

**SOUTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES  
CHILD CARE LICENSING ORIGINAL & RENEWAL INSPECTION CHECKLIST**

Type of Inspection: ☐ Provisional Evaluation ☐ Full Evaluation ☒ Renewal

Center Name: A Step Ahead Day School

ARL/APP ID #: 15910

☒ Licensed ☐ Registered

Date of Inspection: 12-18-24 Time of Inspection: 9:52 a.m.

☒ Center ☐ Faith Based ☐ GCCH ☐ CDEP

Address: 1410 Damon Drive, FLORENCE, SC 29505

Hours of Operation: M-F 6:45 AM-6:00 PM

Telephone #: 843-673-9304

Any changes in contact info (Phone/Email/Fax)? ☐ Yes ☒ No

Overnight Care? ☐ Yes ☒ No

Center Director/Designee: Kathy Ward

Change in Ownership or Director? ☐ Yes ☒ No If yes, Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Total Capacity: 104

Building 1: ☒ Building 2: \_\_\_\_\_ Building 3: \_\_\_\_\_

Maximum number of infants: 35

☒ 24 months ☐ 30 months ☐ I-4 facility Clear Fire Report ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ NA Date cleared \_\_\_\_\_

Physical Site	CENTER	FAITH BASED	GCCH	C	N	N/A
The Approval/ License/ Registration is displayed in public view.	114-503 A.1	114-523 A.1	114-513 A.1	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Daily menu dated and posted in conspicuous location in public view.	114-508 A.1	114-528 A.1	114-518 A.1	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Building has proper ventilation to include kitchen and bathrooms.	114-507 A.2	114-527 A.2	114-517 A.2	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Tobacco free facility	114-505 A.3	114-525 A.2	114-517 A.2	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Decals on all glass doors, placed at eye level of children.	114-507 A.3	114-527 A.3	114-517 A.3	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Adequate lighting for rooms, hallway, bathrooms and fire escapes.	114-507 A.4	114-527 A.4	114-517 A.4(a)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ceiling, floors, windows, doors and rugs properly secured.	114-507 A.5(d)	114-527 A.5(d)	114-517 A.5(d)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
No strangulation, choking or suffocation hazards.	114-507 A.5(g)	114-527 A.5(g)	114-517 A.5(h)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Electrical outlets securely covered and inaccessible to children.	114-507 A.11(c)	114-527 A.11(c)	114-517 A.11(c)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Temperature in building between 68 and 80 degrees °F.	114-507 A.7(a)	114-527 A.7	114-517 A.7(a)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Facility has hot and cold water.	114-507 A.6(b)	114-527 A.6(b)	114-517 A.6(b)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Trash in restroom and classroom kept in plastic lined container.	114-507 A.8(f)	114-527 A.8(f)	114-517 A.8(f)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Facility free from pest problems (insects, rodents, etc.).	114-507 A.8(b)	114-527 A.8(b)	114-517 A.8(b)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Furniture, toys & equipment are clean and free from hazards.	114-507 C.1	114-527 C.1	114-517 C.1	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Furniture, toys & equipment meet standards of the CPSC.	114-507 C.2	114-527 C.2	114-517 C.2	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Bathroom completely enclosed. Private toilet use by preschool & up.	114-507 A.12	114-527 A.12		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Child size toilets & sinks (has seat adapter and sturdy steps).	114-507 A.12(e)	114-527 A.12(e)	114-517 A.12(e)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Soap and disposable towels provided at each sink.	114-507 A.12(i)	114-527 A.12(i)	114-517 A.12(g)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Cots or mats labeled with child's name for use only by that child.	114-507 D.2	114-527 D.2	114-517 D.2	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Cots and mats stored so that the side child lies on does not touch floor.	114-507 D.6	114-527 D.6	114-517 D.6	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Poisons/harmful agents locked, labeled and stored properly.	114-507 E.1	114-527 E.1	114-517 E.1	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Only healthy pets/animals permitted. (Vaccination records up-to-date)	114-507 E.4	114-527 E.4	114-517 E.4	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Ratio chart prominently posted in each classroom.	114-504 B.1	114-524 B.1		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Emergency phone numbers posted (police, fire and poison control).	114-503 J.2	114-523 G.2	114-513 J.2	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Internal means of communication among staff.	114-503 J.3			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Parents have free & full access.	114- 503 F.1		114-513 F.1	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
If overnight care is provided, requirements have been met.	114-509 C	114-529 C	114-519 C	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Age appropriate radio, TV, VCR and DVD for children use.	114-506 A.7		114-516 A.7	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Staff files are in compliance to include required training hours.	114-503 F(1-4)	114-523 H.(1-7)	114-513 H(1-7)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>C= Compliant with Regulation, N = Noncompliant with Regulation, N/A = Not Applicable</b>						
No violations noted at time of visit. <input type="checkbox"/>						

