Health and Human Services

Iowa Department of Health And Human Services

CHILD CARE CENTER ANNUAL EVALUATION

Name of Center: Clover Patch Day Care

Provider No.: 45179

Address: 802 Main St, Cedar Falls, IA, 50613

County: Black Hawk

Director's Name: Jon Wiebers

On-Site Supervisor: Meagan Slee

Phone Number: 3192776781

E-Mail: jwiebers@cfcatholicschool.org

HHS Visit Date: 04/28/2026

Licensing Period: 05/01/2025 to 05/01/2027

Fire Inspection:

Date Inspected: 01/12/2026

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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Program Population Served:

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

LICENSE CAPACITY	Infants	2 Years	Preschool	School-Aged	Capacity
General	0	0	60	0	60
Summer					0

1. Basic Overview

On 04/28/26 I made an unannounced licensing visit to Clover Patch Daycare in Cedar Falls. I met with Meagan Slee, the on-site supervisor. I also met with Jon Wiebers, the director and principal at St. Patrick Catholic School. Mr. Wiebers started with the program in August 2022. He has a master's degree in educational administration. Mr. Wiebers was previously the director of two preschool programs where he was the superintendent of the schools. The program employs six staff members between the childcare program and preschool class. This program had been operated under the Department of Education and became licensed under the Department of Human Services in May 2015.

The center is in a free-standing building. The program operates Monday through Friday from 8:00 am until 5:30 pm and serves preschool children. There is a preschool class for three-year-olds on Tuesday and Thursday from 8:15-11:15 am. There is a preschool class for older three-year-olds and four-year-olds on Monday, Wednesday and Friday morning from 8:15-11:15 am. There is a program for four and five-year-old Pre-K children on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday from 12:15-3:15 pm. There are currently 49 children enrolled. Children must be enrolled in preschool to attend the daycare program. The program only operates during the school year.

The program primarily operates out of two rooms. One room serves the preschool classes, and one room is for childcare. They also have a room to use for childcare overflow and it also has centers and gross motor activities when they cannot go outside. Children also nap in this room on Wednesdays. An inspection of each room was provided. Windows provide natural lighting. The rooms are decorated with the children's art projects, and posters to assist the children with the learning process, such as the alphabet. The children's birthdays were posted. There is an area for circle time in the preschool class.

The centers observed on the day of the licensing visit include library, blocks/Legos, table toys, games, puzzles, transportation, art, dramatic play, listening, computers, writing, math, science/discovery, sensory table and music. 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.

Carrie Zehentner is the lead teacher in the preschool room. Ms. Zehentner has a BA in early childhood and elementary education. Kim Johnson-Herbst is the assistant in the preschool class. Meagan Slee is the primary staff member in the childcare room.

There is one sink in the preschool room. Handwashing procedures were posted. There are two bathrooms for use by the children on the north side of the program. There is one toilet and one sink in each bathroom and handwashing procedures were posted in each location. There is a bathroom in the childcare room that has one toilet, and one sink and procedures were posted. There is also a staff bathroom.

Mats are used to nap and they are stored appropriately.

The childcare program provides lunch and a morning and afternoon snack. Lunch is provided by St. Patrick Catholic School. A staff member from the childcare program must go to the school to pick up lunch. This transition time is very busy and there are several children together. I mentioned it last year and it seems more prudent this year with more children present during the transition; it would be beneficial if someone from the school delivered the meal to the site. Or perhaps you could seek volunteers in the community to help with this task so staff members can focus on the children during this chaotic time.

St. Patrick Catholic School is part of the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP). The childcare/preschool program is not part of CACFP. Lunch and snack menus were posted. Children have the option of bringing cold lunches from home as well. The children can eat breakfast at the Circle of Care program at St. Patrick's Catholic School prior to being transported to Clover Patch Day Care.

The school provides a snack for the morning and afternoon preschool classes. Snack calendars were available to review. There are a refrigerator and a milk cooler on site and thermometers were present. Food items were stored according to NHSPS guidelines. Dishes are sent back to St. Patrick Catholic School to be put through the dishwasher. There is also a dishwasher on site. The kitchen was observed to be clean and well maintained.

