Department of Children & Youth

Center Licensing Inspection Full 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 THE SHEPHERD'S GATE CHILD CARE CENTER	Program Number 000000103870	Program Type Child Care Center
Address 10037 EASTON ST NE LOUISVILLE OH 44641		County STARK

Building Approval Date	Use Group/Code	Occupancy Limit	Maximum Under 2 ½
09/24/1997	E	160	5
Fire Inspection Approval Date 01/20/2025	Food Service Risk Level Level III		

Inspection Information		
Inspection Type Annual	Inspection Scope Full	Inspection Notice Unannounced
Inspection Date 11/20/2025	Begin Time 10:40 AM	End Time 1:45 PM
Reviewer: SARAH HEIL-HINTON		

Summary of Findings				
No. Rules Verified	No. Rules with Non-compliances	No. Serious Risk	No. Moderate Risk	No. Low Risk
58	7	0	1	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)		0	0	0
Young Toddler		4	0	4
Total Under 2 ½ Years	5	4	0	4
Older Toddler		1	0	1
Preschool		11	0	11
School Age		7	0	7
Total Capacity/Enrollment	119	19	0	23

Staff-Child Ratios at the Time of Inspection			
Group	**Age Group/Range**	**Ratio Observed**	**Comment**

Toddlers	18 months to < 30 months	2 to 5	Gym
Toddlers	18 months to < 30 months	2 to 5	Lunch
Toddlers	18 months to < 30 months	2 to 5	Naptime (fellowship hall-separated form other groups)
Preschool	3 years to < 4 years	2 to 4	Free Play Bathrooms
Preschool	3 years to < 4 years	1 to 4	Naptime (fellowship hall-separated form other groups)
Preschool	3 years to < 4 years	1 to 4	Lunch
Pre-K/School Age	4 years to < 5 years	1 to 6	Free Choice
Pre-K/School Age	4 years to < 5 years	1 to 6	Lunch
Pre-K/School Age	4 years to < 5 years	1 to 6	Naptime (fellowship hall-separated form other groups)

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 and 5180:2-13-03 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.

Serious Risk Non-Compliances

No Serious Risk Non-Compliances were observed during this inspection

Moderate Risk Non-Compliances

Domain: 08 Staff Files

Rule: 5180:2-12-09 Background Check Requirements

Department of Children & Youth

Code: The program is required to have all staff request background checks as required and receive a JFS 01176 or preliminary approval from ODJFS 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 as noted in number(s) 4 below:

1. The request for a background check for child care was not submitted in the OPR.
2. The fingerprints were not submitted electronically according to the process established by BCI.
3. The individual(s) had engaged in assigned duties or were near children and preliminary approval from ODJFS was not on file.
4. Background checks were not updated every five years.

Submit the program's corrective action plan, which includes a copy of the JFS 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: 12/20/2025

Low Risk Non-Compliances

Domain: 02 Safe & Sanitary Environment

Rule: 5180:2-12-12 Safe Environment
Code: 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: During the inspection, it was determined that children were not protected from item(s) or condition(s) which may threaten their health, safety, or well-being as noted in number(s) 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. Employee(s) purse(s).
7. Diaper bags.
8. Television not securely anchored.

9. Small or lightweight pieces of shelving units are not securely anchored to the wall.
10. Smoke detector needing batteries replaced.
11. An area rug did not have a nonskid backing.
12. An area rug presented a tripping hazard.
13. A floor surface that was unsafe in that [ ].
14. No platform was provided for the sink or toilet in the [ ] classroom.
15. The platform provided for the sink or toilet in the [ ] classroom was not sturdy.
16. The platform provided for the sink or toilet in the [ ] classroom posed a safety hazard in that [ ].
17. Telephone cords.
18. Staff member stepped over a barrier/gate while holding a child.
19. Emergency exits were blocked by the following classroom furniture: [ ].
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: batteries & push pins were stored a desk drawer in the Pre-K classroom.

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: 12/20/2025

Domain: 03 Postings & Equipment

Rule: 5180:2-12-17 Daily Schedule
Code: The program is required to have the daily program schedule posted in all required areas.

Finding: During the inspection, it was determined that a copy of the daily program schedule was not posted in the preschool area as required. 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.