Signature of Director/Operator/Designee: Kathy S Ward

Date 12-18-24 ☐ Refused to Sign

Signature of Child Care Licensing Specialist: Beverly J. Britt

Date 12-18-24

**SOUTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES  
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Health, Sanitation & Safety	CENTER	FAITH BASED	GCCH	C	N	N/A
Medicine in original container, protective cap, with child's name.	114-505 D.2(a)	114-525 D.2(a)	114-515 D.2(a)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Medicine stored in separate locked container properly.	114-505 D.2(b)	114-525 D.2(b)	114-515 D.2(b)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Expired medicine returned to parent or disposed of safely.	114-505 D.2(c)	114-525 D.2(c)	114-515 D.2(c)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Written medication log reviewed.	114-505 D.3(a)	114-525 D.3(a)	114-515 D.3 (a)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
First aid kit supplies available and inaccessible to children.	114-505 E.1	114-525 E.1	114-515 E.1	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Children's faces and hands are clean.	114-505 B.1; G.4	114-525 B.1	114-515 B.1	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Proper handwashing practices were observed.	114-505 G.4	114-525 G.4	114-515 G.4	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Toys/equipment that child place in mouth washed & sanitized.	114-505 B.2	114-525 B.2	114-515 B.2	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Transportation	CENTER	FAITH BASED	GCCH	C	N	N/A
If facility transports, written plans and consent by parents reviewed.	114-505 I.1(i)	114-525 I.1(i)	114-515 I.1(f)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Type of vehicle: <input type="checkbox"/> Bus <input type="checkbox"/> 12 van or SUV passengers or less (15 passenger van prohibited – School Bus safety standards)	56-5-195. Jacob's Law	56-5-195. Jacob's Law	56-5-195. Jacob's Law	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Vehicle safe and in good condition.	114-505 I.1(c)	114-525 I.1(c)	114-515 I.1(b)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Checklist on unloading/loading of children.	114-505 I.2(d)	114-525 I.2(d)		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
First Aid supplies and emergency information on children in vehicle.	114-505 I.1(g)	114-525 I.1(g)		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Driver's (valid) driver's licensed reviewed.	114-505 I.1(f)	114-525 I.1(f)	114-515 I.1(d)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Kitchen & Meal Requirements	CENTER	FAITH BASED	GCCH	C	N	N/A
Method meals will be provided <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Facility <input type="checkbox"/> Parents <input type="checkbox"/> Caterer <input type="checkbox"/> School <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ *Public school kitchens and some churches (where food is served to the public) are inspected by DHEC				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Meal & snack meet USDA guidelines.	114-508 A.1(b)	114-528 A.1(b)	114-518 A.1(b)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Food & beverages available for children who did not bring a meal.	114-508 A.8	114-528 A.8	114-518 A.5	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Adequate lighting at food preparation, utensil and hand-washing area	114-507 A.4(b)	114-527 A.4(b)	114-517 A.4(b)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Food labeled and properly stored to protect from contamination.	114-508 D.1	114-528 D.1	114-518 D.1	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Refrigerator unit with thermometers placed in warmest area.	114-508 D.2-3	114-528 D.2-3	114-518 D.2-3	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Clean, wholesome, unspoiled properly labeled food.	114-508 A.4	114-528 A.4	114-518 A.4	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Proper hair restraint used and outer wear is clean.	114-508 B.5	114-528 B.5	114-518 B.5	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Trash in kitchen kept in closed, plastic lined receptacles.	114-507 A.8(e)	114-527 A.8(e)	114-517 A.8(e)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Manual dishwashing has 3 compartment sink & test strips for testing.	114-507 E.7-9	114-528 E.7-9		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Separate sink for handwashing only.	114-508 B.1	114-528 B.1		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sanitary soap and disposable towels observed.	114-508 B.2	114-528 B.2	114-518 B.2	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
All cleaning and poisonous items stored away from food.	114-508 D.8	114-528 D.8	114-518 D.8	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Food preparation sink separated from mop/cleaning supplies.	114-507 A.5(e)	114-527 A.5(e)	114-517 A.5(e)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Easily breakable dinnerware are not used.	114-508 C.2	114-528 C.2	114-518 C.2	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Microwaves & other hazardous items inaccessible to children.	114-507 A.5(b)	114-527 A.5(b)	114-517 A.5(b)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Round foods (i.e. popcorn, meatballs) are served only to children 4yrs & older, unless properly cut.	114-508 A(3)	114-528 A.3	114-518 A.3	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Supervision	CENTER	FAITH BASED	GCCH	C	N	N/A
Adequate supervision throughout facility.	114-504 A(1-2)	114-524 A(1)	114-514 A(1)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Facility following tracking of children procedures.	114-504 A(3)	114-524 A(2)		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ratio adequate in all classrooms and on playground.	114-504 B(1)	114-524 B(2)	114-514 A(2)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

