Health and Human Services

Iowa Department of Health And Human Services

CHILD CARE CENTER ANNUAL EVALUATION

Name of Center: Love Kids Child Care Center LLC

Provider No.: 47657

Address: 901 N 35th ST STE 2, Council Bluffs, IA, 51501

County: Pottawattamie

Director's Name: Pat Bridgeman

On-Site Supervisor:

Phone Number: 7122560181

E-Mail: jaytaybridgeman@gmail.com

HHS Visit Date: 09/14/2026

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

Fire Inspection:

Date Inspected: 10/03/2025

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	6:00 AM to 6:00 PM		
Tuesday	6:00 AM to 6:00 PM		
Wednesday	6:00 AM to 6:00 PM		
Thursday	6:00 AM to 6:00 PM		
Friday	6:00 AM to 6:00 PM		
Saturday			

Program Population Served:

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

LICENSE CAPACITY	Infants	2 Years	Preschool	School-Aged	Capacity
General	8	8	4		20
Summer					0

1. Basic Overview

An unannounced licensing visit was made to Love Kids Childcare on 9/14/26. The center is located at 901 N. 35th St, Council Bluffs, Iowa 51501 which is located next to the office at Featherstone Apartments. The center opened on September 26, 2016. There are 12 children enrolled. Twelve children were present during my visit. The center provides child care for infants to preschool age children. Pat Bridgeman is the director and has been working with children since 1992.

Observation of room:
The center is one room that is separated by portable walls. One side is for infants and the other side is for children two years and older. When I arrived, all of the children were on one side of the room. The infants were in high chairs. All of the children were doing circle time which included singing and dancing. Once they were done with that, the infants went back to the infant side. The rooms have age and developmentally appropriate toys and equipment. The center is very colorful with educational items on the wall. There were five infants and two staff with the infants. They had daily sheets for the infants. The center makes hard copies and gives them to the parents at the end of the day. Tay and the other staff member working with the infants had excellent interactions with the children. They were nurturing and positive. There was a climbing toy that likely requires fall surfacing. They agreed to not use the toy unless a staff member was standing next to the child. The toys are sanitized daily. If a child mouths a toy, it is set aside until it is sanitized. Pat was with the toddlers and preschoolers. Pat had phenomenal interactions with the kids. The children were all very responsive to Pat. She was talking to one child and using sign language as she spoke with the child. The children clearly love Pat and enjoy their time with her. They listen to Pat very well. There were lesson plans but they were not posted. Tay creates the lesson plans. The daily schedule was posted. Please make sure handwashing signs are posted at every handwashing sink. Please make sure there are diapering postings at the diapering stations.

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Nutrition:
The center provides breakfast, lunch, and an afternoon snack. The center isn't on the federal food program. Make sure you are in compliance with the with the CACFP food guidelines even if you aren't on the food program. A copy of a rotation of menus was posted. There were thermometers in the refrigerator and freezer in the kitchen but not in the refrigerator in the infant room. Please put a thermometer in the refrigerator/freezer in the infant room. Please make sure to monitor the temperatures of the thermometers in both refrigerators and freezers. I talked with Pat about the appropriate temperatures for refrigerators and freezers.

Health and safety:
Pat reported that the center follows medication management procedures when a child is prescribed medication. They have two children on rescue inhalers. Pat kept the inhalers at the top of the children's cubbies which were likely out of reach; however, I encouraged Pat to get some type of container to put the inhalers in and keep away from the children. Pat needs to make sure they are clearly labeled. I informed her the container needed to remain unlocked. The last radon testing was completed in October 2024 with a score of 1.5 pCi/L. Radon testing is required every five years if it is under 4.0 pCi/L. A fuel burning inspection was completed on 9/30/25. A new inspection will be due soon. There is a carbon monoxide detector. Monthly fire and tornado drills were practiced and documented. The center did not have a list of emergency phone numbers; however, Pat created a list and posted them by the phone while I was present. The center uses Purell for sanitizing and disinfecting and they have the 3-step bottle process: 1. Soap/water for cleaning, 2. Water for rinsing, and 3. Your EPA approved product for sanitizing and disinfecting. If you are using bleach water, please follow the mixing instructions for both sanitizing and disinfecting that are on your specific bottle of bleach or on the product website. Staff were not correctly washing and sanitizing the dishes at the kitchen sink. They were washing, rinsing, and then airdrying. They were not sanitizing. Pat talked about using bleach water to sanitize dishes after washing and rinsing them. We discussed possible ways they could sanitize dishes such as a tub of bleach water. Pat would need to know exactly how much water and bleach to use depending on what she was going to use for the container to sanitize the dishes. Staff do not use gloves when changing diapers. Gloves are recommended. Pat said they were washing the toddlers' sheets every two weeks but agreed to start washing them weekly. The infant sheets are washed weekly.

