

Early Learning and Childcare Facility Inspection Report

Type of Inspection:
Renewal Inspection

Pursuant to section 21 of the *Early Childhood Services Act*, operators of licensed early learning and childcare facilities must post their most recent inspection report in a clearly visible and prominent place in the facility.

Name of Operator Step Ahead - Bath Family Learning Centre Inc.		Inspection Date August 24, 2026
Facility Name Step Ahead - Bath Family Learning Centre		Licence Number 2008438
Address 118 School Street Bath NB E7J 1C4		Telephone Number (506) 278-3959
Type of Facility Part-time Early Learning and Childcare Centre	Maximum Number of Children 55	Ages of Children PRESCHOOL SCHOOL-AGE
ELCC Licensing Staff Nancy Glendenning	Position Title Inspector	

Order for Compliance	Regulation	Date to be corrected	Date corrected
21 The daily activities of a licensed facility shall be purposely planned in advance and documented and shall respond to the capabilities, needs and interests of each child.	21	Aug 26, 2026	
Comments: The larger school age room had a variety of documentation posted on the wall. It included a web outlining the plans for the children's summer, hammered flowered prints, a chart and mosaic art. The older school age room had limited documentation and a purposely planned program was not evident. As you move into the school year, it is advised that the educators use a calendar, journal, weekly program or daily activity schedule that will include the activities that the children are engaged in. This can include invitations for play that are being set up. Having a written plan ensures there are a variety of opportunities provided for learning and exploration.			
24(1) For the purposes of subsection 20(1) of the Act, the following records and documents shall be maintained on the premises of a licensed facility: (f) daily attendance records of the children on forms provided by the Minister.	24(1)(f)	Aug 17, 2026	
Comments: Educators are using an application called Lilio to take attendance. Regulation 24 (1)(f) states daily attendance records of the children must be taken on forms provided by the Minister. Please use the proper attendance records immediately.			
30(3) An operator shall maintain the indoor play area of a licensed facility to ensure the safety of the children.	30(3)	Aug 17, 2026	
Comments: The classrooms appeared cluttered and dirty. The children's belongings were scattered on the floor, the materials were not kept in an organized fashion and the area on top of the cubbies was being used as storage for educators materials. The floors and rugs had visible dirt on them. Different types of rugs may have to be purchased as they were lifting and bunching up which is a potential tripping hazard. The clothing that was stored by the exit door in boxes should be removed and stored elsewhere. The classrooms should have organized and defined learning centres at all times.			
9(1) The child-to-staff ratio is one educator for each of the following groups of children of the same age receiving services at a full-time or part-time early learning and childcare centre: (a) three infants or fewer; (b) five children or fewer who are two years of age; (c) eight children or fewer who are three years of age; (d) ten children or fewer who are four years of age or older, but who are not yet attending school; and (e) 15 school-age children or fewer.	9(1)	Aug 17, 2026	

Order for Compliance	Regulation	Date to be corrected	Date corrected
Comments: Child/staff ratio was not maintained in the outdoor play areas or at lunch time when lunches were being heated. Please see comments below. Child/staff ratio must be maintained at all times.			
General Comments			
Quality Assurance Monitor, Troy Williams and Inspector, Nancy Glendenning followed the children into the school playground and immediately took note that there was an educator sitting on top of a picnic table with several children sitting with them. Two other educators were at the gazebo with a group of children. These children were not engaged with any particular activity, just sitting and talking. The space has a large wooded area, a large soccer field area, a gazebo across the field from the school playground. The children were scattered throughout the areas making supervision inadequate. Licensing staff walked from the gazebo back to the playground area and noticed that there were at least 12 children unsupervised for at least 10 minutes. There were two educators at the gazebo and one of the educators proceeded to walk over to the playground. Licensing staff was advised that the educator who was on the side of the playground had left to take children to swimming. Child / staff ratio was not maintained at this time. Licensing staff asked all 3 educators the number of children that they had outside and 3 different counts of children were given. Headcounts were not observed during outside play time and attendance was not taken prior to re-entering the building. The children were observed running to the facility across the bus lane to the facility which will soon have buses present. Also, licensing staff spoke to the administrator regarding several safety concerns observed in the outdoor play space. Although, you are using a public space for school age children, you must insure that it is clean and safe prior to playing there. The educators indicated that the space is not being inspected by them prior to the children using the space. This should be completed each time prior to allowing the children to play there. Also, as the children were waiting for their lunches in the larger school-age room, it was observed that there was no educator in the classroom for a period of time. One of the educators, was in the 15 space school age room talking with the other educator while the other educator was heating lunches. It is recommended that educators set up invitations for play when using any outdoor play space. Materials for outdoor play should be gathered and take outside. As the new outdoor play space is now approved, you could break up your groups to make supervision easier. A plan needs to be put into place to ensure safety of the children. This would include taking attendance, doing frequent head counts and ensuring that the groups stay together. Observations were discussed with the administrators and educators. Licensing staff to do a follow-up visit.			

original signed by
Nancy Glendenning

Signature of Early Learning and Childcare Licensing Staff

August 24, 2026

Date

Signature of Operator/Designated staff

Date

"I hereby acknowledge receipt of this report"