Health and Human Services

Iowa Department of Health And Human Services

CHILD CARE CENTER ANNUAL EVALUATION

Name of Center: St Edwards Before & After School

Provider No.: 22663

Address: 139 E Mitchell AVE, Waterloo, IA, 50702

County: Black Hawk

Director's Name: Cherith Oesterling

On-Site Supervisor: Becky Bedard & Kaylee Holthaus

Phone Number: 3192366131

E-Mail: coesterling@cvcatholic.org

HHS Visit Date: 10/09/2026

Licensing Period: 11/01/2025 to 11/01/2027

Fire Inspection:

Date Inspected: 10/12/2026

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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HOURS:	*Year-round*	*School-Year*	*Summer Only*
Sunday			
Monday		6:30 AM to 5:30 PM	
Tuesday		6:30 AM to 5:30 PM	
Wednesday		6:30 AM to 5:30 PM	
Thursday		6:30 AM to 5:30 PM	
Friday		6:30 AM to 5:30 PM	
Saturday			

Program Population Served:

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

LICENSE CAPACITY	Infants	2 Years	Preschool	School-Aged	Capacity
General	0	0	0	75	75
Summer					0

1. Basic Overview

On 10/09/26 I made an unannounced off year licensing visit to St. Edwards Before and After School program in Waterloo. I met with Kaylee Holthaus, an on-site supervisor who works in the morning and afternoon. Becky Bedard is also an on-site supervisor. Ms. Bedard woks in the afternoons. Ms. Bedard has been employed by CVCS Early Childhood Program since September 2020 as a childcare teacher. She started at the St. Edward's program in August 2024. Cherith Oesterling is the director of the program. Ms. Oesterling started with the program in December 2019 and became the director in Marh 2026. She worked at a previous child care center for nine years. There are four staff member present at the program during the morning hours of operation and six staff members present in the afternoon.

The program operates Monday through Friday from 6:30 until 8:30 am and 3:45 pm until 5:30 pm during the school year. They operate from 6:30 am until 5:30 pm on no school days. They do not operate during the summer months. It serves only school-aged children. The program is in St. Edward's Catholic Elementary School. The program moved into the school during the 2020-2021 school year. There are currently 100 children enrolled.

The program operates out of one room and has use of the gym and cafeteria. An inspection of each room/space was completed. Windows provide natural lighting. I visited the program during the morning hours. The program was within ratio during my visit.

The centers observed on the day of the licensing visit include library, Lego/blocks, table toys, games, puzzles, transportation, art, writing, math, science/discovery and music and movement. Centers were arranged in a manner that allowed easy movement between activities, but it also allowed for clear supervision by staff members. Materials were in good condition. The materials are located at child level so they are easily accessible to the children.

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The program uses the Brightwheel app to communicate with parents and to sign children in and out of the program. Staff members also use the app to communicate with one another.

There was a phone in the classroom. You must post emergency numbers that include the poison control number and the program's address and phone number near the phone. Emergency fire and tornado procedures and evacuation diagrams were posted near the main program doors and outdoor exits in the classroom and gym. The emergency diagram must be posted near the exit to the school inside the gym. A daily schedule was posted at the entrance.

The program uses bathrooms near the childcare entrance. The girls' bathroom has two toilets and two sinks and the boys' bathroom has two toilets, two urinals and two sinks. Handwashing procedures were posted in the boys' bathroom but must be posted in the girls' bathroom. There is also a bathroom available in the gym. The bathroom has one toilet and one sink. Handwashing procedures were not posted. You must post handwashing procedures in this bathroom near the sinks. There are additional bathrooms in the school.

I reviewed documentation of monthly fire and tornado drills. There are multiple missing fire and tornado drills. This is a serious and repeated offense. During the 2025-2026 school year there were no fire drills in August, September, November, January, or May. There were no tornado drills in August, September, November, January, April, or May. Missing drills occurred after my visit last year when it was specifically addressed in my report that drills must be practiced every month.

Monthly playground inspections are completed by Waterloo Leisure Services because the playground is owned by the city. The program needs to receive documentation from the city to verify for licensing that playground inspections are completed. Otherwise, the program must complete monthly playground inspections.

The radon test was completed in November 2025 and is good for five years. Results were within EPA guidelines.

The fuel burning inspection was completed and no concerns were noted.

A carbon monoxide detector was on site in the room for the older children. Outlets were protected. The fire marshal inspection occurred on 10/12/26.

The center has a complete first-aid kit and it is replenished as necessary.

The program is not on the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) but follows the guidelines. The children are not provided with breakfast. They are released to the school at 8:00 am if they want to eat breakfast. The children are provided with an after-school snack. Snack is provided by the childcare center. Snack menus were available for review in the cafeteria and CACFP guidelines are followed. Ms. Holthaus makes a new menu every week.

The childcare program is open on "no school" days. On those days the center does not provide the children with breakfast but does provide a morning and afternoon snack and lunch. Parents pay a fee for lunch and it comes from BMAP School. Children can also bring a cold lunch from home.

The children eat in the school cafeteria. There was a refrigerator and a thermometer was present. Food items were stored according to NHSPS guidelines. Disposable products are used so dishwashing is not necessary.

The center uses Hillyard QT3 Sanitizer to sanitize the food tables and toys.

The parent information is located on a window where the children enter the daycare. The mandatory reporter information was posted. My contact information with information about how to obtain HHS licensing standards and the license were not posted. These items are mandated and must be posted on the parent board. A no-smoking sign was posted at the entrance.