Playground:
There is a small, fenced playground at the back of the center with a small piece of equipment. There is no fall surfacing. The climbing equipment and swings cannot be used until after an inspection by the nurse consultant and fall surfacing is in place. The nurse can talk with Pat about fall surfacing. Fall surfacing must be installed before the climbing equipment can be used. Monthly playground inspections are not being completed and documented. There is very minimal shade. The center could benefit from a shade tarp.

Transportation:
The center doesn't provide daily transportation services; however, they do have a van they use for field trips. There was no vehicle maintenance log. Vehicles that are owned or leased by the center shall receive regular maintenance and inspection according to manufacturer recommended guidelines. Please begin keeping documentation regarding the van and maintenance including oil changes. This was discussed with Pat last year and a maintenance log template was provided to Pat both last year and again this year. There is a first aid kit in the van.

Administrative records:
I reviewed two staff files and they were in excellent condition. The only issue I identified is that the CPR/first aid that staff took for training is not for children. They are required to have pediatric CPR/first aid. Pat said they are scheduled to take CPR/first aid in October. I told Pat to make sure to communicate with the provider it needs to be pediatric. Three children's files were reviewed and were incomplete. One child's parents listed themselves as the emergency contact and did not identify another person and the same child's physical was overdue. Pat reported she has read the Child Care Centers and Preschools Licensing Standards and Procedures which was revised in July 2025. It would be beneficial for Tay to read and understand also. Monthly staff meetings are held.

2. Identify Observed Strengths of the program

Pat is always pleasant and willing to work with Child Care Resource and Referral on noncompliance areas. Pat and Tay have excellent interactions with the children. They are nurturing and positive. Pat and Tay made significant improvements over last year. They will continue to work with CCR&R and the Child Care Nurse Consultant as needed to make sure they

stay on top of everything that they have worked so hard to accomplish over the last year. All of the citations from last year have been corrected. Some of the issues identified on this visit were corrected while I was present. Pat identified their strengths as she asks for help from CCR&R and the Child Care Nurse Consultant as needed, there have been great improvements over the past two years and Pat wants to continue to improve, they are doing well with paperwork, and Pat treats her staff well and cares about them. Pat said she is interested in IQ4K. Pat is going to talk to CCR&R about the Growing Iowa grant for fall surfacing so they can reopen the climbing structure on the playground.

3. Identify the aspects that fall below the standard

109.7(2): Center directors and all staff have the required contact hours of training. I reviewed two staff files and both were complete; however, staff are required to have pediatric CPR. Neither file I reviewed had pediatric CPR.

109.11(4)a: Center must have safe outdoor program area adjacent to the center, with sufficient square footage to accommodate at least 30 percent of the enrollment capacity at any one time at 75 spear feet per child. Outdoor space must: Be free from litter and unsafe materials and free from contamination by the drainage or ponding of sewage or storm water. Include safe play equipment and an area of shade. Include fencing to protect from bodies of water or vehicular traffic. Monthly playground inspections have not been completed. Centers must have a safe outdoor program. There is no fall surfacing on the playground, so it is not safe. Please discuss your options with the Child Care Nurse Consultant. The children are not allowed to use the climbing equipment or swings until fall surfacing is installed.

109.13(5)b: Sanitary and safe methods in food preparation, serving, and storage sufficient to prevent transmission of disease, infestation, and spoilage are followed. Staff preparing food that have injuries on hands wear protective gloves. Staff serving food use clean serving utensils and have clean hands/wear protective gloves. The center has not been following the proper procedures for washing and sanitizing dishes.

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 9/1/26 to 9/1/28.

Targeted Assessment Behavior Management
I discussed with Pat her oversight of behavior management related to helping childcare staff: 1. Understand expectations, 2. Managing frustrations, 3. Monitor performance. Pat said she will talk to staff and ask them to talk to her if they are feeling overwhelmed. She will have staff take a break or walk around the building if they are feeling overwhelmed. If they have ongoing issues with a child, Pat is willing to ask for help from CCR&R or the Child Care Nurse Consultant.

I discussed with my supervisor and he said Love Kids Child Care LLC has been granted permission to mix two-year-olds to four-year-olds in the same room; however, they must maintain a ratio of 1:10 to ensure the safety of the younger children. The following rule is being waived as the center cannot easily manage aged-group sizes with just two rooms. However, no children under the age of two may be combined with the children through the age of four.

109.8(2) c. Children between 18 months and three years of age may be combined, if appropriate to the developmental needs of the child.

I made a referral to the Child Care Nurse Consultant to work with the center on diapering procedures and whether gloves are required, inspecting the playground and assisting Pat with fall surfacing, the padded climbing toy in the infant area that may need some type of fall surfacing, sanitizing dishes, pediatric CPR/first aid, and proper medication procedures. I made a referral to CCR&R to discuss IQ4K with Pat as well as the Growing Iowa grant. I instructed Pat to contact CCR&R to let them know she is interested in the grant for fall surfacing.

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Date: 09/18/2026

HHS Licensing Consultant: Tausha Bottorff

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**.