Health and Human Services

Iowa Department of Health And Human Services

CHILD CARE CENTER ANNUAL EVALUATION

Name of Center: LaSalle Catholic Early Learning Center

Provider No.: 24646

Address: 60 Edgewood RD NW, Cedar Rapids, IA, 52405

County: Linn

Director's Name: Samantha Scheetz

On-Site Supervisor: Samantha Scheetz

Phone Number: 3193967818

E-Mail: connie.schulte@crxcs.org
Sam.scheetz@crxcs.org

HHS Visit Date: 04/28/2026

Licensing Period: 04/01/2025 to 04/01/2027

Fire Inspection:

Date Inspected: 02/08/2025

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:

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

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HOURS:	*Year-round*	*School-Year*	*Summer Only*
Sunday			
Monday	6:45 AM to 5:30 PM		
Tuesday	6:45 AM to 5:30 PM		
Wednesday	6:45 AM to 5:30 PM		
Thursday	6:45 AM to 5:30 PM		
Friday	6:45 AM to 5:30 PM		
Saturday			

Program Population Served:

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

LICENSE CAPACITY	Infants	2 Years	Preschool	School-Aged	Capacity
General		12	50	50	112
Summer					0

1. Basic Overview

Xavier Catholic Schools owns and operates several learning centers throughout the community. Specifically, this license pertains to the LaSalle Catholic Early Learning Center (LCELC) which is located inside LaSalle Catholic Elementary School. LCELC is part of the Xavier Catholic School System which is accredited by the Iowa Department of Education and part of the Archdiocese of Dubuque. LCELC commenced operations in October 2015. LCELC operates year-round, M-F 6:45am-5:30pm. This license includes childcare for children age 2yo through school age, a three-year-old preschool program and four-year-old preschool program. Total enrolled and attending children was reported to be 84 on 4/28/2026.

Xavier Catholic Schools learning centers multi-site executive director is Connie Schulte. Ms. Schulte has been in this position since July 2024. Ms. Schulte has extensive director experience, has experience working with children and participates in professional development. Specific director of LCELC is Samantha Scheetz. Ms. Scheetz has been this center's director since January of 2026. Ms. Scheetz has a BA degree in music, has experience working with children and participates in professional development.

On 4/28/2026, program space was observed. Primary programming occurs in age defined spaces and classrooms. All children have some access to an indoor school gymnasium and outdoor school play areas. Sufficient restrooms including hand washing sinks are available to accommodate total capacity. There is an on-site school kitchen which is regularly inspected. All foods are prepared on-site. There is an AED on-site. Since the last review, all classrooms and program areas have been rearranged keeping learning at the forefront. On 4/28/2026, areas of study included spring season and the virtue of Charity. Activities observed included much outdoor play. The preschool-age childcare room was observed to have an in-depth and up-close life of a butterfly cycle happening! During the monitoring visit, routine transitions were also observed to go smoothly and included clean-up procedures and restroom/drink breaks. Curriculum allowed for a variety of experiences

that were observed to pique child interest as well as build cognitive skills, strengthen emotional intelligence, enhance physical coordination, and encourage the use of social graces. On 4/28/2026, staff were observed to be in ratio, utilizing positive redirection when needed and engaged in programming with the children. Children appeared comfortable with staff and to be enjoying the day.

2. Identify Observed Strengths of the program

The mission of Xavier Catholic Schools "...is to form disciplines unafraid to follow Jesus Christ..." LCELC is "...committed to creating a safe, warm, loving environment for children where they can learn and grow physically, emotionally, creatively, intellectually, spiritually and socially at their own pace. We are committed to supporting families by maintaining open communication and encouraging parental involvement..."

LCELC has the following websites for families and the community to learn about the program: https://crxcs.org/earlylearning and https://lasallecatholiccr.org/elc.

LCELC participates in quality initiatives and has achieved IQ4K level 1.

As of 4/28/2026, Xavier Catholic School early learning locations continue to be overseen by a board of directors. LCELC's seasoned consistent management team (e.g. Ms. Schulte, Ms. Scheetz) is knowledgeable of licensing guidelines as well as their own program's policies and procedures. The management team is organized and has noteworthy systems of organization in place to help ensure administrative items are completed as required and maintained in a secure manner. Ms. Scheetz discussed future goals related to outdoor playground improvements and incorporating theatre camp and show choir experiences as well as increasing gardening opportunities. Ms. Scheetz acknowledged the program's professional team of employees who have a strong work ethic and have welcomed her as a new director.

On 4/28/2026, LCELC was found to be maintaining required postings, maintaining family-program information centers, offering regular newsletters, utilizing technological communication resources, and offering family programming activities. Curriculum continues to occur in a Christian environment, is play based and includes a combination of learning strategies (e.g. Iowa Early Learning Standards, teaching strategies GOLD, teacher-inspired, Education in Virtues, Calendar of Saints). Curriculum also incorporates additional enrichments including off-site field trips, on-site guest speaker events, STEAM opportunities, themed days, and seasonal-holiday parties.

LCELC continues to have and update policies and procedures that include those for safety, daily health checks, diapering, hand washing, cleaning, sanitizing and disinfecting. On 4/28/2026, management acknowledged how their team of staff help ensure the children's space is sanitary and hazard free each day by following the policies and procedures. Management also discussed having continued support from their board, Xavier Catholic Schools and LaSalle Elementary School (e.g. school administration, school maintenance, school custodial team, school kitchen personnel) as to daily building and grounds conditions and repairs.

Xavier Catholic School learning centers have emergency plans, policies, and procedures that are regularly reviewed and updated as needed. Specifically, LCELC has successfully navigated through flooding events (2008 historic Linn County flood), 2019 winter Polar Vortex, 2019 health (covid-19) pandemic, 8/10/20 Derecho Storm, 2021 food supply issues, 2022 infant formula shortages, air quality alerts (2023, 2025), and repeated technology outages (7/19/24 global technology outage, 10/10/2025 AWS outage, 10/29/2025 Microsoft outage).

3. Identify the aspects that fall below the standard

None noted.

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

Not applicable.

5. Special Notes/Recommendations

Please review the rationale (file:///C:/Users/alyons/Downloads/Comm204%20(99).pdf; Page 49) for Rule 109.11(3)a(2)3

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which states "...When the outdoor temperature rises above 82 degrees Fahrenheit, the room temperature should be cooled to between 68-72 degrees Fahrenheit. If air conditioning is not available, all program and dining rooms used by children should have the air circulated by fans whenever the temperature in the room exceeds 82 degrees Fahrenheit..." Continue to ensure all indoor summer program areas have and maintain sufficient cooling. If oscillating fans are used at any time, they shall be inaccessible and bladeless.

Licensing strongly recommends as additional funding becomes available, LCELC seek the following items to increase and improve safety, compliance, and developmentally appropriate care: each classroom for children under school-age have an enclosed restroom with hand washing sink, updated cooling units in all program areas, updated outdoor imaginative playhouse, outdoor imaginative play kitchen, physically and developmentally appropriate outdoor building materials, outdoor garden and raised garden boxes, an outdoor shed or deck boxes to store outdoor loose materials, developmentally appropriate outdoor cushion surfacing, and outdoor covered sensory areas.

The program's license remains in full status. Thank you for the visit.

Date: 06/05/2026

HHS Licensing Consultant: Amy Lyons

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**.