Iowa Department of Health And Human Services

CHILD CARE CENTER ANNUAL EVALUATION

Name of Center: Crayons 2 Pencils Early Learning Center
Provider No.: 27088

Address: 800 Colonial CIR, Norwalk, IA, 50211

County: Warren

Director's Name: Jill Larsen
On-Site Supervisor: Cindy Gavin

Phone Number: 5152855322
E-Mail: crayons2pencils@yahoo.com

HHS Visit Date: 10/27/2025

Licensing Period: 09/01/2024 to 09/01/2026

Fire Inspection:

Date Inspected: 10/11/2023

Comments: 11/15/23 compliance date

Report Visit Type:

- [ ] PTO
- [X] Licensing Visit
- [ ] Drop In
- [ ] Administrative Change

License Type:

- [X] Full
- [ ] Provisional

Quality initiative:

Quality Rating: 2

- [X] Accrediation — Comments: IQ4K - Level 2

Program Duration:

- [X] Year-Round
- [ ] School Year
- [ ] Summer Only

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Program Population Served:

- [X] Infant(0-<24 Months)
- [X] Toddler
- [X] PreSchool
- [X] School Age
- [ ] All Ages

LICENSE CAPACITY	Infants	2 Years	Preschool	School-Aged	Capacity
General	50	30	106	0	186
Summer					0

1. Basic Overview

Crayons 2 Pencils Early Learning Center opened in September 2016. It is located in a single standing building. The center has a secured entrance. The center has a security system. There are cameras in the cameras as well as outside the facility. The center provides child care services to children ages infancy through preschool age. Jill Larsen and Cindy Gavin are co-owners and directors. Jill had a registered, in home daycare home for ten years prior to opening up this center. Cindy was a teacher and she also had a registered in home child care daycare prior to opening up this center.

An unannounced visit was completed today. All areas subject to HHS licensing rules were reviewed. Mandatory postings are in place at the center's entrance. Each classroom has a schedule posted. Current lesson plans are posted in classrooms. Children's artwork is displayed in hallways and classrooms. Classrooms are well furnished with clearly defined learning centers and toys.

The center has eleven classrooms. The Violet Room and Orange Room serve infants. The Yellow Room and Blue Room have one year old children. The Pink Room, Green Room and Red Room are classrooms for two year olds. The Purple Room and Teal Room are for three year olds. The Navy Room is a 3/4's class. The Silver Room is a 4/5's classroom. All classrooms were at or above ratio requirements. Children were observed in classrooms and outdoors on the playground today. Staff were reading children books to children, assisting children prepare for rest time and assisting children in their play and learning activities.

The center has a full kitchen. The center serves breakfast, lunch and afternoon snack. Menus are made weekly. Menus were reviewed and are compliant with CACFP regulations. Breakfast, lunch and afternoon snack is served. Menus are made weekly.

The center has three playground areas. There is a playground for infants to one year old children, for 2's and for 3's to 5's. Surfacing material for playground structures is sand and pea gravel. There are concrete areas and concrete trails and grass areas also. There is an outdoor classroom. The playgrounds have many outdoor play materials for children's use. The center completes monthly playground checks.

The center owns a bus for transportation.

2. Identify Observed Strengths of the program

Jill and Cindy have many years of experience in the child care field. The center is participating in the IQ4K program. Classrooms are well furnished with age appropriate supplies and furnishings. The center has a secured entrance. There are security camera in all the classrooms and playgrounds. The center won the Warren County's 2024 Favorite

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Preschool/Daycare. The directors have created Playful Paths, a learning curriculum that contains social/emotional and educational information for daily and weekly planning. This is available and used for children ages one through PreK.

3. Identify the aspects that fall below the standard

There were no licensing violations cited today.

There was an observation in a one year old classroom that was addressed during the visit with staff and Jill. Designated nap time at the center is 1:00 to 3:00 pm. A one year old was sitting up, fully awake, in a crib. A staff member was observed going to the child and putting the child in a laying position. The staff stated she did this as it was still nap time. This worker stated the child was fully awake from her nap and the child shouldn't be forced to lay down. The child needed to be taken out of the crib and be allowed to return to regular schedule activities. The director told the staff to take the child out of the crib. This worker told the director to do a training with this staff about appropriate resting/napping policies. Jill said she would follow up with this staff member.

4. Any corrective action plans, provisional license, and safety plans-steps to get into compliance

NA

5. Special Notes/Recommendations

The center has a full license.

*Note: If you are the Child Care Center Director and you feel something is unclear or unjustly cited, please contact me (phone 515-362-7823; email melinda.larson@hhs.iowa.org) so that we may discuss the issue. If necessary, I can make a notation in your record. You may also send a letter that will be included in your licensing file noting any disagreement you may have with this report. If you have the need for any additional information discussed during my visit, please contact me and I will forward the information to you. Thank you.

*Note: If you are a member of the general public, there may be additional information contained in the public file. You may contact the DHS Licensing Consultant to inquire.

Date: 10/28/2025

HHS Licensing Consultant: Melinda Larson

Non-compliance with any of the mandated regulatory requirements listed above may lead to the cancellation or revocation of your Child Care License. Please take steps necessary to completely address each of the violations noted above.

Child Care Resource and Referral is an excellent resource for providers to access training options and support in your area. You can reach Child Care Resource and Referral at **https://iowaccrr.org**.