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 Stairways to Early Education	Program Number 2250032892	Program Type FCC - Type B Home
Address 1160 Ironwood Dr Columbus OH 43229		County FRANKLIN

Inspection Information			
Inspection Type Pre-license	Inspection Scope Full	Inspection Method On-site Inspection	Inspection Notice Announced
Inspection Date 03/17/2026	Begin Time 12:40 PM	End Time 2:56 PM	Reviewer: Angela Staso

Summary of Findings			
No. Requirements Verified 68	No. Requirements with Non-compliances 9		No. Requirements Compliant 58
No. Serious Risk 0	No. Moderate Risk Findings 1	No. Other Non-compliance Findings 11	No. Technical Assistance Provided 0

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)		0	0	0
Young Toddler		0	0	0
Total Under 2 ½ Years		0	0	0
Older Toddler		0	0	0
Preschool		0	0	0
School Age		0	0	0
Total Capacity/Enrollment		0	0	0

Staff-Child Ratios at the Time of Inspection				
Group	**Age Group/Range**	**Ratio Observed**	**Compliance**	**Comment**
Stairways to Early Education	Mixed Age Group	1 to 0	In Compliance	

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: 5180:2-13-09 Background Checks

Requirement: Individuals associated to the program are required to request background checks.

Finding: In review of the staff records, it was determined that a resident of the home turned 18 years of age moved into the home and background checks were not requested within 10 business days. Submit the program's corrective action plan, which includes a copy of the resident's JFS 01176, to verify compliance with the requirements of this rule.

Corrective Action Plan Due: 07/02/2026

Other Non-Compliances

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

Domain: **00 License & Approvals**

Rule: 5180:2-13-04 Fire Safety for Type B Homes

Requirement: The program is required to maintain smoke alarms in the appropriate areas of the program building.

Finding: During the inspection, it was determined that the Type B Home did not have a working smoke alarm in the basement. A working smoke alarm must be placed, installed, tested, and maintained in accordance with manufacturer's recommendations. Submit the program's corrective action plan to verify compliance with this rule.

Corrective Action Plan Due: 04/16/2026

Domain: **02 Safe & Sanitary Environment**

Rule: 5180:2-13-12 Safe Environment

Requirement: The program is required to store cleaning and sanitizing supplies in a place that is inaccessible to children. Cleaning agents, aerosol cans and chemical substances must be stored in their original container or clearly labeled. School-age children may use cleaning supplies and equipment with adult supervision.

Finding: During the inspection, cleaning and sanitizing equipment and supplies were not stored properly as noted in numbers 1, 2 and 15 below:

1. Cosmetics were accessible to children in the bathroom cabinet area.

2. Disinfecting wipes were accessible to children in the program changing area.

3. Fish food was accessible to children in the [ ] area.

4. Hand lotion was accessible to children in the [ ] area.

5. Hand sanitizer (for children under 24 months) was accessible to children in the [ ] area.

6. Laundry detergent was accessible to children in the [ ] area.

7. Powder dish washing soap was accessible to children in the [ ] area.

8. Paint cans were accessible to children in the [ ] area.

9. White out was accessible to children in the [ ] area.

10. Potting Soil was accessible to children in the [ ] area.

11. Other potentially hazardous substance [ ] was accessible to children in the [ ] area.

12. Cleaning/sanitizing supplies had not been clearly labeled.

13. School-age children were using cleaning supplies, agents and/or equipment without adult supervision.

14. A spray aerosol was used in the [ ] group while children were in attendance.

15. Other: Cleaning products were assessable in unlocked program bathroom and kitchen cabinets. Bathroom cleaner and Armor All spray were assessable in the kitchen at the stairs to go down to the lower level.

Provide staff training. Submit the program's corrective action plan, which includes a statement that the potentially hazardous substance is no longer accessible to children and a statement that training was provided, to the Department to verify compliance with the requirements of this rule.

