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 Smart Start Childcare West	Program Number 2210025503	Program Type Child Care Center
Address 10135 West Rd. Harrison OH 45030		County HAMILTON

Inspection Information			
Inspection Type Annual	Inspection Scope Full	Inspection Method On-site Inspection	Inspection Notice Unannounced
Inspection Date 10/14/2026	Begin Time 8:30 AM	End Time 1:00 PM	Reviewer: Jessica McCann

Summary of Findings			
No. Requirements Verified 67	No. Requirements with Non-compliances 3		No. Requirements Compliant 61
No. Serious Risk 0	No. Moderate Risk Findings 2	No. Other Non-compliance Findings 1	No. Technical Assistance Provided 6

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)		5	0	5
Young Toddler		12	0	12
Total Under 2 ½ Years	51	17	0	17
Older Toddler		26	0	26
Preschool		35	0	35
School Age		0	7	7
Total Capacity/Enrollment	128	61	7	85

Department of Children & Youth

Staff-Child Ratios at the Time of Inspection				
Group	**Age Group/Range**	**Ratio Observed**	**Compliance**	**Comment**
Toddler 2	18 months to < 30 months	2 to 11	In Compliance	Arrival
Toddler 2	18 months to < 30 months	2 to 11	In Compliance	Lunch
Infant 2	12 months to < 18 months	1 to 5	In Compliance	Arrival
Infant 2	12 months to < 18 months	2 to 9	In Compliance	Lunch
Infant 1	0 to < 12 months	2 to 5	In Compliance	Arrival
Infant 1	0 to < 12 months	2 to 5	In Compliance	Lunch
Toddler 1	12 months to < 18 months	2 to 9	In Compliance	Arrival
Toddler 1	12 months to < 18 months	2 to 10	In Compliance	Lunch
PS	3 years to < 4 years	1 to 12	In Compliance	Lunch
PS	3 years to < 4 years	1 to 9	In Compliance	Arrival
PK	4 years to < 5 years	2 to 15	In Compliance	Arrival
PK	4 years to < 5 years	2 to 18	In Compliance	Lunch
SA	School-Age to < 11 years	0 to 0	In Compliance	Lunch: At School
SA	School-Age to < 11 years	1 to 4	In Compliance	Arrival

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: **07 Diapering & Infant Care**

Rule: 5180:2-12-20 Cribs - Safe Environment and Practices

Requirement: The program staff is required to remove any items listed in rule that are a potential suffocation risk from cribs.

Finding: During the inspection, it was observed that an infant had been placed in a crib with a blanket draped over the crib rail which obstructed the childcare staff members view of the infant and that created a potential strangulation or suffocation risk.

The rule prohibits any item which obstructs child-care staff's visibility or poses a risk of strangulation or suffocation from being placed on or in a crib. Remove the item(s) immediately. 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: 11/15/2026

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(s) listed on the Employee Record Chart.

The following was observed: the request for a background check for child care was not submitted in the OPR; background checks were not updated every five years

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: 11/15/2026

Other Non-Compliances

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

Domain: **07 Diapering & Infant Care**

Rule: 5180:2-12-23 Infant Bottle and Food Preparation

Requirement: The program staff is required to label and store bottles with breast milk following the requirements in rule.

Finding: During the inspection, it was determined that breast milk provided by the parent was not stored appropriately.

The following was observed: not labeled with the infant's name, date pumped and date bottle was prepared.

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

Corrective Action Plan Due: 11/15/2026

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: 02 Safe & Sanitary Environment

Rule: 5180:2-12-13 Handwashing Requirements

Requirement: The program is required to have all staff and children wash their hands as outlined in rule.

Findings: It was discussed with the staff that hand washing shall occur upon arrival to the program.

Domain: 03 Postings & Equipment

Rule: 5180:2-12-17 Daily Schedule

Requirement: The program is required to have the daily program schedule posted in all required areas.

Findings: During the inspection, it was determined the program did not have all daily schedules 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: 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 current 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: 5180:2-12-07 Administrator Responsibilities/Requirements

Requirement: The program is required to maintain documentation onsite at the program for each employee.