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Infant Care	CENTER	FAITH BASED	GCCH	C	N	N/A
Infants in designated rooms.	114-505 H.1	114-525 H.1	114-515 H.1	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Diaper changing area adjacent hand-washing sink.	114-504 F.1	114-525 F.1		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Diaper changing area in clear view and not used for any other purpose.	114-504 F.2,9	114-525 F.2		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Diapering surface sanitized, seamless and waterproof.	114-505 F.4-7	114-525 F.4-7	114-515 F.2	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Diaper area trash container closed, hands free and lined.	114-507 A.8(d)	114-527 A.8(d)	114-517 A.8(d)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Proper diaper diapering practices were observed	114-505 F.(1-16)	114-525 F.(1-16)	114-515 F.(1-7)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Disposable items kept in labeled, closed, hands- free, plastic liner.	114-505 F.12	114-525 F.12	114-515 F.5	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Cribs meet standards labeled with child's name (certificate reviewed).	114-507 D.1	114-527 D.1	114-517 D.1	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Cribs 3 feet apart. Pre-installed clear barriers 2 feet apart.	114-509 A.5(c)	114-529 A.3(c)		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Age appropriate toys and materials available.	114-507 C.3	114-527 C.3	114-517 C.3	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Information (i.e. diaper changing log, feeding log, activities) available.	114-509 A.2(c)		114-519 A.2(c)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Infants placed on their backs to sleep.	114-509 A.5(a)	114-529 A.3(a)	114-519 A.5(a)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Cups/bottles labeled and used only by that child.	114-509 A.3(a)	114-529 A.1(a)	114-519 A.3(a)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Infants are held while feeding/drinking (No bottles propped or in crib).	114-509 A.3(c)	114-529 A.1(c)	114-519 A.3(c)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Bottle food ready to feed, identified and packaged for single use.	114-509 A.3(f)	114-529 A.1(f)	114-519 A.3(f)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Breast milk/formula dated, labeled (child's name) & refrigerated.	114-509 A.3(i)	114-529 A.1(i)	114-519 A.3(i)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Food for infants cut in pieces one-quarter inch or less.	114-509 A.3(j)	114-529 A.1(j)	114-519 A.3(k)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Food for toddlers cut pieces one-half inch or less.	114-509 A.3(k)	114-529 A.1(k)	114-519 A.3(k)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Feeding chairs are sturdy with T-shape straps, and in good repair.	114-509 A.4	114-529 A.2	114-519 A.4	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Placement of sleeping equipment easily accessible to staff.	114-507 D.4	114-527 D.4	114-517 D.4	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Children are periodically removed from crib, swing or feeding chair.	114-509 A.1(a)	114-529 A.2(d)	114-519 A.1(a)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Protective areas available for children to crawl and explore.	114-509 A.6(a)	114-529 A.4(b)	114-519 A.6(a)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Playground & Surrounding Site	CENTER	FAITH BASED	GCCH	C	N	N/A
All ages daily schedule includes outside play, weather permitting.	114-506 A.8		114-516 A.8	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Playground and walkway free from hazards (i.e. litter & leaves).	114-507 C.1-2	114-527 B.2-3	114-517 B.1-2	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Restricted area fenced/safety barriers at least 4ft high in good repair.	114-507 B(4)	114-527 B.4	114-517 B.3	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Stationary equipment firmly anchored with cushioning material.	114-507 B.7	114-527 C.6	114-517 B.7	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Swings soft, flexible seats, free of pinch points and in a safe place.	114-507 B.8	114-527 C.7	114-517 C.8	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sandboxes securely covered when not in use and constructed drain.	114-507 C.7	114-527 C.13	114-517 C.14	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Outdoor metal equipment located in the shade.	114-507 B.11	114-527 C.10	114-517 C.11	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Play equipment arranged to see children and size appropriate.	114-507 C.12-13	114-527 C.12	114-517 B.12	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Trash receptacles outside facility are watertight with firm fitting lids.	114-507 A.8(g)	114-527 A.8(g)	114-517 A.8(g)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Furniture, toys & equipment meets CPSC standards.	114-507 C.2	114-527 C.2	114-517 C.2	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Furniture, toys & equipment developmentally and size appropriate.	11-507 C.3	114-527 C.3	114-517 C.3	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Children are taken to park or in shifts if outdoor space is inadequate.	114-507 B.1	114-527 B.1		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Pesticides/other methods used to prevent insects/rodent.	114-507 A.8(b)	114-527 A.8(b)	114-517 A.8(b)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Designated area for smoking away from facility.	114-505 A.3	114-525 A.3	114-517 A.2	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Written plan to account for children while outside.	114-504 A.3	114-524 A.2		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Playground equipment and toys must indicate commercial use only

**Division of Early Care and Education****Deficiency Correction**NAME OF PROVIDER/OPERATOR A Step Ahead Day SchoolPERMIT # 15910

Deficiency Cited	Corrective Action Needed	Expected Date of Correction
Health Assessments are needed for three caregivers.	Obtain Health Assessments from caregivers.	1/06/2025

**Providers/Operators are required by regulations and statutes to be in compliance at all time.**

Licensing Specialist Belva J. Britt Date 12/18/2024