Health and Human Services

Iowa Department of Health And Human Services

CHILD CARE CENTER ANNUAL EVALUATION

Name of Center: Trinity Preschool

Provider No.: 28284

Address: 800 N Sumner, Creston, IA, 50801

County: Union

Director's Name: Joy Brown

On-Site Supervisor:

Phone Number: 6417825095

E-Mail: jbrown@trinitycreston.org

HHS Visit Date: 04/23/2026

Licensing Period: 03/01/2026 to 03/01/2028

Fire Inspection:

Date Inspected: 09/12/2025

Comments:

Report Visit Type:

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

License Type:

- [X] Full
- [ ] Provisional

Quality initiative:

Quality Rating: 1

- [ ] Accrediation

Program Duration:

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

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HOURS:	*Year-round*	*School-Year*	*Summer Only*
Sunday			
Monday		8:30 AM to 3:30 PM	
Tuesday		8:30 AM to 3:30 PM	
Wednesday		8:30 AM to 3:30 PM	
Thursday		8:30 AM to 3:30 PM	
Friday			
Saturday			

Program Population Served:

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

LICENSE CAPACITY	Infants	2 Years	Preschool	School-Aged	Capacity
General			20		20
Summer					0

1. Basic Overview

A licensing visit was made to Trinity Preschool on 4/23/26. The center opened in 1986. Joy has been employed at the program for over twenty years. She has her Associate's Degree in Early Childhood Development. Preschool services are provided to children two and one half years old to five years old; however, there are no children who are two and one half years old this year. The preschool is located on the lower level of Trinity Lutheran Church. The preschool operates under the preschool board. There are 24 children enrolled. Preschool is offered Tuesdays and Thursdays from 8:30 AM to 11 AM and Monday through Thursday from 12:30 PM to 3:30 PM. The SWVP (Statewide Voluntary Preschool Program) is a free program for 10 hours per week in the afternoon for children who are four years old and will be turning five years old. During that time, there are no religious references. Outside of the 10 hours, they are able to reference religion. I met with Joy during my licensing visit.

Observation of room:
The room looks great and is arranged into fun activity centers. There were 13 children and two staff present during my visit. Initially, the children were having fun playing outside on the playground, but then they came inside the classroom. They changed their shoes and washed their hands before sitting down to begin classwork. Joy had the children tell me what to do in the event of a fire and tornado. It was evident they have been practicing their drills. Staff had excellent interactions with the children; they were involved in programming and attentive to the needs of the children. They use Creative Curriculum and Teaching Strategies Gold. There is a religious component to the program and the church pastor meets with the children for a short bible story time. The three-year olds also use a religious curriculum called One In Christ. Joy is very creative and the center has family events throughout the year. The daily schedule and lesson plans/activities are posted. The center has a fun variety of age and developmentally appropriate toys and equipment. The program collaborates with the public school to provide the voluntary four-year-old grant preschool program.

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Nutrition:
The center is not on the federal food program. Parents provide cereal that meets the CACFP guidelines for the 3-year-old program and the center provides a nutritious snack for all other preschool sessions. Proper food storage was not observed. There was a bag that used a clip instead of being placed in an airtight container. Joy said they would begin making sure everything is put in an airtight container and labeled going forward. There are thermometers in the refrigerator and freezer. The menu is provided to parents in the weekly newsletter; however, I talked with Joy about posting the menu for everyone to see besides just the parents who receive the newsletter.

Health and Safety:
No children are prescribed medication during the time they are at the preschool. Proper medication management procedures are followed if a child is prescribed medication. The first aid kit was properly stocked. There is a first aid kit inside and outside on the playground. Radon testing was done in July 2023 with a test score of 3.2 pCi/L. Radon testing is required every five years if the readings are below 4.0 pCi/L. An annual fuel burning inspection was completed in September 2025. Please make sure to get the invoice for the inspection rather than documenting on a calendar. Fire/tornado drills are practiced and documented on a monthly basis. Oxivir Tb is used for sanitizing and SaniDate is used for disinfecting.

Playground:
The playground is an outdoor classroom. The area is fenced and offers a fun variety of educational learning experiences. They are replacing some logs on the playground and they have added some kitchen items. There is also a cement area with picnic tables. They were Nature Explore Certified in 2015 for their outdoor classroom. Monthly playground inspections are completed.

Transportation:
The program doesn't provide transportation services. Many of the children receive transportation from the Trolley. The older children take some field trips. The parents provide transportation for their own children. The program has guests that visit the program.

Administrative records:
The center has all of the required postings. The center has all the required policies and procedures. Staff files were read and were in excellent order. Three children's files were read and were in excellent order. Joy completed Essentials in 2016 but did not complete all the modules. Please complete Essentials before next year's visit.

2. Identify Observed Strengths of the program

The center is IQ4K level I. The center is a wonderful resource for the community. Joy is enthusiastic and creative. The center is always striving to make improvements. Joy has been on the IAEYC board for several years. She has been a chapter representative for Green Valley IAEYC for several years. Joy is on the church camp board. Joy drives the Trolley bus for Trinity Preschool. The center has a fundraiser called Obstacleathon. They also do an annual garage sale and an Easter breakfast. The staff do exceptional work with the children. The center applies for grants for equipment and supplies for the program. Joy identified their strengths as staff get to the children's level and have the children look at staff in their eyes, they have a religious aspect to their curriculum, and they maintain good communication with the parents. The center has a weekly newsletter and the menu is in the newsletter. They have family activities every other month such as a mother's event, father's event, grandparent's event, and a Christmas program. The center also has a mandatory parent's meeting before school starts.

3. Identify the aspects that fall below the standard

109.13(5)b: Sanitary and safe methods in food preparation, serving, and storage sufficient to prevent transmission of disease, infestation, and spoilage are followed. Staff preparing food that have injuries on hands wear protective gloves. Staff serving food use clean serving utensils and have clean hands/wear protective gloves. Proper food storage was not being used. Please make sure food is sealed in an airtight container and labeled after opening.

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

5. Special Notes/Recommendations

A full license is recommended for 3/1/26 to 3/1/28.

Targeted Assessment Behavior Management
I discussed with Joy about her oversight of behavior management related to helping childcare staff: 1. Understand expectations, 2. Managing frustrations, 3. Monitor performance. Staff take new staff orientation through Iowa State Extension. There are cameras in the classroom. The children go to Al's Pals to calm down either when requested by the teachers or if the child feels they need alone time.

Joy was not very organized when it came to staff files and keeping documentation for the center. I made a referral to Child Care Resource and Referral to help her with staff files and creating a licensing binder.

Date: 05/12/2026

HHS Licensing Consultant: Tausha Bottorff

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**.