Health and Human Services

Iowa Department of Health And Human Services

CHILD CARE CENTER ANNUAL EVALUATION

Name of Center: Wee School For Little People

Provider No.: 18569

Address: 949 12th AVE N, Clinton, IA, 52732

County: Clinton

Director's Name: Shari Determan

On-Site Supervisor: none

Phone Number: 5632436650

E-Mail: shdeterman@gmail.com

HHS Visit Date: 05/11/2026

Licensing Period: 11/01/2026 to 11/01/2028

Fire Inspection:

Date Inspected: 06/26/2024

Comments:

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

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HOURS:	*Year-round*	*School-Year*	*Summer Only*
Sunday			
Monday	6:30 AM to 6:00 PM		
Tuesday	6:30 AM to 6:00 PM		
Wednesday	6:30 AM to 6:00 PM		
Thursday	6:30 AM to 6:00 PM		
Friday	6:30 AM to 6:00 PM		
Saturday			

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	16	12	62		90
Summer					0

1. Basic Overview

An unannounced licensing visit took place at this center on 5/11/26. This center is privately owned, and for profit, by Shari Determan. Shari is also the center director. Shari reports having worked in a childcare setting since 1984. Shari reports that she was a lead preschool teacher at another center for three years and a substitute teacher for the school district and another private school for several years. Shari has a bachelor's degree in Elementary Education and Early Childhood Education and some coursework for the master's level in special education. Shari has owned and operated this center since 1998. Shari was present for a portion of the visit. This center provides care to infants through children age 10, including a before and after school and non school day care for school age children. The building is a home that has been converted to a child care center and includes program space on both the main and lower levels of the building. The center does not currently participate in the voluntary preschool grant program. The center director states the center uses play based learning and the Creative curriculum in child care. She states for their preschool program they also use Handwriting without Tears and Visual Phonics. The center reports enrollment of 85 children at the time of the visit.

The main level of the building includes the infant/toddler room, two year old room, three year old preschool room, four year old preschool room (also used as the school age room), and toddler play room (used for gross motor play for infants and toddlers). The three to five year old daycare room ("fun factory") and "gym" area are located on the lower level of the building. There is a small area adjacent to the kitchen where some children eat meals/snacks and used for some school age child care ("lunch room"). Program rooms were generally adequately stocked with age appropriate toys, arts/crafts supplies, and centers in the program rooms.

The "lunch room" and two year old room both include a hand washing sink. The two year old room also includes a diapering station. The four/five year old preschool room includes two adjacent restroom areas used for the children (one

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toilet and one hand washing sink in each). The three year old preschool room includes a hand washing sink. The infant/toddler room includes two diapering stations, one hand washing sink, and two sinks used for food/bottle preparation activities. There are two hallway restroom areas on the main floor (one toilet/one urinal/one hand washing sink and two toilets/one hand washing sink) as well as a three fountain hand washing type sink just outside of these restroom areas. A restroom area is adjacent to the lower level program room (one toilet/one diaper station/one hand washing sink).

The center does not participate in the CACFP. All snacks and meals are prepared on site in the center's kitchen. The center serves breakfast, morning snack, lunch, and afternoon snack. It is noted that parents supply the snack for the entire class on a rotating basis in the four year old preschool and the three year old preschool programs. The kitchen appears clean and is highly organized.

2. Identify Observed Strengths of the program

The center is owned and operated by an experienced director/owner who has been at the center for many years. Several of the staff have been with the center for a number of years, and the staff appear to work well together. The outdoor area continues to be large and offers a variety of activities, and continues to be Nature Explore certified. The children grow a garden in the outdoor area during the summer. The center appears clean and organized, and includes plenty of books that are arranged by topic for easy access to the staff which should enhance activity/lesson planning. The children's crafts and projects are posted throughout the center. The staff were once again observed to be highly engaged with the children in activities throughout the center. Licensing documentation for the licensing binder and staff and child files were found to be organized.

3. Identify the aspects that fall below the standard

109.6(4)d Center repeats national criminal history checks at a minimum of every four years or when aware of additional history that occurs.
1. _1_ staff file reviewed national record check was due 8/2024 and not completed until 5/2026.

109.12(4)b: Each infant and toddler shall be diapered in a sanitary manner as frequently as needed at a central diapering area. Diapering, sanitation, and hand-washing procedures shall be posted and implemented in every diapering area. There shall be at least one changing table for every 15 infants.
1. Review diaper changing procedures with staff. Gloves shall be removed before putting on the clean diaper. Each diaper change is an entirely separate process (stack of multiple diapers observed set out on the diaper station as staff were changing diapers).

109.12(4)e The provider shall follow safe sleep practices for infants under one year of age. (1) Infants shall always be placed on their backs for sleep. (2) Infants shall be placed on a firm mattress with a tight fitted sheet (3) Infants shall not be allowed to sleep on a bed, sofa, air mattress or other soft surface. No child shall be allowed to sleep in any item
not designed for infant sleeping, including but not limited to an infant seat, car seat, swing, or bouncy seat. (4) No toys soft objects, stuffed animals, pillows, bumper pads, blankets, or loose bedding shall be allowed in the sleeping area with the infant. (5) No co-sleeping shall be allowed. (6) Sleeping infants shall be actively observed by sight and sound. (7) If an alternate sleeping position is needed, a signed physician or physician assistant authorization with statement of medical reason is required and an expiration date.
1. Blanket observed on a child in a crib (staff said child is eight months old). The center is referred to work with their Child Care Nurse Consultant for additional staff training on safe sleep requirements.

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.
1. Items that are not cleaned through the dish washing process are put onto the bottle racks used to dry clean bottles in the infant room. Only items that are clean through the dishwashing process should be put on this rack if it is to be used to dry clean bottles.

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

N/A

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5. Special Notes/Recommendations

Targeted Assessment: Behavior Management
I discussed with (director) their oversight of behavior management related to helping childcare staff: 1) Understand expectations, 2) managing frustrations, 3) monitor performance.
The center director provided the following responses:
1. I have a Disciplinary Policy that I share with employees and go over during orientation with my expectations. (See attached)
2. During orientation, I tell them that if they ever need a break because they are getting frustrated, then Chris or I can cover for them while they can take a calming break.
3. I observe classrooms and if I hear or see something, I will model my expectations. If things continue, I will have a one on one talk with the staff struggling.

The center was reminded of allowable age combinations. Two year old children may not be combined with four year old children, and three year old children may not be combined with school age children unless under the very specific rule 109.8(2)h for the very beginning and/or end of the day with only the number of children and staff present at the center as defined by the rule. The center will need to ensure compliance.

1. Ensure water bottles brought from home are sent home daily to be returned clean and if forgotten at the center, they may not be re-used unless they go through the dish washing process at the center.
2. Emergency plan posting is needed at the door at the top of the stairs from the fun factory room.
3. Ensure any open food items are stored in a sealed container or ziploc and dated for freshness (clipped items in kitchen area, undated food items in garage refrigerator/freezer).
4. Ensure valid immunization certificate (IDPH form signed and dated by medical personnel) is on file at the center before the child is present at the center.

The center will continue with a full license. The center is being referred to work with their Child Care Nurse Consultant to complete additional safe sleep training for the center director and staff. The center shall submit a corrective action plan within 30 days of the receipt of this report including evidence that a full audit of staff and child files has been completed and a specific plan for brining all into compliance. Ensure the specific date each staff person started at the center is indicated. The file audits shall establish a tracking system that will be utilized to help ensure compliance can be maintained moving forward.

Date: 06/10/2026

HHS Licensing Consultant: Heidi Hungate

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**.