Health and Human Services

Iowa Department of Health And Human Services

CHILD CARE CENTER ANNUAL EVALUATION

Name of Center: Kingdom Kids Community Daycare

Provider No.: 44029

Address: 305 E Madison St, Inwood, IA, 51240

County: Lyon

Director's Name: Karisa Van't Hul

On-Site Supervisor: Shelby Van't Hull

Phone Number: 7127532096

E-Mail: kingdomkidsdaycareinwoodia@gmail.com

HHS Visit Date: 08/10/2026

Licensing Period: 09/01/2026 to 09/01/2028

Fire Inspection:

Date Inspected: 01/19/2024

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 5:30 PM		
Tuesday	6:30 AM to 5:30 PM		
Wednesday	6:30 AM to 5:30 PM		
Thursday	6:30 AM to 5:30 PM		
Friday	6:30 AM to 5:30 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	22	7	27		56
Summer					0

1. Basic Overview

I completed an unannounced visit on 08/10/26 at Kingdom Kids Community Daycare in Inwood, Iowa. I met with Director Karisa Van't Hul, who holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Human Development Studies from South Dakota State University. Ms. Van't Hul previously worked in multiple roles within this center, giving her valuable insight into daily operations and a strong understanding of staff needs and classroom expectations.

Kingdom Kids Community Daycare operates within the Christian Reformed Church, located adjacent to Inwood Christian School. The center is open Monday through Friday from 6:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. and serves children ages 6 weeks to 5 years, or until they begin kindergarten. The program consists of five classrooms, including two infant rooms that separate mobile and non-mobile infants, an 18-month to 2-year-old room, a 3-year-old room, and a 4-/5-year-old preschool room. The center has 39 children enrolled, with 36 present at the time of the visit.

All areas of the program were observed during this visit. Observations included classroom environments and activities, nutritional practices, health and safety procedures, playground conditions, field trip and transportation practices, and administrative documentation.

The center features calm, neutral colors throughout, creating a warm and inviting environment for children. Classrooms are arranged with purposeful visual supports such as the alphabet, numbers, sight words, and handwashing reminders, all of which reinforce early learning and healthy habits. Children's artwork is showcased across the building, celebrating their creativity and helping them feel valued. The center also displays photos of staff along with brief descriptions to support family familiarity and strengthen relationships. In each classroom, the doors feature pictures of the children assigned to that room, promoting a strong sense of community and helping children feel recognized upon arrival.

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The center uses the Experience Curriculum, a play-based, developmentally appropriate early learning curriculum designed to support growth across all domains. Experience Curriculum provides teachers with monthly themes, guided lesson plans, hands-on learning materials, and structured routines that promote exploration, creativity, and foundational skills in literacy, math, social-emotional development, and physical growth. Brightwheel provides digital tools that help teachers organize, document, and communicate daily learning that comes from the Experience Curriculum. Through Brightwheel, staff can record attendance, upload photos of activities, share daily learning highlights, track meals and routines, and send updates directly to families. This allows teachers to show families how the Experience Curriculum is being used in the classroom and helps maintain consistent communication about children's progress. Brightwheel also supports documentation of lesson plans, developmental observations, and assessments, making it easier for staff to stay organized and aligned with curriculum goals.

Daily activities are clearly posted for families and staff. The program closes once per year to conduct professional development training, ensuring staff stay current on best practices. The center has installed cameras in all classrooms as well as a security system to support safety and monitoring. The refrigerator was clean and maintained at the appropriate temperature. Meals and snacks are prepared onsite in a kitchen adjacent to the dining area. While the center follows CACFP nutritional guidelines, it is not currently on the food program due to income eligibility; however, they intend to continue pursuing this support. Menus were posted.

Fire and tornado drills, along with monthly playground inspections, were properly documented. Each classroom is equipped with a First Aid kit that is routinely checked and restocked. Radon testing has been completed, and a mitigation system was installed in 2024; recent testing shows levels remain within an acceptable range. The annual furnace inspection has been completed, and the center has a functioning carbon monoxide detector. All areas observed were clean, organized, and well maintained.

The playground is fully fenced and divided into four designated zones. Staff are assigned specific positions within each zone to ensure full supervision and visibility of all children. The playground includes slides, swings, basketball hoops, riding equipment, rubber mulch surfacing, and newly installed turf. A cement pathway allows for safe use of riding toys, and shade structures provide sun protection. In the fall, the center plans to address gate repairs and install rubber mats as the primary surfacing in designated areas.

