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 Here To Grow Academy & Preschool	Program Number 2250031934	Program Type Child Care Center
Address 101 W. Rosewood Defiance OH 43512		County DEFIANCE

Inspection Information			
Inspection Type Annual	Inspection Scope Full	Inspection Method On-site Inspection	Inspection Notice Unannounced
Inspection Date 10/28/2026	Begin Time 7:45 AM	End Time 11:45 AM	Reviewer: Beverly Sutter

Summary of Findings			
No. Requirements Verified 67	No. Requirements with Non-compliances 0		No. Requirements Compliant 56
No. Serious Risk 0	No. Moderate Risk Findings 0	No. Other Non-compliance Findings 0	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)		13	0	13
Young Toddler		11	0	11
Total Under 2 ½ Years	78	24	0	24
Older Toddler		16	0	16
Preschool		31	0	31
School Age		30	0	30
Total Capacity/Enrollment	78	77	0	101

Ohio Department of Children & Youth

Staff-Child Ratios at the Time of Inspection				
Group	**Age Group/Range**	**Ratio Observed**	**Compliance**	**Comment**
School age		2 to 22	In Compliance	7:50 am
Infants		2 to 7	In Compliance	7:50 am
Infants		2 to 8	In Compliance	11:00 am
Tiny Tots		2 to 6	In Compliance	7:50 am
Tiny Tots		1 to 6	In Compliance	11:00 am
Toddlers		2 to 9	In Compliance	7:50 am
Toddlers		2 to 11	In Compliance	11:00 am
Wee		1 to 8	In Compliance	8:35 am
Wee		1 to 10	In Compliance	11:00 am
Preschool		1 to 8	In Compliance	7:50 am- Wee and Preschool combined
Preschool		1 to 9	In Compliance	11:00 am

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

Department of Children & Youth

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.

No moderate risk non-compliances were observed during this inspection

Other Non-Compliances

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

No other non-compliances were observed during this inspection

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.

Ohio Department of Children & Youth

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: 5180:2-12-04 Building Department Inspection	Compliant	Documenting Statement: On the day of the inspection, the program was operating in compliance with the current building approval(s).

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 5-21-27.

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: 348, March 1, 2027.

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
Rule: 5180:2-12-07 Administrator Responsibilities/Requirements	Compliant	Documenting Statement: Employment records for current as well as past employees were being maintained on file as required.
Rule: 5180:2-12-07 Administrator Responsibilities/Requirements	Compliant	Documenting Statement: The program had at least one Child Care Staff Member with currently valid training in First Aid, Management of Communicable Disease, CPR, and Child Abuse Prevention present and readily accessible during all hours of operation.

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
Rule: 5180:2-12-07 Written Program Policies and Procedures	Compliant	Documenting Statement: The written policies and procedures reviewed on the day of the inspection were verified as complete.

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: 5180:2-12-09 Background Check Requirements	Compliant	Documenting Statement: During the inspection, the required documentation regarding background checks was on file for all employees listed.

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
Rule: 5180:2-12-10 Health Training Requirements	Compliant	Documenting Statement: During the inspection, the requirements of the rule regarding health training were discussed.

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: Adequate bathroom access is provided during outdoor play by means of bring in enough to maintain ratio.
Rule: 5180:2-12-11 Outdoor Space Requirements	Compliant	Documenting Statement: Drinking water is provided by means of personal water bottles.
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: 5180:2-12-11 Outdoor Space Requirements	Compliant	Documenting Statement: Outdoor play was observed for the toddlers and preschool groups.

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: 5180:2-12-11 Outdoor Play Equipment	Compliant	Documenting Statement: All equipment was observed to be properly placed out of the path of the main traffic pattern.

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 padded carpet.

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: 5180:2-12-12 Safe Environment	Compliant	Documenting Statement: All floor surfaces were maintained to not cause a slipping or tripping hazard.
Rule: 5180:2-12-12 Safe Environment	Compliant	Documenting Statement: All electrical outlets were covered with safety receptacles.
Rule: 5180:2-12-12 Safe Environment	Compliant	Documenting Statement: A safe environment was observed during the inspection. Children were protected from items and conditions which threaten their health, safety and well-being.

Rule: 5180:2-12-12 Safe Environment	Compliant	Documenting Statement: The indoor temperature of the program during the inspection was comfortable and met rule compliance.

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
Rule: 5180:2-12-13 Sanitary Equipment and Environment	Compliant	Documenting Statement: During the inspection, it was discussed that blankets were washed weekly.
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: 5180:2-12-13 Sanitary Equipment and Environment	Compliant	Documenting Statement: During the inspection, the cleaning and sanitation of items and toys mouthed by children were discussed.
Rule: 5180:2-12-13 Sanitary Equipment and Environment	Compliant	Documenting Statement: Cots were cleaned and sanitized.
Rule: 5180:2-12-13 Sanitary Equipment and Environment	Compliant	Documenting Statement: During the inspection, the equipment was observed clean and in good repair.
Rule: 5180:2-12-13 Sanitary Equipment and Environment	Compliant	Documenting Statement: Trash was stored and emptied daily.

