Health and Human Services

Iowa Department of Health And Human Services

CHILD CARE CENTER ANNUAL EVALUATION

Name of Center: Little Charger Early Learning Center

Provider No.: 31551

Address: 203 Park AVE, Guthrie Center, IA, 50115

County: Guthrie

Director's Name: Kimla Buttler

On-Site Supervisor:

Phone Number: 6413322028

E-Mail: littlechargerearlylearning@gmail.com

HHS Visit Date: 11/17/2025

Licensing Period: 12/01/2025 to 12/01/2027

Fire Inspection:

Date Inspected: 01/23/2025

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	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
- [X] All Ages

LICENSE CAPACITY	Infants	2 Years	Preschool	School-Aged	Capacity
General	16	12	24	30	82
Summer					0

1. Basic Overview

An unannounced licensing visit was made to Little Charger Early Learning Center on 11/17/25. Kimla Buttler is the director. She began working at the center in February 2023. She has a degree in Criminal Justice and has her NAAC certification. She has six years' experience in child care. Little Charger Early Learning Center moved to their beautiful new building on June 3rd, 2024. It is located next to their old location. Child care services are provided for infant age to school age children 6:30 AM to 5:30 PM Monday through Friday. The center is owned by the school and is overseen by a Board. There are 57 children enrolled in the center. I met with Kimla Buttler during my visit. Madison Crowder is in charge when Kimla is gone. She is the assistant director.

Observation rooms:
There are five programming rooms: infant room, 1 year old room, 2-year-old room, 3/4-year-old room, and school age room. The programming rooms look great and have a fun variety of age and developmentally appropriate toys and equipment. The new building has a lot of storage including car seat storage, offices, laundry room, and a staff break room. The infant room serves 6 weeks to one year old children. There was only one garbage can in the room. Soiled diapers shall be stored in containers separate from other waste. Toys are sanitized a couple of times a week. All hard-surface toys used by children shall be sanitized daily. The 2-year-old room wasn't being used at the time of my visit. The 2- and 3-year-olds were combined on the day of my visit due to staffing shortage on this date. All rooms were in ratio. The children were having fun playing and some were napping. Staff had excellent interactions with the children. They were attentive to the needs of the children. The school age room did not have lesson plans. The center shall have a written curriculum that uses developmentally appropriate practices and a written program of activities planned according to the developmental level of the children. Three-year-old preschool is offered on Tuesdays and Thursdays on days the school age children are not present. The center uses the Playground app. The teachers and Madison create the lesson plans and enter into the

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Playground App. Kimla said the preschool teacher has really good lesson plans. She's been teaching for many years. Daily sheets looked good. The center participates in IQ4K level 1.

Nutrition:
Madison and Kimla cook for the center. Iowa Extension Office provides free meals three days a week in the summer. The children had to walk to the extension office so it is only for the older children. Proper food storage was not observed. Please make sure food is sealed in an airtight container after opening. The center is on the federal food program. Menus are posted.

Health and safety:
The center is following the 3-step bottle procedure for sanitizing and disinfecting - 1. Soap/water for cleaning, 2. Water for rinsing, and 3. Purell Surface is used for sanitizing and disinfecting. Monthly fire/tornado drills are practiced and documented although they did not have documentation for one monthly tornado drill. Please practice and document fire/tornado drills monthly. The building has all electrical appliances. Radon testing was completed in July 2024 and was in the acceptable range. Testing needs to be done every five years as long as the test scores are under a 4.0 pCi/L. The medication management procedures are followed when a child is prescribed medication. Staff are familiar with emergency policies and procedures.

Playground:
The center has two playground areas - one for the younger children and one for the older children. A fence was installed in June 2024. There is a playground for two years and under and one for the three years and up. The playground for the older children has climbing equipment and has rubber mulch for fall surfacing. The school age kids will play on the younger playground if they want to play ball but never when the younger kids are playing. The younger playground had a broken toy and one riding toy with no handles. I informed Kimla to get rid of both which she agreed would be done. Playground safety inspections have not been completed.

Transportation:
The center doesn't provide transportation services.

Administrative records:
Six children's files were read. Four were missing annual physical exams and/or the annual statement of health. One was missing their current immunizations form. They are on the Playground app and the emergency contact information is kept in the programming rooms. Three staff files were read. Kimla was missing a current first aid/CPR certification and another was missing their physical exam. The center has an active and supportive board. Monthly staff meetings are held and Kimla has daily contact with staff. Some staff participate in the WAGE$ program.

2. Identify Observed Strengths of the program

The new center opened on June 3rd, 2024. Kimla and the staff are proud of the beautiful new center. The center is an excellent resource for the community. The center has received services from Child Care Resource and Referral in the past. The center uses the Playground app. The center participates in IQ4K level 1. The center receives grants. Kimla identified their strengths as there is not a lot of turnover and everybody is willing to help. Their goals are to add more playground equipment, fall surfacing, and shade tarps. They want to increase their enrollment. They just received a grant for more preschool curriculum.

3. Identify the aspects that fall below the standard

109.7(2): Staff are required to have CPR/First Aid certification every two years. Kimla's was overdue.

109.9(1)b: One staff member did not have a current physical on file.

109.9(2)i: All children not enrolled in kindergarten or above are required to have an annual physical. All school age children are required to have an annual statement of health signed by the parent/guardian.

109.10(3): The infant room only had one garbage can. Soiled diapers shall be stored in containers separate from other waste.

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109.11(4)b: Monthly playground inspections should be completed and documented monthly. Monthly playground inspections were not being completed or documented. All unsafe toys and equipment should be removed. There were two riding toys that were not safe that needed to be removed.

109.12(1): The school age room did not have lesson plans. Every programming room should have lesson plans.

109.12(4)d: Staff in the infant room reported toys are sanitized a couple of times a week. All hard-surface toys used by children shall be sanitized daily.

109.13(5)b: Food was not being properly stored. All food must be stored in an airtight container after being opened.

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 12/1/25 to 12/1/27.

Date: 11/21/2025

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**.