Findings: During the inspection, it was determined there is an employee's file not maintained on-site as required; however, the documentation required to be maintained on file has been previously assessed 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(s) 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
5180:2-12-04 Building Department Inspection	Compliant	

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. Secure a new fire inspection by 1/14/27.

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
Rule: 5180:2-12-04 Food Service Requirements	Compliant	Documenting Statement: The food service license was observed posted. Following is the audit number and date of expiration: 3/1/27.

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-12-05 Denial, Revocation and Suspension	Compliant	

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
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

Rule: 5180:2-12-11 Indoor Space Requirements	Compliant	Documenting Statement: The restrooms are used exclusively by the program.

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
Rule: 5180:2-12-11 Outdoor Space Requirements	Compliant	Documenting Statement: Drinking water is provided by means of [a water fountain outdoors; a pitcher of water and disposable cups; a water fountain indoors within close proximity].

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 mulch.

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: 5180:2-12-12 Safe Environment	Compliant	Documenting Statement: Cleaning supplies were viewed stored out of the reach of children.

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 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
Rule: 5180:2-12-14 Transportation and Field Trip Procedures	Compliant	Documenting Statement: The form(s) used by the program for routine and/or field trips were verified to meet the requirements of the rule.

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	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, was verified and dated 10/12/26.

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: 5180:2-12-16 Emergency Preparedness and Response Plan	Compliant	Documenting Statement: Annual training of the emergency preparedness and response plan was completed by staff.

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
Rule: 5180:2-12-17 Daily Outdoor Play	Compliant	Documenting Statement: Outdoor play was observed for the Toddler, PS and PK group(s).

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
Rule: 5180:2-12-18 Ratio	Compliant	Documenting Statement: Staff/child ratios observed during the inspection surpassed those required by the rule.
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	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: 5180:2-12-18 Attendance Records	Compliant	Documenting Statement: During the inspection, attendance records were reviewed. Child Care Staff Members were viewed recording the attendance for each child upon arrival and departure. All attendance records met the requirements of the rule and were kept with the group at all times.

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: The program offered the following: Lunch: Mac n Cheese, Bread, Peas, Oranges and Milk .
Rule: 5180:2-12-22 Meal Preparation and Nutritional Requirements	Compliant	Documenting Statement: The menu was posted [ ].

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: 5180:2-12-22 Fluid Milk Requirements	Compliant	Documenting Statement: All infants/toddlers were served formula/milk in sufficient amounts to meet the nutritional requirements.

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
Rule: 5180:2-12-23 Infant Daily Care	Compliant	Documenting Statement: Appropriate daily written records for all infants were viewed.

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable

Rule: 5180:2-12-22 Safe Food Handling/Storage	Compliant	Documenting Statement: All eating utensils were developmentally appropriate.

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
Rule: 5180:2-12-24 Swimming and Water Safety Requirements	Compliant	Documenting Statement: The program staff indicated only wading pools and sprinklers were being used.

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
Rule: 5180:2-12-08 Staff Immunization Records	Compliant	Documenting Statement: All employees had immunization records or exemption documentation on file.

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 Immunization Records	Compliant	Documenting Statement: At the time of the inspection, 25% of the children's records were reviewed, and the immunization records were complete, as required by the rule.

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
5180:2-12-15 Child Record Requirements	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
Rule: 5180:2-12-08 Staff TB Screening Requirements	Compliant	Documenting Statement: All employees had tuberculosis (TB) screenings and immunization records on file.

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
Rule: 5180:2-12-20 Cots and Napping - Equipment and Environment	Compliant	Documenting Statement: The rest area had adequate lighting, which allowed for the visual supervision of children.
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
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	Not Applicable	

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/toddler] room(s).

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
Rule: 5180:2-12-25 2026 Medication Documentation	Compliant	Documenting Statement: The program had complete written documentation for administering medication or food supplements.

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
Rule: 5180:2-12-25 2026 Medication Storage	Compliant	Documenting Statement: Medication was stored in the office.