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
Rule: 5180:2-12-13 Handwashing Requirements	Compliant	Documenting Statement: Children were viewed washing their hands, as required by the rule.
Rule: 5180:2-12-13 Handwashing Requirements	Compliant	Documenting Statement: It was discussed with the staff that hand washing shall occur upon arrival to the program.
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: No smoking was allowed on the premises, and the notice stating that smoking is prohibited was observed posted in a conspicuous place.

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
Rule: 5180:2-12-14 Transportation and Field Trip Procedures	Compliant	Documenting Statement: Requirements regarding routine and/or field trips were discussed during the inspection.
Rule: 5180:2-12-14 Transportation and Field Trip Procedures	Compliant	Documenting Statement: The program uses the DCY sample trip permission form for routine trips to secure written permission from parents or guardians.

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-12-14 Transportation - Driver Requirements	Not Applicable	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-12-14 Transportation - Vehicle Requirements	Not Applicable	

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 Management of Communicable Disease	Compliant	Documenting Statement: The DCY 08087 "Communicable Disease Chart" was posted and was readily available to staff and parents.
Rule: 5180:2-12-16 Management of Communicable Disease	Compliant	Documenting Statement: The program staff stated parents were informed when their child had any exposure to a contagious illness by number 4 and 5 below: 1. A posted notice; 2. Verbal communication; 3. A written notice sent home; 4. A note posted on the classroom door;

5. Other: electronic: Brightwheels

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: 5180:2-12-16 Incident/Injury Reporting	Compliant	Documenting Statement: The requirements for completing DCY 01299 "Incident/Injury Report For Child Care" reports were discussed during the inspection.

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: 5180:2-12-16 Emergency Preparedness and Response Plan	Compliant	Documenting Statement: The program's emergency preparedness and response plan was reviewed during the inspection and met the requirements.

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
Rule: 5180:2-12-17 Daily Schedule	Compliant	Documenting Statement: The following activities were observed: arrival, morning snack, free play, transitions, games, fall festival party, lunch, nap.
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
Rule: 5180:2-12-17 Daily Outdoor Play	Compliant	Documenting Statement: During the inspection, the requirements of the rule regarding daily outdoor play were discussed.
Rule: 5180:2-12-17 Daily Outdoor Play	Compliant	Documenting Statement: Outdoor play was observed for the toddlers and preschool groups.

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: During the inspection, child care staff were observed meeting the basic needs of all children assigned to the group.
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: 5180:2-12-19 Supervision	Compliant	Documenting Statement: During the inspection, child care staff were observed assisting children throughout the day.

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: 5180:2-12-19 Child Guidance	Compliant	Documenting Statement: The program staff were observed using the following positive child guidance techniques and practices: setting clear limits; redirecting to an appropriate activity; reinforcing appropriate behavior.

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: The menu was posted.
Rule: 5180:2-12-22 Meal Preparation and Nutritional Requirements	Compliant	Documenting Statement: The menu posted reflected the meal served.
Rule: 5180:2-12-22 Meal Preparation and Nutritional Requirements	Compliant	Documenting Statement: Snacks offered at the program included foods from two of the five food groups and provided nutritional value in addition to calories.
Rule: 5180:2-12-22 Meal Preparation and Nutritional Requirements	Compliant	Documenting Statement: Substituted foods served were recorded on the posted menu, as required by this rule.

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: The container used to heat bottles is emptied and cleaned each day.
Rule: 5180:2-12-23 Infant Bottle and Food Preparation	Compliant	Documenting Statement: All bottles were labeled as required.
Rule: 5180:2-12-23 Infant Bottle and Food Preparation	Compliant	Documenting Statement: All bottles were warmed in accordance with the rule in a bottle warmer.
Rule: 5180:2-12-23 Infant Bottle and Food Preparation	Compliant	Documenting Statement: Bottles and opened food were stored in a refrigerator located in the infant room.

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
Rule: 5180:2-12-22 Fluid Milk Requirements	Compliant	Documenting Statement: During the inspection, the requirements of the rule regarding fluid milk were discussed.

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: Food was stored in a safe and sanitary manner.
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
5180:2-12-24 Swimming and Water Safety Requirements	Not Applicable	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
Rule: 5180:2-12-16 Emergency Postings	Compliant	Documenting Statement: During the inspection, the requirements of the rule regarding emergency postings and weather and fire alert plans was discussed.

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	Not Applicable	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
Rule: 5180:2-12-20 Cots and Napping - Practices	Compliant	Documenting Statement: During the inspection, the requirements of the rule regarding sleeping and napping were discussed.

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
Rule: 5180:2-12-15 Child Record Requirements	Compliant	Documenting Statement: At the time of the inspection, a system to ensure children's records were kept on file for one year was being utilized.

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 - Safe Environment and Practices	Compliant	Documenting Statement: Cribs were separated from the play space by a safe and sturdy and physical barrier.
Rule: 5180:2-12-20 Cribs - Safe Environment and Practices	Compliant	Documenting Statement: All cribs were labeled with the assigned infant's name.

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 room.

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
Rule: 5180:2-12-23 2026 Diapering and Toilet Training - Supplies	Compliant	Documenting Statement: During the inspection, the requirements of the rule regarding diapering and toilet training were discussed.

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-12-25 2026 Medication Administration Practices	Not Applicable	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-12-25 2026 Medication Documentation	Not Applicable	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-12-25 2026 Medication Storage	Not Applicable	