The program uses Clean by Peroxy All Purpose Hydrogen Peroxide Cleaner in place of soap and water. They are using R-T-U Quaternary FCS Sanitizer on the food tables. They then use disinfecting wipes to sanitize toys and tables in the classrooms.

The preschool uses the Creative Curriculum to develop lesson plans and complete the GOLD assessments on the children. Ms. Zehentner uses Scholastic charts to teach the alphabet, numbers and the months of the year. The program is Christian based and Ms. Zehentner uses God Made Me and A Child's First Bible for the religious curriculum. Parent conferences are offered in the fall and spring for the four and five-year-old children. The parents of the three-year-old children receive conference information via paper in the spring, not face to face. The daycare portion of the program does not develop lesson plans because they only care for the children who are in preschool, so the children receive the necessary educational activities during that time. Daycare is primarily free play and crafts. A lesson plan was available for review in the preschool room. The length of the study varies depending on the topic and the children's interest level.

There was a phone with emergency numbers and the program's address and phone number in each room. Emergency fire and tornado procedures and evacuation diagrams were posted by the main program doors and outdoor exits in the program. A daily schedule was posted in both rooms.

I reviewed documentation of monthly fire and tornado drills. I reviewed documentation of monthly playground inspections. A radon test was completed in April 2025 and is good for five years. Results were within EPA guidelines. The annual fuel burning inspection was completed and no concerns were reported. A carbon monoxide detector is in the daycare room on the cubbies and in the entrance of the preschool room. Outlets were protected. The fire marshal inspection occurred on 01/12/26.

The parent information is located on a bulletin board inside the entrance of the daycare and inside the entrance near the preschool, near the cubbies. The childcare consultant and the handbook availability were posted. The license was conspicuously hung. A no-smoking sign was posted at the entrance.

The program has a fenced-in playground area. Rubber tiles are used for fall surfacing. There is a piece of climbing equipment with slides and other activities. There is a concrete area with a basketball hoop. A bench and picnic table are available for the children to rest.

2. Identify Observed Strengths of the program

Staff members on the childcare side and the preschool side are all amazing. They have great teamwork, not only in their own space but with one another. They have great communication so children have a smooth transition from childcare to preschool and vice versa. Staff members modeled good manners and thanked the children when they used good manners. In

the childcare room the staff member moved around the space to provide careful supervision. They are using a second room because of the large number of children. Children are assigned centers and rotate. Toys were removed when a child put them in her mouth and the toys were sanitized. Staff members interacted with the children at their level and they were encouraged to use their imaginations. Positive redirection was used when necessary. In the preschool room the children were beginning circle time when I arrived. The children were learning about the letter "K" and they sang a song for the letter. They then sang songs as they reviewed the previous letters they learned. A child rolled a large dice to decide what the children would do for exercise. Then Ms. Zehentner read the children a book. She used a stuffed animal to make the story more animated. The children then went outside. Staff members were patient and had calming voices. They provided the children with praise.

Ms. Zehentner informed me that they will be adding a co-lead teacher to her preschool classroom next year and she is excited to have the assistance. Ms. Johnson-Herbst will remain with the program but it is unknown if she will be in the childcare room or the preschool room.

Ms. Slee does a great job of managing the program. She is organized and makes the most of the situation when things become chaotic.

Ms. Slee and Ms. Zehentner work well together to make sure transitions run smoothly between their two rooms.

The program is in a secure building.

The children who receive morning childcare at the Circle of Care program at St. Patrick's Catholic School are bussed over to the childcare program. Two staff members from the childcare program ride on the bus with the children.

3. Identify the aspects that fall below the standard

N/A

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.

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Targeted Assessment: Behavior Management:
I discussed with Mr. Wiebers, the director/principal, the oversight of behavior management related to helping childcare staff: 1) Understand expectations, 2) managing frustrations, 3) monitor performance. Mr. Wiebers states he has a meeting with staff members at the beginning of the school year on how to address concerns if they arise. The expectation is that staff members will contact him and he will help. He wants to be hands-on. Mr. Wiebers states he tries to make unannounced visits to the program two or three times each week.

Date: 04/30/2026

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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**.