The children are using the playground used by the elementary school. It is owned by the city. There is a large grassy area behind the school. There are three separate areas with play equipment. Woodchips are used for fall surfacing. Two of the areas have swings. One area has monkey bars, parallel bars, slides and a bridge. Trees and the building provide shade.

There is a large concrete area with basketball hoops that is part of the school. There is a picnic table for the children to rest.

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I reviewed children's files. The current health statement being used by the program has a statement that the children have a current immunization certificate. This does not meet HHS requirements. The center must either obtain a copy of the immunization certificate or the health statement must have a statement that current immunization certificates are on site with the school. Saying they are current is not adequate.

2. Identify Observed Strengths of the program

There were three staff members present on the morning of my visit. One staff member was caring for children in the classroom and there were two staff members in the gym. One of the staff members was responsible for monitoring the door and letting children in as they arrived. Staff members communicate with two way radios. Children can move between the gym and the classroom. In the gym, most of the children were playing a group game and other children were drawing on the side of the gym. In the classroom the children enjoy center activities. Staff members had positive interaction with the children. They were actively engaged with the children. Positive redirection was used when necessary.

Ms. Holthaus states the children are learning the routines and expectations. The children are better at listening and not screaming.

Ms. Holthaus states staff members are good at spreading out to provide supervision. She states when they are on the playground they have zones.

Ms. Holthaus states during the mornings the children play group games in the gym or they can do center activities in the classroom. If the weather is nice, they take the children outside in the afternoon.

The program uses the Brightwheel app to communicate with parents and to sign children in and out of the program. Staff members also use the app to communicate with one another.

Having childcare at the school allows parents to know their children are safe and parents do not need to worry about transportation for their children.

3. Identify the aspects that fall below the standard

109.4(2): Postings are required for:The certificate of license.Notice of exposure to communicable disease.Notice of decision to deny, suspend, or revoke center license or reduce to provisional status.Mandatory reporting requirements.Notice of availability of the handbook.Name and contact information of the HHS licensing consultant.Program activities and menus.All postings shall be conspicuously placed at the main entrance of the center.
My contact information with information about how to obtain HHS licensing standards and the license must be posted on the parent board.

109.10(13)b: Emergency instructions, phone numbers, and diagrams for fire, tornado, and flood shall be visibly posted and documented at least once a month for fire and tornado. Records shall be maintained for current and previous year.
There are multiple missing fire and tornado drills. This is a serious and repeated offense. During the 2025-2026 school year there were no fire drills in August, September, November, January, or May. There were no tornado drills in August, September, November, January, April, or May. Missing drills occurred after my visit last year when it was specifically addressed in my report that drills must be practiced every month. The emergency diagram must be posted near the exit to the school inside the gym.

109.11(4)b: Record of monthly inspections of outdoor recreation area and equipment shall be kept.
Monthly playground inspections are completed by Waterloo Leisure Services because the playground is owned by the city. The program needs to receive documentation from the city to verify for licensing that playground inspections are completed. Otherwise, the program must complete monthly playground inspections.

109.11(6): Telephone: Working phone with posting adjacent for emergency numbers for police, fire, and poison control center. Center street address and phone included in posting.List of emergency numbers for children kept near phone.
There was a phone in the classroom. You must post emergency numbers that include the poison control number and the

program's address and phone number near the phone.

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

N/A

5. Special Notes/Recommendations

A full license is issued for the remainder of the licensing period. All HHS licensing standards and procedures must be maintained during the renewal period.

Playground inspections have not been completed yet this school year. They must be completed every month. Ms. Holthaus states Waterloo Leisure Service inspect the equipment once a week. If this is the case you are free to use their documentation if they are willing to give you copies.

There are multiple missing fire and tornado drills. This is a serious offense. During the 2025-2026 school year there were no fire drills in August, September, November, January, or May. Thee were no tornado drills in August, September, November, January, April, or May. The school year started 08/24/26 and there was no fire drill in August and no tornado drill completed in August or September. This program will be placed on a provisional license if fire and tornado dills are not practiced monthly the remainder of the school year.

You are required to have a parent board. This program has their parent information on the doors to the entrance of the program. My contact information with information about how to obtain HHS licensing standards and the license must be posted on the parent board.

The current health statement being used by the program has a statement that the children have a current immunization certificate. This does not meet HHS requirements. The center must either obtain a copy of the immunization certificate or the health statement must have a statement that current immunization certificates are on site with the school. Saying they are current is not adequate.

The program has a licensing binder but it is not current. Please update the binder so that it has current information for my licensing visits.

Targeted Assessment: Behavior Management:
I discussed with Ms. Holthaus her oversight of behavior management related to helping childcare staff: 1) Understand expectations, 2) managing frustrations, 3) monitor performance. Ms. Holthaus states over the summer they came up with a "three strike plan" for dealing with difficult behaviors. They communicate with Ms. Oesterling about concerns. Ms. Holthaus states they typically have an extra staff member scheduled so that a staff member can take a break when they are necessary. Ms. Holthaus states she has learned to take a breath and continue. She states it helps to have worked at the program for eight years and she has built relationships with the children.

To monitor the situation, Ms. Holthaus states she is present at the program during the morning and afternoon hours of operation. She states Ms. Bedard is mostly present in the afternoon. She states all the staff members are comfortable coming to her or Ms. Bedard if they are having problems with a child. Ms. Holthaus states she knows the personalities of the staff members and knows how they will respond.

An administrative change is being made to name Cherith Oesterling as the director. She has been in the director role since March 2026 and was approved in August 2026.

Date: 10/15/2026

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HHS Licensing Consultant: Becky Frost

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**.