



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 Character Academy Early Learning Center	Program Number 2190020864	Program Type Child Care Center
Address 9718 Buckeye Road Unit 5 Cleveland OH 44104		County CUYAHOGA

Inspection Information			
Inspection Type Complaint		Inspection Scope Partial	Inspection Notice Unannounced
Reviewer(s) LAKESHA ALLEN	Inspection Day 04/29/2025	Begin Time 9:30 AM	End Time 11:40 AM

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

Staff-Child Ratios at the Time of Inspection			
Group	Age Group/Range	Ratio Observed	Comment
Infants	0 to < 12 months	1 to 11	mixed group at arrival (Infant, Toddler, PS)

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 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: Complainant reported that a special needs PS aged child was restrained in a highchair for an extended period of time.

Determination: Substantiated

Findings: During the inspection, it was determined that a Child Care Staff Member had used the inappropriate techniques in number(s) 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;
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: 06/21/2025

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: 5180:2-12-19 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.

Findings: During the inspection, it was determined that a child care staff member used a discipline technique to guide or discipline child(ren) that was not developmentally appropriate, consistent, or occurred at the time of the incident. 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: 06/21/2025

Domain:02 Safe & Sanitary Environment

Rule: 5180:2-12-12 Safe Equipment

Code: 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.

Findings: During the inspection, equipment was determined to be unsafe, hazardous to children, or in need of repair as noted in number(s) 3 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 highchair.
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, or 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: 05/29/2025

Domain:03 Postings & Equipment

Rule: 5180:2-12-17 Daily Schedule

Code: The program is required to have a balance of activities daily.

Findings: During the inspection, it was determined that the Infant classroom(s) did not have a well-balanced program as noted in number(s) 1 below:

1. The classroom(s) did not provide opportunities for a balance of quiet and active play;
2. The classroom(s) did not provide activities to promote the children's physical, social-emotional, cognitive and language development;
3. The classroom(s) did not provide opportunities for child initiated activities.

A well-balanced program of activities suitable to the developmental levels and abilities of each child in care shall be implemented on a daily basis. Technical assistance was provided at the time of the inspection, and as discussed, please correct this rule noncompliance. A written response for this rule noncompliance is not required at this time.