Throughout the visit, staff were attentive and consistently engaged with children at their level, providing positive reinforcement and maintaining a supportive, nurturing environment.

The goal of this program is to increase enrollment, and finish level one in IQ4K certification which is ready to be sent off for approval.

2. Identify Observed Strengths of the program

Kingdom Kids Community Daycare demonstrates strong community involvement by actively participating in local fundraising efforts and maintaining positive relationships with nearby organizations. The center regularly engages in community-supported fundraisers, including events with Tiefenthaler Meats, a soup supper, and their current Paper Pie literacy fundraiser. These activities not only strengthen connections with families and local businesses but also highlight the program’s commitment to being an active, valued part of the Inwood community.

Benefits of IQ4K Level 1 for Kingdom Kids Community Daycare. Achieving Level 1 will provide Kingdom Kids with formal recognition that the program is meeting quality standards beyond basic licensing. This level demonstrates that the center has strong foundational practices in place, including professional development for staff, family orientation, safety policies, and early learning standards training. Reaching Level 1 will help strengthen the center’s systems, improve consistency in teaching and caregiving practices, and highlight the program’s commitment to continuous quality improvement

The center has been increasingly utilizing Brightwheel’s features, including a staff messaging page. This tool has strengthened communication among staff and supported a team-focused environment. Staff can request assistance through the messaging page, share updates, and coordinate activities. Overall, it has had a positive impact on staff morale, including helping them organize supportive activities such as planning a potluck for an upcoming staff meeting.

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3. Identify the aspects that fall below the standard

109.9(2)a-c: All files contain sufficient information to allow the center to contact the parent or emergency contact at any time child is in center's care as well as who can pick up the child as authorized by the parent.

109.9(2)d: All files contain sufficient information and authorization to allow the center to secure emergency medical and dental services at any time child is in center's care.

109.10(1): Medications: The center shall have written procedures for dispensing, storage, and authorization, and recording of all prescription and non-prescription medications.Staff must be over 18 to administer medication.All medications shall be stored in original containers with physician or pharmacist directions. Labels should be intact and stored so they are inaccessible to children and public. Nonprescription medications shall be labeled with the child's name.For every day an authorization for medication is in effect and child is in attendance, there shall be a notation of administration including the name of medicine, date, time, dosage, given or applied, and the initials of the person administering the medication or the reason the medication was not given.For ongoing, long term medications, authorization shall be obtained for a period not to exceed the duration of prescription.Staff shall not provide medications to a child if pre-service/orientation training for medication management has not been completed.

109.13(5): Centers shall ensure that food preparation and storage procedures are consistent with the recommendations of the CACFPs.

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

5. Special Notes/Recommendations

Targeted Assessment: Behavior Management
I discussed with Karissa regarding her oversight of behavior management related to helping childcare staff: 1) Understand expectations, 2) managing frustrations, 3) monitor performance.
Karissa reports that she frequently checks on classrooms whenever she hears anything out of the ordinary, such as loud crying or heightened activity. She enters the room to offer assistance, provide guidance, or model appropriate caregiving and classroom-management strategies. The center holds monthly staff meetings during which topics such as supervision, developmentally appropriate guidance, and classroom discipline practices are reviewed. Staff shared that they feel comfortable asking for help when they become overwhelmed or need a brief break. One of the most effective tools has been the Bright wheel staff communication page, which allows employees to quickly request support by posting messages like, "Can someone help? I need a short break." Karissa also utilizes video review to observe classroom interactions and intervene, when necessary, further supporting consistent supervision and coaching.

Due to the observation of an unsafe sleep practice, all employees working with children ages 6 weeks to one year must retake the Safe Sleep module within the Essentials Child Care Preservice training. Staff should document that they have re-watched the module and understand the safe sleep requirements outlined in Iowa licensing regulations. Reviewing the module reinforces proper procedures, promotes compliance with state regulations, and helps maintain a safe environment for infants in care.

Please provide consultant with an email confirming that those items that fall blow standards have been completed by 10/31/26

To continue to work with CCRR for support.

A full license is recommended at this time at this time.

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At least one visit will be made to the center during the next year.

Date: 08/11/2026

HHS Licensing Consultant: Leann Steinhauer

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**.