Health and Human Services

Iowa Department of Health And Human Services

CHILD CARE CENTER ANNUAL EVALUATION

Name of Center: Calvary Christian Preschool & Daycare

Provider No.: 28762

Address: 5245 Northland Ave NE, Cedar Rapids, IA, 52402

County: Linn

Director's Name: Brooke Higgins

On-Site Supervisor: Hannah Kick Flatland

Phone Number: 3193633683

E-Mail: Brooke.Calvarycc@gmail.com

HHS Visit Date: 11/13/2025

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

Fire Inspection:

Date Inspected: 03/19/2024

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
- [X] All Ages

LICENSE CAPACITY	Infants	2 Years	Preschool	School-Aged	Capacity
General	39	24	54	25	142
Summer					0

1. Basic Overview

Calvary Christian Preschool & Daycare is a ministry of and located inside of Calvary Community Church which is a non-denominational Christian Church. An additional noted ministry on-site includes the Calvary Christian Academy for elementary and middle school students. Calvary Christian Academy was established in 2024 and currently has a provisional accreditation through Christian Schools International (CSI). Specifically, this DHHS license pertains to only the Calvary Christian Preschool & Daycare which received permission to open in fall 2009 and has been operating since that time.

Director is Brooke Higgins. Ms. Higgins has been with this program since it opened having stepped into the director role in October 2022. Ms. Higgins has an early childhood para educator certificate, a plethora of experience working with children and continues to participate in annual professional development. On-site supervisor/assistant director is Hannah Kick Flatland. Ms. Flatland has been in this role since June 2025. Ms. Flatland has an AA degree in early childhood, much experience working with children and continues to participate in annual professional development.

On 11/12/2025, program space was observed. Throughout various classrooms, seasonal child friendly music could be overheard gently playing and the aromas of lunchtime meal preparation could be enjoyed as children engaged in morning activities. Primary programming continues to occur in multiple age-defined classrooms. The building has sufficient restrooms and hand washing sinks to accommodate capacity as well as an on-site kitchen and outdoor play area. Since the last review, the preschool room received new furnishings and materials, some curriculum changes occurred, outdoor cushion surfacing areas were replenished or replaced and a new outdoor playground emergency exit was installed. During the month of this monitoring visit, the areas of study were clearly visible and included Veteran’s Day, PJ Day, Letter H, the fall season, and Thanksgiving. Evidence of previous days' curriculum included nicely displayed child artwork (e.g. Thumb-kin Patch art, handprint turkey creations). Curriculum on the day of the monitoring visit allowed for a variety of play

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experiences that piqued child interest as well as encouraged social emotional growth, innovation and child choice. On 11/12/2025, staff were observed to be in ratio and actively engaged with the children in a variety of activities that included infant cares, carrying out curriculum, outdoor large gross motor play, food rituals, and routine transitions. Children appeared comfortable with staff and to be truly enjoying the day.

2. Identify Observed Strengths of the program

The philosophy of Calvary Christian Preschool & Daycare is to "...provide a safe, encouraging environment for children to be valued and trained in Biblical truths, social skills, problem solving strategies, and emotional regulation…"

Calvary Christian Preschool & Daycare has established the following website for families and the community to learn more about their program: http://calvarychristianpreschool.com/.

Calvary Christian Preschool & Daycare's owners, board and management team (e.g. board, Calvary Community Church, Ms. Higgins, Ms. Flatland, Pastor Higgins) remain consistent and invested in nurturing the community's children. As of 11/12/2025, the management team continues to have systems of organization in place to help ensure administrative items are completed as required and maintained in a secure manner. The management team is knowledgeable of licensing guidelines as well as their own program's policies and procedures. Ms. Higgins discussed having a seasoned, reliable, great team of staff who are innovative, enjoy working with children and who support each other and their enrolled children and families. Staff throughout the classrooms reported celebrating 7 years, 3 years, and 1 year of employment with this program. Staff also expressed a genuine happiness with being part of the Calvary Christian Preschool & Daycare team.

As of 11/12/2025, Calvary Christian Preschool & Daycare was again found to be maintaining the required postings, maintaining parent-program information centers, utilizing technological communication resources, and offering family programming activities. Calvary Christian Preschool & Daycare's curriculum incorporates Abeka Curriculum, Creative curriculum, teacher inspired ideas, on-site guest speaker events, enrichment experiences, seasonal/holiday celebrations, and off-site field trips. Ms. Higgins talked about how since the last review, increased usage of Abeka curriculum has occurred.

Calvary Christian Preschool & Daycare has policies and procedures including those for safety, daily health checks, hand washing, diapering, cleaning, sanitizing and disinfecting. On the day of this monitoring visit, management and various classroom staff discussed how they maintain programming space that is sanitary and hazard free each day. Management reported also having support from Calvary Community Church and their board as to daily operations, daily conditions and building-grounds maintenance.

Calvary Christian Preschool & Daycare has emergency plans, policies, and procedures in place which are regularly reviewed and updated as needed. This program has successfully navigated through the 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), a relocation expansion event in November 2023, 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

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

Not applicable.

5. Special Notes/Recommendations

Licesning received and reviewed the annual all fuel inspection report dated 11/17/2025. Inspection report noted 7 furnaces were not to be used due to bad heat exchanger. While the building has numerous furnaces, please provide a future plan as to the 7 nonfunctioning units.

On 11/18/2025, Ms. Higgins provided documentation that a new UL Standard 2034 carbon monoxide detector was ordered for each floor of the building. Please provide a photograph of each unit upon receipt and installation.

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Please review rules 109.11(4)a(1-3). The most recent July 2025 edition of the US Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) Public Playground Safety Handbook states "Loose-fill surfacing materials should be avoided for playgrounds intended for toddlers or children who frequently place objects in their mouths." Licensing supports establishing a plan for loose-fill surfacing still being used on-site.

Remove the small tree trunk/limb sticking up from a loose fill box on the combined-age toddler playground.

Please cover outdoor open sensory areas (e.g. open sand) to maximize health and safety.

The outdoor preschool climbing structure has a blue colored, built-in wall-climbing slide which is presenting with many cracks. Please remedy to prevent injuries and further degradation.

Continue to ensure oscillating fans are installed and used in a manner that is inaccessible to children.

Consider removing the toddler room elevated table with drop-in bucket seats. These tables increase concerns related to possible cross contamination and a lack of leg and foot support for young children.

A full license is issued. Thank you for the visit.

Date: 12/02/2025

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**.