Health and Human Services

Iowa Department of Health And Human Services

CHILD CARE CENTER ANNUAL EVALUATION

Name of Center: Sacred Heart Plus

Provider No.: 37659

Address: 1653 Grand AVE, West Des Moines, IA, 50265

County: Polk

Director's Name: Jessie Zeimen

On-Site Supervisor: Meghan Begle and Stacy Terrill

Phone Number: 5158648737

E-Mail: jessie.zeimen@sacredheartwdm.org

HHS Visit Date: 07/20/2026

Licensing Period: 09/01/2025 to 09/01/2027

Fire Inspection:

Date Inspected: 03/20/2026

Comments: West Des Moines Fire Marshal.

Report Visit Type:

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

License Type:

- [X] Full
- [ ] Provisional

Quality initiative:

- [ ] Accrediation

Program Duration:

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

Health and Human Services

Iowa Department of Health And Human Services

CHILD CARE CENTER ANNUAL EVALUATION

HOURS:	*Year-round*	*School-Year*	*Summer Only*
Sunday			
Monday	7:15 AM to 5:30 PM		
Tuesday	7:15 AM to 5:30 PM		
Wednesday	7:15 AM to 5:30 PM		
Thursday	7:15 AM to 5:30 PM		
Friday	7:15 AM to 5:30 PM		
Saturday			

Program Population Served:

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

LICENSE CAPACITY	Infants	2 Years	Preschool	School-Aged	Capacity
General	0	0	46	129	175
Summer					0

1. Basic Overview

An off-year inspection was conducted on 7/20/26. The director was present throughout the inspection.

All areas of the program were observed. These areas observed consisted of classroom observations and activities, ratios, nutritional practices, health and safety practices, playground observation, field trip and transportation practices, and administrative review.

Sacred Heart Plus is a center licensed by HHS (formerly DHS). The center was given permission to open on 6/1/15. Previous to HHS licensing, the center was under the oversight of the Department of Education. This center serves children who attend Sacred Heart School and are ages three through 12 years of age. The center uses the Creative Learning Curriculum in their teaching. The center is open year-round had has a before and after school component, extended care, and a summer program in two different buildings on the Sacred Heart campus. There are a total of three classrooms. The center also has access to the indoor gym from time to time. Total child enrollment on the day of the inspection was 110 children.

The center is overseen by a Board. The center director is Jessica Zeimen. Jessica has an AA degree in Business as well as some education classes. She has worked for Sacred Heart Plus for many years. Meghan Begle and Stacy Terrill are the on-site supervisors. Both have past experience working in child care.

NUTRITION: The center serves children an AM snack and a PM snack. Families are responsible for providing their children's lunches daily. The food menu is posted for two weeks and all meal items met CACFP requirements. All food storage in the office and school kitchen was sufficiently stored. Children eat in their classrooms.

CHILD CARE CENTER ANNUAL EVALUATION

TRANSPORTATION/FIELD TRIPS: It was previously noted that only school-age children go on field trips off campus. The center contracts with the West Des Moines School District for busing. Younger children take walking field trips around the campus. The center will also bring in different agencies for presentations to children. For all field trips, a first-aid kit and children's emergency contacts are taken along.

PLAYGROUND: The center has a playground for older children and a playground for younger children. The younger children's playground is fenced in. Wood chips are used for surfacing on the younger children's playground and rubber matting is used for surfacing on the older children's playground. No issues were noted with any climbing structures, swings, or riding toys. The building provides some shade. The center also has a garden where they grow some of their own fruit and vegetables. Monthly playground inspections are being conducted.

During the inspection, the youngest children were napping on cots. Each child had a cot with a sheet on it. Spacing between napping children was sufficient. In the next classroom, children were engaged in free-choice play at the different learning stations in the classroom. In the school building classroom, children were also engaged in free-choice play. Staff were spaced out and interacting with the different groups of children. Toys, tables, and chairs are being cleaned and sanitized daily. Children and staff questioned gave specific answers as to where they relocate to for monthly fire and tornado drills.

For more challenging child behaviors, the director teaches and stresses with staff always trying to have a positive attitude towards children and when addressing them. The director stated her staff try to get to the bottom of what is upsetting children and get their version of the events. Staff are taught to know when to ask for a break if needed. Finally, partnerships and communication with parents is also stressed .

2. Identify Observed Strengths of the program

There continues to be a good mix of new and tenured staff. The director and on-site supervisor feel that staff work well together.

The center has a good partnership with other businesses in the community as well as the school and the church.

Parent involvement is stressed and encouraged.

Once a year, for roughly one week, the center closes for a thorough professional cleaning of the center and for staff to get professional development training hours.

The center has a website through the school.

The center has a walkie-talkie system in place between staff in order to provide better communication and supervision.

The center works with CCR&R and their nurse consultant on a regular basis.

The director has monthly staff meetings with other directors who are part of the diocese as well as director meetings led by CCR&R. Monthly staff meetings are also held at the center among staff.

There is a secure entrance into the center. There is also a security camera system in place.

A cleaning crew cleans the center classroom areas nightly. Staff are also doing extra cleaning, sanitizing, and disinfecting daily.

Staff and children wear center shirts on field trips so that all staff and children are more easily identifiable.

The center has an outdoor garden where they are growing several different vegetables and children are learning about these

vegetables.

Enrollment has increased over the past year.

In August of 2026, new windows and flooring are planned. Rooms will also be freshly painted.

Files were nicely organized. The director is organized.

3. Identify the aspects that fall below the standard

109.10(7): First aid kit: The center shall ensure that a clearly labeled first aid kit that is sufficient to address minor injury or trauma is available and accessible to staff at all times when children are: In the center. In the outdoor play area. On field trips (away from the center).
All first-aid kits should be labeled.

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

N/A.

5. Special Notes/Recommendations

Radon testing was last completed 3/17/23 - 3/20/23. Both preschool classrooms came back with radon levels below the 4.0 cutoff. Because levels were below 4.0, the center can move to testing for radon at least every five years now. So long as radon levels remain below 4.0, they can remain on a five year plan. If at the next testing levels in any classroom come back 4.0 or higher, the center will have to have a mitigation plan, retest, and at least temporarily move back to testing every two years.

The HVAC was last inspected in 3/2026.

I-Power and IQ4K were discussed at the visit. It appears all staff have I - Power profiles. Staff should continue to upload training and specifically, first-aid/CPR and Mandatory Reporter will have to be manually uploaded to profiles. The center has had conversations with their CCR&R consultant regarding IQ4K.

The previous year's monthly playground inspections and fire/tornado drills should also be kept on file.

Date: 07/21/2026

HHS Licensing Consultant: Nate Knepper

CHILD CARE CENTER ANNUAL EVALUATION

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**.