Health and Human Services

Iowa Department of Health And Human Services

CHILD CARE CENTER ANNUAL EVALUATION

Name of Center: St Joseph Hawks Club

Provider No.: 25414

Address: 2107 E 33rd ST, Des Moines, IA, 50317

County: Polk

Director's Name: Becky Beneke

On-Site Supervisor:

Phone Number: 5152663433

E-Mail: lernst@stjosephcatholicdsm.org

HHS Visit Date: 10/30/2025

Licensing Period: 10/01/2024 to 10/01/2026

Fire Inspection:

Date Inspected: 10/17/2023

Comments:

Report Visit Type:

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

License Type:

- [X] Full
- [ ] Provisional

Quality initiative:

- [ ] Accrediation

Program Duration:

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

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Program Population Served:

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

LICENSE CAPACITY	Infants	2 Years	Preschool	School-Aged	Capacity
Summer					0
General			28		28

1. Basic Overview

St. Joseph provides preschool for children ages three through five years of age. The school has preschool in two classrooms that were built specifically for early childhood education. One classroom is a three year old preschool and one is for 4/5 year old preschool. The older class is a Universal PreK room, which is a morning preschool class. The school offers wraparound care in the afternoon for both classes. HHS licenses the full day for the three year old program and licenses the wrap around care for the 4/5 year old program. The school has secured entrances. The school's principal, Becky Beneke, is the director.

The classrooms are well furnished with age appropriate supplies and furnishings. There are defined learning areas in the classrooms. Children's artwork is displayed in the rooms. There is a shared bathroom that connects the two classrooms. Children's backpacks and coats are kept in lockers in their rooms.

An unannounced visit was completed on today's date. The three year old program had three children present. Two staff were working in this class. There were thirteen children present in the 4/5's preschool. Two teachers were working in this class. Children were observed preparing for rest time.

This worker met with Becky Beneke during the visit. Becky assisted with administrative records. Staff files were incomplete and there were some physicals missing in children's files. Becky said she is still getting familiar with HHS Child Care Rules. This worker advised Becky to work with CCR&R for additional support. Becky was very agreeable to this and this worker sent an email to Lindsey Murphy, CCR&R Consultant and Becky after the visit.

Children eat lunches with the school, which has a cafeteria. Snacks are provided from the school also.

The school has an outdoor playground, with area designated for early childhood.

2. Identify Observed Strengths of the program

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The 4/5's preschool is a Universal Preschool program.

3. Identify the aspects that fall below the standard

109.9(1)a: All files contain:Copy of a department criminal history record check form or any other permission form approved by Department of Public Safety for conducting an Iowa or national criminal history record checkCopy of a request for child abuse information form, when applicable.Copies of results of Iowa record checks conducted through the SING for review by the department upon request.Copies of national criminal history check results.Any department issued documents sent to the center related to a record check, regardless of findings.
Staff files were incomplete. Some staff needed updated record checks. Becky's record checks hadn't been completed.
Most of the SING checks have been completed. Federal record checks are ready to be sent.

109.9(1)c: All files contain documentation to indicate that ongoing staff training requirements are met, including current certifications in first aid/CPR and mandatory child abuse training.
The center has First Aid/CPR training on 11/14/25. Becky is working on staff getting other trainings current.

109.9(2)i: Preschool (for children five years and younger not enrolled in school): Physical exam report submitted within 30 days of admission, was obtained no more than 12 months prior to admission, is signed by a licensed MD, DO, Chiropractor, PA, or ARNP, and contains health history; present health status including allergies, medications, and acute/chronic conditions; and recommendations for continued care if necessary.
Administration is going through children's files and getting current physicals.

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

A referral was made to CCR&R as staff files were incomplete and Becky stated a need for more understanding with HHS Child Care rules.
CCR&R has scheduled their first visit with Becky.

5. Special Notes/Recommendations

*Note: If you are the Child Care Center Director and you feel something is unclear or unjustly cited, please contact me (phone 515-362-7823; email melinda.larson@hhs.iowa.org) so that we may discuss the issue. If necessary, I can make a notation in your record. You may also send a letter that will be included in your licensing file noting any disagreement you may have with this report. If you have the need for any additional information discussed during my visit, please contact me and I will forward the information to you. Thank you.

*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.

Date: 11/12/2025

HHS Licensing Consultant: Melinda Larson, Child Care Licensing Consultant

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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**.