Domain: 04 Indoor/Outdoor Space

Rule: 5180:2-12-11 Outdoor Play Fall Zones
Code: The program is required to provide fall zones around equipment to prevent injury if a child were to fall.

Finding: During the inspection, it was determined the fall zone under and around equipment designated for climbing, swinging, balancing and sliding did not meet the requirements as noted in number(s) 6,8 below:

Ohio Department of Children & Youth

1. The fall surface material had not been properly distributed or raked as needed to retain proper depth under and around equipment.
2. A fall zone hazard was present, in that, the [ ] posed a risk of injury if a child were to fall from a piece of equipment.
3. The fall zone was less than 3 feet from the fence for equipment used by children 23 months of age and younger.
4. The fall zone was less than 6 feet from the fence for equipment used by children 24 months of age and older.
5. There was not a fall zone of 3 feet in all directions from the perimeter of the equipment used by children 23 months of age and younger.
6. There was not a fall zone of 6 feet in all directions from the perimeter of the equipment used by children 24 months of age and older (portable climber too close to the yellow pole).
7. The fall zone was less than 4 1/2 feet from each piece of applicable equipment used by children 23 months of age and younger.
8. The fall zone was less than 9 feet from each piece of applicable equipment used by children 24 months of age and older. (Little Tykes portable slides/climbers).
9. Other [ ].

The program is required to provide adequate fall zones under and around outdoor play equipment at all times. Submit the program's corrective action plan to the Department to verify compliance with the requirements of this rule.

Corrective Action Plan Due: 12/20/2025

Domain: 08 Staff Files

Rule: 5180:2-12-10 Professional Development Requirements
Code: The program is required to ensure child care staff members, including substitutes used more than ninety days annually, obtain at least 6 hours of professional development each state fiscal year.

Finding: In review of the staff records, it was determined that at least one child care staff member did not meet the annual professional development requirement as noted in number(s) 1 below:

1. The child care staff member(s) had not completed at least six hours of professional development.
2. Documentation did not demonstrate the person who provided the training met the trainer qualifications as stated in the rule.
3. Training topic did not meet the requirements listed in appendix A of this rule.
4. Documentation of training did not meet the requirements of this rule.
5. The substitute(s) had been used more than ninety days annually between July first and June thirtieth and had not completed at least six hours of professional development
6. Other [ ].

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

Ohio Department of Children & Youth

Corrective Action Plan Due: 12/20/2025

Domain: 09 Children's Files

Rule: 5180:2-12-15 Child Medical and Enrollment Records
Code: The program is required to use the updated JFS 01234 "Child Enrollment and Health Information For Child Care" .

Finding: In review of 25% of the children's records, it was determined that information had not been secured from the parent/guardian on the JFS 01234 “Child Enrollment and Health Information For Child Care”, as required, for the items in number(s) 14,15 below.

1. No enrollment form was completed for at least one child
2. The current JFS 01234 was not completed for at least one child
3. Complete child information
4. Complete parent information
5. Complete emergency contact information
6. Complete physician information
7. Information regarding the parent list
8. Health information
9. Additional information for all boxes checked “yes”
10. Emergency transportation information
11. Parent/guardian’s signature
12. Diapering Statement
13. Acknowledgement of Policies and Procedures
14. Enrollment form for at least one child was not updated by either the parent or the administrator
15. Enrollment form for at least one child was not signed by the administrator
16. Other [ ]

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.

Domain: 09 Children's Files

Rule: 5180:2-12-15 Child Medical and Enrollment Records
Code: The program is required to have a completed medical on file at the program for each child enrolled.

