compliance. As discussed, please make the necessary corrections. A written response is not required at this time.

Domain: 08 Staff Files

Rule: 5180:2-12-10 Health Training Requirements

Requirement: The program is required to have all child care staff members complete training in child abuse and neglect recognition and prevention within sixty days of hire. Staff must complete training in first aid and CPR within the first ninety days of hire.

Findings: During the inspection, it was determined staff have not completed health and safety training as required: Expired child abuse for one staff person. Technical assistance was offered to support compliance. As discussed, please make the necessary corrections. A written response is not required at this time.

Domain: 09 Children's Files

Rule: 5180:2-12-15 Child Immunization Records

Requirement: The program is required to have complete child immunization records on file.

Findings: During the inspection, it was determined child's immunization records were not on file or updated annually as required. Technical assistance was offered to support compliance. As discussed, please make the necessary corrections. A written response is not required at this time.

Domain: 10 Written Policies & Procedures

Rule: 5180:2-12-07 Written Program Policies and Procedures

Requirement: The program's policies and procedures are required to include all topics outlined in rule.

Findings: During the inspection, it was determined the program's policies and procedures handbook does not contain all items as required. Technical assistance was offered to support compliance. As discussed, please make the necessary corrections. A written response is not required at this time.

In Compliance/Not Verified/Previously Verified/Not Applicable

This section documents rule requirements that were assessed as fully compliant, previously verified, not verified during this inspection or not applicable to the program.

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
Rule: 5180:2-12-18 License Capacity	Compliant	Documenting Statement: The program was operating within their license capacity limits.

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
Rule: 5180:2-12-02 License Visible	Compliant	Documenting Statement: The license was in a location visible to parents as required.

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-12-03 Inspection Requirements	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
Rule: 5180:2-12-04 Building Department Inspection	Compliant	Documenting Statement: A copy of the certificate of occupancy was available on-site for review.

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
Rule: 5180:2-12-04 Fire Inspection	Compliant	Documenting Statement: Please Note: Documentation of a fire inspection

without any uncorrected violations must be secured for the program by 10/7/2027.

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-12-04 Food Service Requirements	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-12-05 Denial, Revocation and Suspension	Not Applicable	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
Rule: 5180:2-12-07 Administrator Qualifications	Compliant	Documenting Statement: The administrator has completed the rules review course.

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-12-07 Administrator Responsibilities/Requirements	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
Rule: 5180:2-12-08 Child Care Staff Member Educational Requirements	Compliant	Documenting Statement: All Child Care Staff Members had verification of educational requirements on file at the program.

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
Rule: 5180:2-12-08 Orientation Training & Whistle Blower Protection	Compliant	Documenting Statement: On the day of the inspection, all child care staff members had met orientation training requirements.

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
Rule: 5180:2-12-10 Professional Development Requirements	Compliant	Documenting Statement: At the time of the inspection, all child care staff members had completed the required amount of professional development training.

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable

5180:2-12-11 Indoor Space Requirements	Compliant

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
Rule: 5180:2-12-11 Outdoor Space Requirements	Compliant	Documenting Statement: The outdoor play area is separated from traffic and other hazards by a fence.

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
Rule: 5180:2-12-11 Outdoor Play Equipment	Compliant	Documenting Statement: Outdoor equipment was viewed to be safe and free of rust, sharp points, and other hazards.

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
Rule: 5180:2-12-11 Outdoor Play Fall Zones	Compliant	Documenting Statement: The protective material used under outdoor equipment was poured rubber.

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
Rule: 5180:2-12-12 Safe Equipment	Compliant	Documenting Statement: Equipment was observed to be in good condition.

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
Rule: 5180:2-12-13 Sanitary Equipment and Environment	Compliant	Documenting Statement: The environment, furniture, materials, and equipment were kept in a sanitary condition at all times.

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
Rule: 5180:2-12-13 Handwashing Requirements	Compliant	Documenting Statement: Staff and children were observed washing hands as required by the rule.

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
Rule: 5180:2-12-13 Smoke Free Environment	Compliant	Documenting Statement: A notice was observed posted stating that smoking is prohibited at the program.

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-12-14 Transportation and Field Trip Procedures	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
Rule: 5180:2-12-14 Transportation - Driver Requirements	Compliant	Documenting Statement: The driver(s) had completed the required DCY driver training.
Rule: 5180:2-12-14 Transportation - Driver Requirements	Compliant	Documenting Statement: During the inspection, it was determined that monthly emergency exiting drills were completed as required.

