Health and Human Services

Iowa Department of Health And Human Services

CHILD CARE CENTER ANNUAL EVALUATION

Name of Center: Little River Hawks

Provider No.: 51148

Address: 439 Wilson ST, Miles, IA, 52064

County: Jackson

Director's Name: Taylor Olson

On-Site Supervisor:

Phone Number: 5636827131

E-Mail: taylor.olson@eastonvalleycsd.com

HHS Visit Date: 05/19/2026

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

Fire Inspection:

Date Inspected: 07/18/2023

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

Health and Human Services

Iowa Department of Health And Human Services

CHILD CARE CENTER ANNUAL EVALUATION

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:

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

LICENSE CAPACITY	Infants	2 Years	Preschool	School-Aged	Capacity
General	19	22	30	20	91
Summer					0

1. Basic Overview

An unannounced licensing visit was completed at this center on 5/19/26. Taylor Olson is the center director and was present along with other staff on the day of this visit. Taylor is qualified with a bachelor's degree in family services, has worked at this center for six years (director for four years and assistant director/preschool teacher for the two years prior to that), and worked at another licensed center for two to three years prior to working at this center. This center is owned and operated by the Easton Valley School District. The center director reports to Chris Fee, the superintendent of the school district. The center occupies several rooms within the school building and offers care to children infant through school age on a year round basis including before and after school care. The center director notes that a portion of the before and after school care for school age children is provided by a grant that is exempt from child care licensing, however, the center continues to provide child care for some school age children when that program is not in session. The center director states the center uses the Experience Curriculum offered through Brightwheel for toddlers through preschool age children. She states she uses Chat GPT for the infant curriculum looking for activities that meet the Iowa Early Learning Standards and Teaching Strategies Gold. She states they also use AI searches to create the school age curriculum.
The center reports enrollment of 55 children at the time of the visit.

The center includes the following program rooms: Preschool room (three year old preschool, three through five year old child care), toddler room (18 months through two years), infant room (six weeks to 18 months). The library as approved space for school age child care (up to 20 children). The center director states the library is available to the program and only the program during the center's hours of operation when needed for school age children. The center director states that the school age children will eat in the cafeteria. All program rooms provide ample space for activities. The infant and toddler rooms are bright with large windows. The preschool room includes three adjacent restroom areas (one toilet and one hand washing sink each), one diaper station within the program room, and one hand washing sink within the program room.

CHILD CARE CENTER ANNUAL EVALUATION

The toddler room includes one diapering station and two hand washing sinks within the program room. Children from the toddler room have to travel next door to the preschool room to use the restroom area. The infant room includes two diapering stations and two hand washing sinks within the program room.

The center is able to use the school gymnasium for indoor large motor activities if/when it is available.

The center does not participate in the CACFP. The center serves breakfast, lunch, snack, and a later afternoon snack. Breakfast and lunch are prepared in the school cafeteria IDPH licensed kitchen by school kitchen staff on school days. For other days the center uses a staff person who functions primarily as a cook staff for the center but is also employed with the school in the kitchen area during the school year. The center purchases this service from the school. This is by contract arrangement between the center and the school. The center purchases and prepares their snacks.

2. Identify Observed Strengths of the program

The program rooms continue to provide ample space. Two of the rooms are bright with windows. The center is providing a needed service to the community. The staff were observed to be engaged with the children in program activities. The center has installed pour in place surfacing for the entire outdoor play area. Staff and child files, other required licensing documentation, and the center's written policies are generally well organized.

3. Identify the aspects that fall below the standard

109.7(2): Center directors and all staff have the required contact hours of training.
1. _1_ staff file reviewed does not have evidence that the annual training hours requirement is being met. Six hours of creditable training are required annually for regular staff.