Ohio Department of Children & Youth

Finding: In review of 25% of the children's records, it was determined that completed medical statements were not on file, as required, for children listed on the JFS Children's Record Review For Child Care as indicated in number(s) 1,2,7,8,9 below:

1. No medical was on file for at least one child
2. Medical(s) on file was not updated every 13 months
3. Medical(s) were missing child's name and date of birth
4. Medical(s) were missing the date of the medical examination
5. The date of the exam was more than 13 months prior to the date the form was signed.
6. Medical(s) were missing a statement that the child has been examined and is in suitable condition for participation in group care
7. Medical(s) were missing the signature, business address and telephone number of the physician, physician's assistant(PA), advance practice nurse (APN) or certified nurse practitioner (CNP) who examined the child
8. Medical(s) were missing a record of immunizations the child has had specifying month, day and year
9. Medical(s) were missing a statement from the physician, PA, APN, or CNP that the child has been immunized or is in the process of being immunized against the diseases required by division 5104.014 of the Revised Code and found in appendix A to this rule
10. Medical(s) were missing a statement from the child's parent or guardian that he or she has declined to have the child immunized against the disease for reasons of conscience, including religious convictions
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: 12/20/2025

Rules In-Compliance/Not Verified

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
Rule: 5180:2-12-16 Written Disaster Plan	Compliant	Documenting Statement: Annual training of the written disaster plan was completed by staff: 1/23/25.

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable

Rule: 5180:2-12-02 License Posted	Compliant	Documenting Statement: The license was in a location visible to parents as required: office door.

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: office bulletin board.
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: 5180:2-12-02 Current Information	Compliant	Documenting Statement: The program had current information entered in the Ohio Child Licensing and Quality System (OCLQS).

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 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 1/20/26.

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: BAMN-DEJUB expires March 1, 2026

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: 1/6/22.

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable

Rule: 5180:2-12-07 Administrator Responsibilities/Requirements	Compliant	Documenting Statement: The administrator's hours of availability to meet with parents were posted in a noticeable location.

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-12-07 Written Program Policies and Procedures	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
Rule: 5180:2-12-08 Medical Statement	Compliant	Documenting Statement: All employees had current medical statements on file.

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: 5180:2-12-10 Health Training 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
5180:2-12-11 Indoor Space Requirements	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-12-11 Separation of Children Under 2 1/2 Years	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
Rule: 5180:2-12-11 Outdoor Space Requirements	Compliant	Documenting Statement: Indoor play space used for gross motor activities was the fellowship hall.
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: The quarterly playground inspections were completed and documented, as required. The most recent inspection report form was dated 9/24/25.
Rule: 5180:2-12-11 Outdoor Space Requirements	Compliant	Documenting Statement: Shade is provided by means of a playground shade structure.

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: 5180:2-12-11 Outdoor Play Equipment	Compliant	Documenting Statement: All equipment in the outdoor play space was observed to be anchored and stable.

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
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	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
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: A notice was observed posted stating that smoking is prohibited at the program: hallway.

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-12-15 Medical/Physical Care Plans	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
Rule: 5180:2-12-16 Medical, Dental, and General Emergency Plan	Compliant	Documenting Statement: On the day of the inspection, the complete prescribed JFS 01242 “Medical, Dental, and General

		Emergency Plan For Child Care" were posted in the program as required.

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
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 JFS 08087 "Communicable Disease Chart" was posted and was readily available to staff and parents: hallway.
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(s) 1 below: 1. A posted notice; 2. Verbal communication; 3. A written notice sent home; 4. A note posted on the classroom door; 5. Other [ ].

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
5180:2-12-17 Materials and Equipment	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
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: 5180:2-12-18 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
5180:2-12-17 Daily Outdoor Play	Compliant	

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: 5180:2-12-18 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: classrooms/hallway.
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: 5180:2-12-20 Cots and Napping	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	Compliant	Documenting Statement: Cots were placed appropriately and safely during nap time.

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
5180:2-12-19 Child Guidance	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
Rule: 5180:2-12-22 Meal and Snack Requirements	Compliant	Documenting Statement: The program served the following: AM Snack, Lunch (packed), PM Snack.
Rule: 5180:2-12-22 Meal and Snack Requirements	Compliant	Documenting Statement: The snack menu was posted in the hallway.

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
Rule: 5180:2-12-22 Safe Food Handling/Storage	Compliant	Documenting Statement: Sack lunches were stored in a refrigerator.

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-12-22 Fluid Milk Requirements	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
Rule: 5180:2-12-23 Diapering and Toilet Training	Compliant	Documenting Statement: Appropriate diaper changing procedures were observed during the inspection in the toddler room(s).

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-12-25 Medication Administration	Compliant	