Department of Education
Department of Job and Family Services

Center Complaint Inspection Summary Report

All licensed child care programs are inspected at least once each year. Non-compliances are documented and grouped as Serious, Moderate or Low risk violations. Documenting statements and supplemental information may be included in this report. Licensing inspection reports from the previous three years can be viewed on the child care website at http://jfs.ohio.gov/CDC/childcare.stm. This includes complaint investigation reports with substantiated allegations. For any other child care records, please contact the Child Care Help Desk at 1-877-302-2347, option 4.

Program Details		
Program Name EARLY BIRD LEARNING CENTER	Program Number 2200022478	Program Type Child Care Center
Address 8526 SOUTH AVE YOUNGSTOWN OH 44514		County MAHONING

Inspection Information			
Inspection Type Complaint		Inspection Scope Partial	Inspection Notice Unannounced
Reviewer(s) KATHLEEN BONACCI	Inspection Day 12/02/2024	Begin Time 4:15 PM	End Time 7:00 PM

Summary of Findings				
No. Rules Verified	No. Rules with Non-compliances	No. Serious Risk	No. Moderate Risk	No. Low Risk
4	3	0	2	1

Staff-Child Ratios at the Time of Inspection			
Group	**Age Group/Range**	**Ratio Observed**	**Comment**
Infant	0 to < 12 months	1 to 3	Sleeping Feeding
Toddlers	18 months to < 30 months	2 to 9	Free play
Preschool	3 years to < 4 years	1 to 8	Free play

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Complaint Allegations

If a program disagrees with a licensing finding, the program may request a review of the finding(s). Ohio Administrative Code 5101:2-12-03 and 5101:2-13-03 detail the process for submitting a request for review. The request for review must be submitted within seven business days from the receipt of the licensing report. In addition, if the program is star rated, the rating may be impacted if a serious or moderate risk non-compliance is cited.

Domain:01 Ratio & Supervision

Rule: 5101:2-12-19 Supervision
Code: The program staff is required to supervise children in their assigned group by sight and hearing. Supervision includes being near enough to respond and reach children immediately and protecting them from harm.

Allegation: Children are being injured due to a lack of supervision.

Determination: Substantiated

Findings: During the inspection, it was determined that children were left unattended while inside the program as noted in number 8 below:

1. Child(ren) were left unattended once.
2. Child(ren) were left unattended more than once.
3. Child(ren) left the group and were unattended.
4. Child care staff were using a baby monitor to supervise children.
5. Child care staff were using a walkie talkie to supervise children.
6. Child care staff were using mirrors to view children in another room.
7. Childcare staff were using a video camera instead of physically being present in the room.
8. Other: When the program combined groups at the end of the day there were three children in the infant room. It was determined through staff interviews and observation, that a CCSM was not near enough to intervene when a toddler was able to bite an infant, causing an injury.

Children must be supervised and within sight and hearing of a childcare staff member at all times. 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.

Risk Level: Moderate

Corrective Action Plan Due: 01/05/2025

Domain:01 Ratio & Supervision

Rule: 5101:2-12-19 Child Guidance
Code: The program staff shall use developmentally appropriate techniques when managing children's behavior. Corporal punishment is prohibited, as well as any cruel, harsh, unusual or extreme techniques.

Allegation: A toddler is confided to a bouncy seat due to biting.

Determination: Substantiated

Findings: During the inspection, it was determined that a Child Care Staff Member had used the inappropriate techniques in number 7 below when managing unacceptable behavior in children:

1. Utilize cruel, harsh, unusual, or extreme techniques;
2. Utilize any form of corporal punishment;
3. Delegate children to manage or discipline other children;

4. Use physical restraints on a child;
5. Restrain a child by prone restraint or any means other than holding children for a short period of time, such as in a protective hug, so that the children may regain control;
6. Place children in a locked room or confine children in any enclosed area;
7. Confine children to equipment such as cribs or highchairs; Confined to bouncer seat due to biting.
8. Humiliate, threaten or frighten children;
9. Subject children to profane language or verbal abuse;
10. Make derogatory or sarcastic remarks about children or their families;
11. Punish children for failure to eat or sleep or for toileting accidents;
12. Withhold any food (including snacks and treats), rest or toilet use;
13. Punish an entire group of children due to the unacceptable behavior of one or a few;
14. Isolate and restrict children from all activities for an extended period of time.

Child Care Staff Members and other employees must always use appropriate guidance and management methods with children. 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.

Risk Level: Moderate

Corrective Action Plan Due: 01/05/2025

Summary of Additional Non-Compliances

Serious Risk Non-Compliances

No Additional Serious Risk Non-Compliances were observed during this inspection

Moderate Risk Non-Compliances

No Additional Moderate Risk Non-Compliances were observed during this inspection

Low Risk Non-Compliances

Domain:01 Ratio & Supervision

Rule: 5101:2-12-18 Attendance Records
Code: The program is required to maintain a record of the arrival and departure of each child. The program is also required to retain the original attendance record at the center for a period of one year.

Findings: During the inspection, it was determined the program did not meet the requirements for keeping an attendance record as listed in number 7 below:

1. No attendance record was being maintained.
2. The attendance record was not being consistently completed.
3. The record did not include the name of at least one child.
4. The record did not include the birth date of at least one child.
5. The record did not include the assigned group.
6. The record did not include the child's weekly schedule.
7. The record did not include the time (hours and minutes) of each child's arrival and departure to the program, including transportation by the program. Departure was not marked in infant room.
8. The original attendance record was not kept at the program for a period of one year.

Submit the program's corrective action plan to the Department to verify compliance with the requirements of this rule.

Corrective Action Plan Due: 01/05/2025