109.9(1)a: All files contain:Copy of a department criminal history record check form or any other permission form approved by Department of Public Safety for conducting an Iowa or national criminal history record checkCopy of a request for child abuse information form, when applicable.Copies of results of Iowa record checks conducted through the SING for review by the department upon request.Copies of national criminal history check results.Any department issued documents sent to the center related to a record check, regardless of findings.
1. _1_ staff file did not have the Iowa record check completed prior to the staff's involvement with child care. The center director is reminded then that the Iowa record check is due to be completed every two years thereafter.

109.9(1)b: All files contain a pre-employment physical exam report completed within six months prior to hire and at least every three years. Physical exams shall be documented on form 470-5152, Child Care Provider Physical Examination Report.
1. _1_ staff file reviewed physical was completed March 2024 and staff hired August 2025.
2. _1_ staff file reviewed physical was not documented on the required form.

109.9(2)h: Signed and dated valid Certificate of Immunization, Certificate of Immunization Exemption, or Provisional Certificate of Immunization, provided by the department must be on file for each child enrolled as required by Iowa Administrative Code 641—7.
1. _4_ immunization certificates were not valid. Valid certificate is required to be on site prior to the child attending the center (IDPH form signed and dated by the medical personnel).

109.12(4)b: Each infant and toddler shall be diapered in a sanitary manner as frequently as needed at a central diapering area. Diapering, sanitation, and hand-washing procedures shall be posted and implemented in every diapering area. There shall be at least one changing table for every 15 infants.
1. Review diaper changing procedures as they are posted. Remove gloves before putting on the clean diaper. Staff shall wash hands after cleaning the diaper station.

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

N/A

CHILD CARE CENTER ANNUAL EVALUATION

5. Special Notes/Recommendations

Targeted Assessment: Behavior Management
I discussed with (director) their oversight of behavior management related to helping childcare staff: 1) Understand expectations, 2) managing frustrations, 3) monitor performance.
The center director provided the following responses:
1) Staff are trained on our behavior guidance policies, positive behavior support strategies, and developmentally appropriate expectations for children. We encourage teachers to ask questions and collaborate with each other and myself on effective strategies. I also model appropriate interactions in the classroom so staff can see expectations in practice. In addition to this, we receive support from the school social worker on how to work with our kids on their social emotional development, which plays a large factor in behavior management.
2) I encourage self-awareness and recognition of early signs of frustration, such as feeling overwhelmed, raising their voice, or becoming impatient. We discuss the importance of remaining calm because children often mirror adult emotions. Not only that, but they also tend to take on the responsibility of adults' feelings and emotions as well. We also really encourage de-escalation strategies such as taking a deep breath, speaking in a calm tone, lowering to the child's eye level, offering choices, and asking another staff member or myself to step in briefly if they need a moment to regroup.
3) I monitor behavior management through regular classroom observations, informal walkthroughs, and ongoing communication with staff. During observations, I look for positive interactions, consistent implementation of behavior guidance strategies, and how staff respond to challenging behaviors. I provide timely feedback, celebrate strengths, and offer coaching when improvements are needed. I also review incident reports and parent concerns to identify patterns and determine if additional training or support is necessary. My goal is to help staff grow professionally while ensuring children experience a safe, supportive, and respectful learning environment

The center was reminded of allowable age combinations now that their Exception To Policy has expired. Two year old children may not be combined with four year old children, and three year old children may not be combined with school age children unless under the very specific rule 109.8(2)h for the very beginning and/or end of the day with only the number of children and staff present at the center as defined by the rule. The center will need to ensure compliance.

1. Ensure staff training certifications are completed timely as required.
2. Later afternoon snack needs to be added to some of the posted schedules.
3. Ensure menu substitutions are noted on any posted menu that is visible to parents.
4. Ensure a staff remains at the table when children are eating.

The center will continue with a full license. The center is directed to correct the items cited and the items noted above in this section of the report and to submit a written summary to the licensing consultant as to how and when those corrections are/will be completed. The written summary shall be submitted within 30 days of receipt of this evaluation. Thank you.

Date: 06/30/2026

HHS Licensing Consultant: Heidi Hungate

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**.