Health and Human Services

Iowa Department of Health And Human Services

CHILD CARE CENTER ANNUAL EVALUATION

Name of Center: Hinton Little Hawks Preschool and Daycare

Provider No.: 29683

Address: 315 W Grand ST, Hinton, IA, 51024

County: Plymouth

Director's Name: Stacy Boeve

On-Site Supervisor: Abby Samuelson

Phone Number: 7129474327

E-Mail: stacy.boeve@hintonschool.com

HHS Visit Date: 05/12/2026

Licensing Period: 06/01/2025 to 06/01/2027

Fire Inspection:

Date Inspected: 11/13/2025

Comments:

Report Visit Type:

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

License Type:

- [X] Full
- [ ] Provisional

Quality initiative:

Quality Rating: 1

- [ ] Accrediation

Program Duration:

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

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HOURS:	*Year-round*	*School-Year*	*Summer Only*
Sunday			
Monday	7:00 AM to 6:00 PM		
Tuesday	7:00 AM to 6:00 PM		
Wednesday	7:00 AM to 6:00 PM		
Thursday	7:00 AM to 6:00 PM		
Friday	7:00 AM to 6:00 PM		
Saturday			

Program Population Served:

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

LICENSE CAPACITY	Infants	2 Years	Preschool	School-Aged	Capacity
General			64		64
Summer					0

1. Basic Overview

I completed an unannounced visit at the Hinton Little Hawks Program on 05/12/26. Although the program director, Ms. Boeve, was ill and unavailable, I was able to meet with the lead teacher, Tanya Breyfogle. Ms. Breyfogle has many years of experience working with preschool-aged children. She and another staff member have completed CPI training. CPI training helps staff recognize early signs of challenging behavior and use calm, preventative strategies to keep situations from escalating. It also provides safe, non-harmful intervention techniques for use only as a last resort. Overall, CPI strengthens staff confidence and supports a safe, positive environment for children and staff.

Hinton Little Hawks serves children ages 3 and 4 and utilizes three classrooms within the Hinton Elementary School. The program operates Monday through Friday, offering extended childcare from 7:00 a.m. to 8:30 a.m. and again from 3:15 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. Preschool instructional hours run from 8:30 a.m. to 3:15 p.m.

All areas of the program were observed consisting of classroom observations and activities, nutritional practices, health and safety practices, playground observation, field trip and transportation practices, and administrative review.

The preschool utilizes the GOLD assessment system and follows the Iowa QPPS standards. The GOLD program is a research-based assessment tool that helps teachers observe, document, and track each child's developmental progress. QPPS (Quality Preschool Program Standards) provide a framework to ensure high-quality early childhood practices in curriculum, environment, health and safety, and family partnerships.

Each classroom is well-organized with clearly defined learning centers. The rooms include creative, hands-on activities, many sensory opportunities, and a variety of visual supports to reinforce learning. One room features a small tree house that

children use for reading and imaginative play. Teachers incorporate multiple teaching ideas into weekly projects. For example, during a recent parent night, children completed activities about their homes and gardening. They explored how rain and sunlight help grass grow, and once the grass sprouted, the children practiced fine motor skills by trimming it before taking the project home.

During today's visit, I observed the "Question of the Day," which asked, "Who likes to go fishing?" Children moved their name cards to either "yes" or "no," supporting early literacy recognition, decision-making, and independence skills. One classroom used a "share bag" activity focused on early math skills. The child assigned the share bag brought seven items from home, and the group counted the items together. This activity supports number recognition, counting skills, and verbal communication. I also observed effective classroom management. When the children became excited and loud, the teacher demonstrated strong skills in calmly redirecting the group and bringing everyone back on task.

They encourage family engagement by displaying photos of children's families and pets, and they host a holiday program for parents. All classrooms display the alphabet, colors, daily schedules, children's artwork, and a variety of other learning materials. Staff use PBIS strategies for guidance and discipline. PBIS (Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports) is a proactive approach that teaches and reinforces positive behaviors, helps prevent challenging behaviors, and promotes a consistent, supportive environment for children.

The Hinton Elementary School provides breakfast, lunch, and snacks for the program. All food was observed to be stored properly, and the center follows CACFP guidelines to ensure nutritionally balanced meals. Current menus were posted. The school nurse is responsible for managing and administering all medications for the center.

Staff and children follow appropriate handwashing procedures. The first aid kit is fully stocked and sufficient for treating minor injuries. Monthly fire and tornado drills are documented. Good sanitary practices were observed throughout the center, and a cleaning schedule with a sign-off sheet is maintained. The fuel-burning inspection has been completed, and radon testing results were within normal range. The center also has a working carbon monoxide detector.

A fenced playground is located adjacent to the preschool. The center has recently updated the playground, adding new climbing equipment, poured rubber surfacing, turf, two shade structures, and well-maintained outdoor toys. The playground includes climbing structures, slides, tricycles, balls, and a sandbox, as well as a dedicated riding track for tricycles. Monthly playground inspections are completed and documented. The center uses the school district's bus service for field trips. All transportation is arranged through the school, and appropriate safety procedures are followed.

Their goal is to increase their IQ4K certification level.

2. Identify Observed Strengths of the program

The center benefits from a team of long-term, experienced staff members who bring strong professional skills to the program. Several staff have formal education or training in early childhood development, and others have extensive hands-on experience working with preschool-aged children. Staff maintain required Iowa DHS training, including mandatory reporter training, CPR and First Aid, and continuing education hours. In addition, key staff have completed specialized training such as CPI (Crisis Prevention Institute) and PBIS (Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports), which strengthen their ability to support children's social-emotional needs and manage the classroom effectively. Their established relationships with each other and with families contribute to a stable, collaborative, and supportive learning environment for children.

3. Identify the aspects that fall below the standard

109.9(2)d: All files contain sufficient information and authorization to allow the center to secure emergency medical and dental services at any time child is in center's care.

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.

CHILD CARE CENTER ANNUAL EVALUATION

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

5. Special Notes/Recommendations

Targeted Assessment: Behavior Management

I discussed with Ms. Breyfogle about their oversight of behavior management related to helping childcare staff: 1) Understand expectations, 2) managing frustrations, 3) monitor performance.

She shared that the longevity of the staff allows them to understand their own stress points and communicate effectively with one another. When a staff member feels overwhelmed, they are comfortable letting a coworker know they need a brief break, which supports a calm and collaborative environment. The center has two special education teachers on staff, both of whom are trained in CPI. In addition, all staff are trained in PBIS. Both CPI and PBIS focus on de-escalation, positive behavior support, and strategies to safely redirect children when needed.

A full license is recommended at this time at this time.

At least one visit will be made to the center during the next year.

Date: 05/12/2026

HHS Licensing Consultant: Leann Steinhauer

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**.