Iowa Department of Human Services
CHILD CARE CENTER EVALUATION AND RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE

Name of Center: Creston Head Start **Enrollment:** 39 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 28283

Street: 1405 N Lincoln **City:** Creston Iowa **Zip** 50801 **County:** Union

Mailing Address: 1405 N Lincoln, Creston, IA, 50801

Director's Name: Stephanie Haffner **Phone Number:** 641-782-8002

On-Site Supervisor(s): Lisa, Sandi, Heidi and Janet **E-Mail:** shaffner@maturaia.org

Date(s) of Visit:

Licensing Visit **Unannounced Visit** **Off Year Visit** X **Administrative Change**

LICENSING VISITS

New Application **Re-Application** X **NA**

Signed Application (470-0722) Received **Yes** **No** X **NA** **Date Signed:**

FIRE INSPECTION **State** X **Local** **NA** **Is Fire Inspection Approved?** X **Yes** **No** **NA**

Date Inspected: 04-07-2022

Comments :

LICENSE TYPE: X **Child Care** **Preschool (ages 3-5 meets three hours or less per day)**

Financial Type: Profit X Non-Profit NA

Accredition: Accredited NAEYC NSACA Other X NA

Program Serves: Infants (0-23 mo.) 2 Years X Preschool-Age School-Age

Get-Well Evening Care Special Needs

SCHEDULE: Year-round X School-Year Summer Only

HOURS:	*Year-round*	*School-Year*	*Summer Only*

LICENSE CAPACITY	Infants	2 Years	Preschool	School-Age	Capacity
General			68		68
Summer					0

QRS Rating: 3

RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE:	
X	**FULL** license from 03-01-2024 to 03-01-2026
	PROVISIONAL license from
	DENIAL of initial application
	SUSPENSION of license
	REVOCATION of license

Licensing Consultant: Tausha Bottorff **Date:** 08-25-2025

I. IF CURRENT LICENSE IS PROVISIONAL, IDENTIFY THE CORRECTIVE ACTIONS

II. IDENTIFY THE AREAS OBSERVED ON THE VISIT:

An unannounced off year licensing visit was made to Creston Head Start on 2-5-2025. The program is located in the Creston Early Childhood Center. Preschool services are provided Monday through Thursday 8:00 am to 3:00 pm. There are three program room located downstairs. There are 39 children enrolled in the program.

Observation of rooms:
The lead teachers are Room 1. Lisa Massey, 2 Sandi Riley 3. Co- teachers Heidi Hudson and Janet Thompson - three year old program. I only visited room 1, the staff/children were not in rooms 2 and 3 at the time of my licensing visit. Room 1 looked great and had a fun variety of age and developmentally appropriate toys and equipment. The children were having fun participating in circle time and a music activity.
The staff had excellent interactions with the children, they were positive and attentive to the needs of the children. Lisa Massey was very helpful and organized.

The curriculum is Creative Curriculum, Teaching Strategies Gold - there are studies and themes. Room 1 had lesson plans/activities. Parent teacher conferences are held throughout the year, goals and progress are discussed.
Head Start provides ongoing training to staff and offers support to the staff and families.

Nutrition:
The program is on the federal food program. Breakfast, lunch and a snack are provided each day, the school prepares the food. Menus are provided on a monthly basis.

Health and Safety:
The program follows the medication management procedures/medication log when a child is prescribed medication. Monthly fire/tornado drills are practiced and documented. The first aid kit was properly stocked. If you have fuel burning appliances/boiler inspection make sure you have an annual fuel burning inspection/boiler inspection. Since you are in a school the Department of Education is responsible for completing radon testing, make sure test results are under a 4.0 pCi/L. Child care licensing will no longer review radon testing information because your center is in a school.

Playground:
The head start program has their own playground area with equipment, slides and a tunnel. The surfacing is rubber tiles. The program also has riding toys, balls and other items that are taken outside. The program documents monthly playground inspections.

Transportation:
Parents can arrange transportation services through the Trolley if needed. The program doesn't take field trips that require transportation.

Administrative records:
Children and staff files are on Child Plus. Child file emergency contact information was reviewed in room 1 and was in

good order.
The program has the required emergency policies and procedures.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

Head Start is a wonderful resource for the community.
Staff were very friendly and helpful. The program receives grants for equipment and supplies.

IV. IDENTIFY THE ASPECTS OF OPERATION THAT FALL BELOW THE STANDARDS REVIEWED:

V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:

A full license is recommended for 3-1-2024 to 3-1-2026.
Off year licensing visit 2-5-2025.

On 9/2/25, Creston Head Start will move to their new location at 1405 North Lincoln, Creston, Iowa 50801.

On 9/2/25, Creston's Head Start's capacity will increase to 68 kids.

*Note: If you are the Child Care Center Director and you feel something is unclear or unjustly cited, please contact your DHS Licensing Consultant to discuss the issue. The child care director may also send a response which will be placed in the licensing file.

*Note: If you are a member of the general public, there may be additional information contained in the public file. You may contact the DHS Licensing Consultant to inquire.