Corrective Action Plan Due: 04/16/2026

Domain: **02 Safe & Sanitary Environment**

Rule: 5180:2-13-12 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: Children in care shall be protected from any items and conditions which threaten their health, safety, and well being. During the inspection, it was determined that children were not protected from the following items which may threaten their health, safety, or well being as noted in the following numbers 4 & 22 below:

1. Surge protectors/outlets did not have childproof receptacle covers.

2. Open pull cords that are not closed loop.

3. Toys or other items small enough to be swallowed were present in the space where infants and/or toddlers were in care.

4. Electrical/extension cords attached to an object that would not likely result in a severe injury if pulled.

5. Stacked chairs.

6. Telephone cords.

7. Employee(s) purse(s).

8. Diaper bags.

9. Television not securely anchored.

10. Small or lightweight pieces of shelving units are not securely anchored to the wall.

11. Staff member stepped over a barrier/gate while holding a child.

12. Chipping or peeling paint.

13. An area rug did not have a nonskid backing.

14. An area rug presented a tripping hazard.

15. A floor surface was unsafe in that [ ].

16. No platform was provided for the sink or toilet.

17. The platform provided for the sink or toilet was not sturdy.

18. The platform provided for the sink or toilet posed a safety hazard in that [ ].

19. Emergency exits were blocked by the following furniture in that [ ].

20. A mercury thermometer was being used to take a child's temperature.

21. Methods of ventilation used did not provide protection from rodents, insects, or other hazards.

22. Other: burning candle in kitchen

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

Corrective Action Plan Due: 04/16/2026

Domain: **02 Safe & Sanitary Environment**

Rule: 5180:2-13-12 Safe Environment

Requirement: The program is required to have running water below the temperature of 120 degrees Fahrenheit.

Finding: During the inspection, it was determined the water temperature was 125 degrees Fahrenheit in the program bathroom. This temperature exceeds the requirement of remaining below 120 degrees Fahrenheit. Correct the violation and submit the program's corrective action plan to verify compliance with the requirement of the rule.

Corrective Action Plan Due: 04/16/2026

Domain: **02 Safe & Sanitary Environment**

Rule: 5180:2-13-12 Safe Environment

Requirement: The program is required to store alcohol in a space not used by children.

Finding: During the inspection, it was observed that a sealed container of alcohol was observed in a space approved or used for child care as noted in the following number 1 below:

1. A sealed container was observed but children in care did not gain access to the alcohol.

2. A sealed container of alcohol was observed but children in care were not observed in the space at the time of the inspection.

These items must be removed or stored in space not approved or used for children as required. Submit the program's corrective action plan to verify compliance with this rule.

Corrective Action Plan Due: 04/16/2026

Domain: **02 Safe & Sanitary Environment**

Rule: 5180:2-13-13 Clean environment and equipment

Requirement: The program is required to have all required items in the restroom(s) and keep them sanitary.

Finding: During the inspection, it was determined that unsanitary conditions, as noted in the following number 4 below, was in the program restroom:

1. There was no liquid soap.

2. There was no toilet tissue.

3. There were no individually assigned towels or disposable towels.

4. The toilet cleaning brush was accessible to the children.

5. The plunger was accessible to the children.

6. The toilet was not flushed.

7. The trash was not emptied from the day before.

8. There was a strong urine odor.

9. Other [ ].

The restroom(s) must be kept sanitary at all times. Submit the program's corrective action plan to verify compliance with the requirement of the rule.

Corrective Action Plan Due: 04/16/2026

Domain: **03 Postings & Equipment**

Rule: 5180:2-13-16 Medical, Dental, and General Emergency Plan

Requirement: The program is required to post the completed JFS 01242 "Medical, Dental, and General Emergency Plan for Child Care" and implement as required by rule.

Finding: During the inspection, it was determined the requirements for the JFS 01242 "Medical, Dental and General Emergency Plan" were not followed as noted in number 1 below:

1. The plan was not posted on each level of the home used for child care.

2. The name, address and telephone number of the program were not complete.

3. The location of the first aid kit, fire extinguisher and fire alarm system, fire alarm pull stations and electrical circuit box were not complete.

4. The telephone number for emergency squad, fire department hospital, poison control program, public children services agency, local health department, local emergency management agency and police department were not complete.

