Health and Human Services

Iowa Department of Health And Human Services

CHILD CARE CENTER ANNUAL EVALUATION

Name of Center: Little Hawks Kid Care

Provider No.: 51574

Address: 410 Pine Street, Mondamin, IA, 51557

County: Harrison

Director's Name: Tara Rife

On-Site Supervisor:

Phone Number: 7123084615

E-Mail: trife@w-harrison.k12.ia.us

HHS Visit Date: 12/03/2025

Licensing Period: 08/01/2025 to 08/01/2027

Fire Inspection:

Date Inspected: 07/30/2024

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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Program Population Served:

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

LICENSE CAPACITY	Infants	2 Years	Preschool	School-Aged	Capacity
General			15	15	30
Summer					0

1. Basic Overview

An unannounced licensing visit was made to Little Hawks Kid Care on 12/3/25. This program is located in the West Harrison Community School in Mondamin, Iowa. The program provides before and after school child care for preschool and school age children. Hours of operation are 6:00 AM to 7:45 AM Monday - Friday and 3:30 PM - 6:00 PM Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays. Wednesdays are early out days, so care is provided 1:30 PM - 6:00 PM. Full day child care is provided on in service days, school breaks, and during the summer. Tara Rife is the director. She has an associate's of applied science degree/early childhood studies and she is taking classes to get her teaching degree. She has previously been a registered child care provider. Tara is a para educator during the day. There are 15 children enrolled. I met with Suzette Cote during my visit.

Observation of room:
The program room looks great. It is located in the preschool classroom. There are a great variety of age and developmentally appropriate toys and equipment. Toys are rotated frequently. The children were watching a movie when I was there. Suzette said they have rest time on Wednesdays. Staff were attentive to the children's needs. Tara prepares the lesson plans/activities. The gym and the playground are also used. There is a sink in the room and a restroom with one toilet and one sink. There are additional restrooms down the hallway. Make sure the children are accompanied to the restroom when using the restroom down the hallway. Walking field trips are taken to the park, splash pad, and the library. During the school year the librarian comes to the program.

Nutrition:
The school provides breakfast and lunch during the school year and sometimes during the summer. When the school doesn't provide meals, the children bring their own meals. The center provides snacks. Tara follows the CACFP food program guidelines. Proper food storage was observed. Please put thermometers in the refrigerator and freezer. Please post snack menus.

Health and Safety:
Tara reported medication management procedures are followed when a child is prescribed medication. Please have the parents sign the medication log. The center has a first aid kit. The monthly fire/tornado drills are practiced and documented. Since you are in a school, the Department of Education is responsible for radon testing compliance and DHHS licensing is no longer required to review radon testing. Radon testing was completed in October 2021and the score was 2.0 pCi/L. Radon test scores must be under a 4.0 pCi/L. Tara reported she is properly sanitizing with the three-step bottle procedure 1. Soap/water for cleaning, 2. Water for rinsing, and 3. Your EPA approved sanitizing product. Make sure the product is safe for child care. You can review your product with your child care nurse consultant. The school has fuel burning appliances. The school had an inspection, but Tara doesn't have documentation. Please get me the documentation once you receive it. The handwashing sink in the programming room has a drinking fountain on it. This is a health and safety hazard as it runs

the risk for cross contamination. If this is going to be used as a handwashing sink, please remove the fountain or block it off so it cannot be used.

Playground:
The school playground is used. Monthly playground safety inspections are completed.

Administrative records:
Four children's files were read. Three were missing the annual statement of health and one was missing an emergency contact. Please use the annual statement of health form signed by the parent for school age children. Please review all children's files to make sure they have all the necessary paperwork. Two staff files were reviewed. Both files were missing numerous things. One file was missing the state background check, first aid/CPR, and annual training. The other file was missing Universal Precautions, Mandatory Reporter Training, and a current physical exam. Please make sure all staff have all required trainings, background checks, and other necessary paperwork. Tara reported she sent off the fingerprints for national background checks 2-3 weeks ago and has not yet received the results.

2. Identify Observed Strengths of the program

Little Hawks Kid Care is a wonderful resource for the community. Tara Rife is very positive and enthusiastic about the program. Staff had excellent interactions with the children. The center receives donations of toys throughout the year.

3. Identify the aspects that fall below the standard

109.6(4)c: Iowa record checks were not completed timely on one of the staff files reviewed.

109.7(2): Two staff files were reviewed and numerous trainings were missing between the two files including first aid/CPR, Universal Precautions, Mandatory Child Abuse Reporter, and a physical exam.

109.9(2)j: Four children's files were reviewed and three did not have the annual statement of healthy completed by a parent.

109.10(3): There is a sink in the programming room that is used for handwashing and also has a drinking fountain. The sink can only be used for one. Please remove or disable the drinking fountain if you choose to use it for a handwashing sink.

109.11(8)c: The center did not have documentation of an annual fuel burning inspection.

109.13(5)a: There were no thermometers in the refrigerator or freezer. Please put thermometers in both.

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

5. Special Notes/Recommendations

A full license is recommended for 8/1/25 to 8/1/27.

Date: 12/11/2025

HHS Licensing Consultant: Tausha Bottorff

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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**.