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
Rule: 5180:2-12-14 Transportation - Vehicle Requirements	Compliant	Documenting Statement: An annual safety check of the vehicle(s), using the DCY 1230 “Vehicle Inspection Report” form, were verified and dated 8/26/26.

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
Rule: 5180:2-12-16 First Aid/Standard Precautions	Compliant	Documenting Statement: During the inspection, the program had complete first aid kits available as required.

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
Rule: 5180:2-12-16 Incident/Injury Reporting	Compliant	Documenting Statement: The JFS 01299 "Incident/Injury Report For Child Care" forms reviewed during this inspection were complete as required.

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
Rule: 5180:2-12-15 Child Health Care Plans	Compliant	Documenting Statement: The program had current information on the medical status and the required treatment plan for the children with health conditions.

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
Rule: 5180:2-12-17 Daily Schedule	Compliant	Documenting Statement: Daily schedules were observed posted.

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
Rule: 5180:2-12-17 Materials and Equipment	Compliant	Documenting Statement: Sufficient equipment was observed in all categories.

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-12-17 Daily Outdoor Play	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
Rule: 5180:2-12-18 Ratio	Compliant	Documenting Statement: The Appendix A "Staff/Child Ratios, Age Grouping and Maximum Group Size" was posted in a noticeable area at the program as required.
Rule: 5180:2-12-18 Ratio	Compliant	Documenting Statement: Staff/child ratios observed during the inspection were in compliance.

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
Rule: 5180:2-12-18 Group Size	Compliant	Documenting Statement: The group sizes observed on the day of the inspection were in compliance.

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
Rule: 5180:2-12-19 Supervision	Compliant	Documenting Statement: Child Care Staff Members were supervising the children and were able to intervene as needed.

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
Rule: 5180:2-12-18 Attendance Records	Compliant	Documenting Statement: Child Care Staff Members were observed recording the attendance for each child upon arrival and documenting each child's departure.

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
Rule: 5180:2-12-19 Child Guidance	Compliant	Documenting Statement: Appropriate child guidance and behavior management techniques and practices were observed being used during the inspection.

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
Rule: 5180:2-12-22 Meal Preparation and Nutritional Requirements	Compliant	Documenting Statement: Posted menus were current and dated.
Rule: 5180:2-12-22 Meal Preparation and Nutritional Requirements	Compliant	Documenting Statement: Meals offered at the program included foods from the five food groups in sufficient amounts.

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-12-21 Evening and Overnight Care	Not Applicable	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
Rule: 5180:2-12-23 Infant Bottle and Food Preparation	Compliant	Documenting Statement: Infants were fed in conformity with parent/guardian's written, dated instructions.

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-12-22 Fluid Milk Requirements	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
Rule: 5180:2-12-23 Infant Daily Care	Compliant	Documenting Statement: An appropriate program of activities with infants was observed.

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-12-22 Safe Food Handling/Storage	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-12-24 Swimming and Water Safety Requirements	Not Applicable	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-12-16 Emergency Postings	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable

Rule: 5180:2-12-16 Emergency Drills	Compliant	Documenting Statement: Documentation for completed fire, weather, and emergency/lockdown drills was verified during this inspection.

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-12-21 Mobile Preschools	Not Applicable	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-12-08 Staff Immunization Records	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
Rule: 5180:2-12-02 Current Information	Compliant	Documenting Statement: The program had current information entered in the Ohio Statewide Licensing System.

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-12-02 Amendments to the License	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-12-20 Cots and Napping - Practices	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
Rule: 5180:2-12-15 Child Enrollment Records	Compliant	Documenting Statement: At the time of the inspection, 25% of the children's records were reviewed, and the enrollment records were complete, as required by the rule.

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-12-08 Staff TB Screening Requirements	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
Rule: 5180:2-12-20 Cots and Napping - Equipment and Environment	Compliant	Documenting Statement: Cots were placed appropriately and safely during nap time.

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-12-20 Cribs - Safe Environment and Practices	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
Rule: 5180:2-12-20 Cribs - Placement	Compliant	Documenting Statement: All cribs were placed 2 feet apart.

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-12-22 Specialized Diets	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
Rule: 5180:2-12-23 Diapering and Toilet Training - Practices	Compliant	Documenting Statement: Appropriate diaper changing procedures were observed during the inspection in the infant room.

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-12-23 2026 Diapering and Toilet Training - Supplies	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-12-25 2026 Medication Administration Practices	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-12-25 2026 Medication Storage	Compliant	