5. Location of children's records was not complete.

6. Emergency information including any medications or supplies needed i the event of an evacuation was not complete.

7. The current version of the prescribed form was not used.

8. The plan was not implemented when necessary in that [ ].

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

Corrective Action Plan Due: 04/16/2026

Domain: **04 Indoor/Outdoor Space**

Rule: 5180:2-13-11 Outdoor Space

Requirement: The program is required to have an outdoor play space free from immediate risk.

Finding: During the inspection, it was determined that an outdoor play area was used which was not protected from traffic and other hazards by a fence in good repair, or other barrier. Although the fence was not meeting the rule requirements, it was determined to not present an immediate risk for a child to be able to leave the playground. The fence or gate was not in good repair and/or being used inappropriately as noted in number 5 below:

1. The fencing had missing slat boards.

2. The fencing was broken.

3. The fencing was loose.

4. The fencing was rotting.
5. The gate was broken and did not close.
6. The gate was locked.
7. The latch on the gate was broken.
8. The latch was easily opened by children on the playground.
9. The latch was not engaged to prevent children from opening the gate.
10. The gate had no latch.
11. There were bolts with more than two threads exposed along a fence line or gate on a playground.
12. Other [ ].

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

Corrective Action Plan Due: 04/16/2026

Domain: **04 Indoor/Outdoor Space**

Rule: 5180:2-13-12 Safe Equipment

Requirement: The program is required to use equipment that is safe and hazard free according to the manufacturer's guidelines. Fans, air conditioners, heat pumps, and space heaters must be inaccessible to children. The program is required to refrain from using trampolines, ball pits and inflatable equipment intended for climbing and bouncing, including but not limited to slides and bounce houses.

Finding: During the inspection, equipment was determined to be unsafe, hazardous to children as noted in number 16 below:

1. Manufacturer's guidelines for the [ ] were not followed in that [ ].
2. The straps were missing on the [ ].
3. The straps were attached, but were not used on the [ ].
4. The straps were attached and were used, but were not used in a safe manner.
5. The equipment had sharp points or corners.
6. The equipment had splinters.
7. The equipment had protruding nails.
8. The equipment had loose or rusty parts.

9. The equipment had paint which contains lead or other poisonous materials.

10. The equipment had hazardous features.

11. A fan was unstable and could easily tip over.

12. A fan had openings a finger could enter.

13. The pipes from the heat pump felt hot to the touch

14. A space heater felt hot to the touch

15. The position of a space heater was a tripping hazard

16. The air conditioning unit was not enclosed and was accessible to children on the playground.

17. A ball pit, trampoline, inflatable bounce house, inflatable slide, inflatable equipment used for climbing and bouncing was used.

18. Other [ ].

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

Corrective Action Plan Due: 04/16/2026

Domain: **08 Staff Files**

Rule: 5180:2-13-10 Health Training

Requirement: The program is required to meet the health training requirements.

Finding: In review of records, it was determined the provider did not have current valid documentation for trainings listed in numbers 10 & 14 below:

1. First Aid - expired training

2. First Aid - did not have verification of the completion of First Aid training

3. First Aid - documentation did not demonstrate the person who provided the training met the trainer qualifications as stated in the rule

4. CPR - expired training

5. CPR - had not taken CPR training

6. CPR - did not have verification of the completion of CPR training

7. CPR - training taken did not include all age groups and developmental levels of all children in care

8. CPR - documentation did not demonstrate the person who provided the training met the trainer qualifications as stated in the rule

9. CPR- audiovisual or electronic media training taken did not include an in-person component of the training

10. Communicable Disease - expired training

11. Communicable Disease - had not taken CD training

12. Communicable Disease - did not have verification of the completion of CD training

13. Communicable Disease - documentation did not demonstrate the person who provided the training met the trainer qualifications as stated in the rule

14. Child Abuse - expired training

15. Child Abuse - had not taken Child Abuse training

16. Child Abuse - documentation did not demonstrate the person who provided the training met the trainer qualifications as stated in the rule

Correct the violation and submit the documentation of current certification with the program's corrective action plan to verify compliance with the requirement of the rule.

Corrective Action Plan Due: 04/16/2026

Domain: **08 Staff Files**

Rule: 5180:2-13-07 Staff Records

Requirement: The provider is required to maintain current employee, child care staff members and resident records in the Ohio Professional Registry.

Finding: During the inspection, it was determined that employment records in the Ohio Professional Registry (OPR) were not created or maintained as noted in numbers 2 & 10 below:

1. The provider had not created or updated their individual profile in the OPR.

2. The provider had not created or updated the program's organizational dashboard in the OPR.

3. At least one employee, child care staff member, or substitute child care staff member had not created or updated their individual profile in the OPR.

4. At least one employee, child care staff member, or substitute child care staff member had not created an employment record in the OPR for the program on or before the first day of employment, including date of hire.

5. At least one employee, child care staff member, or substitute child care staff member had not updated changes to positions or roles in the OPR within five calendar days of the change.

6. The program's organizational dashboard in the OPR was not updated within five business days when at least one employee, child care staff member, or substitute child care staff member's scheduled days and hours changed.

7. The program's organizational dashboard in the OPR was not updated within five business days when at least one employee, child care staff member, or substitute child care staff member's group assignments changed, if applicable.

8. The program's organizational dashboard in the OPR was not updated with the employment end date within five business days when at least one employee, child care staff member, or substitute child care staff member ended employment.

9. At least one resident over the age of eighteen had not created a profile and employment record for the family child care provider within five days of becoming a resident or turning eighteen.

10. The program's organizational dashboard in the OPR was not updated within five calendar days of a change in residency for at least one resident over the age of eighteen.

11.Other: []

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

Corrective Action Plan Due: 04/16/2026

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.

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
5180:2-13-02 Voluntary Temporary Closure	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-13-02 License Visible	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-13-02 Change of Location	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-13-02 Information in OCLQS	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-13-02 Provider Medical	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-13-03 Inspection Requirements	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-13-04 Building Requirements for Type B Homes	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-13-05 Denial, Revocation, and Suspension	Not Applicable	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-13-07 Provider Responsibilities	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-13-04 Flammable and Combustible Materials in a Type B Home	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-13-04 Heaters in a Type B Home	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-13 Written Policies and Procedures	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-13-07 Type B Provider - Foster Parent	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-13-08 Employee Requirements	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-13-08 Child Care Staff Requirements	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-13-08 Whistle Blower	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-13-10 Professional Development	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-13-11 Indoor Space	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-13-11 Outdoor Equipment	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-13-11 Fall Zone	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-13-12 Carbon Monoxide Detectors - Type B Only	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-13-12 Pets	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-13-14 Ratio and Supervision for Field and Routine Trips	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-13-13 Toothbrushing	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-13-13 Smoke Free	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-13-14 Requirements for Field and Routine Trips	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-13-13 Handwashing	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-13-14 Driver Requirements	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-13-14 Vehicle Inspections	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-13-14 Vehicle Requirements	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-13-15 Child Medical and Enrollment Records	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-13-15 Health Conditions	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-13-15 Child Records Retention and Confidentiality	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-13-16 Emergency Drills	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-13-16 First Aid Kit/Standard Precautions	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-13-16 Communicable Diseases	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-13-16 Incident/Injury	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-13-16 Emergency Preparedness and Response Plan	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-13-17 Programming	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-13-17 Materials and Equipment	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-13-18 Group Size and Ratios	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-13-18 Attendance	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-13-19 Supervision	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-13-19 School Age Supervision	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-13-20 Sleep and Nap Requirements	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-13-19 Child Guidance	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-13-20 Crib and Playpen Requirements	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-13-21 Evening and Overnight Care	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-13-21 Sanitary Environment and Hygiene	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-13-22 Meals and Snacks	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-13-22 Fluid Milk	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-13-22 Food Handling	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-13-23 Infant Daily Care	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-13-23 Infant Bottle and Food Preparation	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-13-23 Diapering	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-13-24 On-site Pools	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-13-24 Swimming Sites	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-13-24 Parent Permission for Swimming	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-13-25 Medication Requirements	Compliant	