Health and Human Services

Iowa Department of Health And Human Services

CHILD CARE CENTER ANNUAL EVALUATION

Name of Center: Wee Ones Christian Preschool

Provider No.: 22852

Address: 420 1st Ave NE, Hampton, IA, 50441

County: Franklin

Director's Name: Mary Mollenbeck

On-Site Supervisor:

Phone Number: 6414568471

E-Mail: weeoneschristianpreschool@gmail.com

HHS Visit Date: 03/24/2026

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

Fire Inspection:

Date Inspected: 01/12/2023

Comments: The fire inspection certificate would be considered expired. Notice was sent to the Fire Marshal on 04-10-26 requesting a copy of a renewed inspection certificate.

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			
Tuesday		8:15 AM to 11:45 AM	
Wednesday			
Thursday		8:15 AM to 11:45 AM	
Friday			
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			14		14
Summer					0

1. Basic Overview

An unannounced annual visit was made to the Wee Ones Christian Preschool on 03-24-26 where I met with center director Mary Mollenbeck. Mary became the director in 2020 and is well qualified for the position having a BA, and prior experience in Early Childhood Education. The program is located in a single classroom at the Church Of The Living Word which used to be an elementary school in Hampton. The program is overseen by a board comprised of members of the host church. The program provides preschool programming for 3 year old children. The program operates in the morning 4 days a week though the majority of the children only attend a 2 day program on Tuesday & Thursday, but 4 children attend Monday & Wednesday also. There are currently 12 children enrolled in the program served by Mary as the lead teacher, and two assistant teachers, Elisa VanWert, and Sandy Aaron. All aspects of the program subject to licensing standards were reviewed.

The layout of the building and classroom remain the same as in prior visits. The room was observed to be clean with no immediate concerns noted with regard to maintenance. Windows are located along the exterior wall providing natural light, a view of the outdoors, ventilation, and also serve as secondary emergency egress. Restrooms are located off the main corridor and children are escorted to the restroom as needed. The classroom is a large open space that is divided into activity centers through the placement of furniture and play structures. The arrangement is such that it provides the children with ample room to move and play without creating any blind areas. Each center was well stocked with materials and toys that are appropriate to the ages of the children, and were observed to be in good repair.

CHILD CARE CENTER ANNUAL EVALUATION

2. Identify Observed Strengths of the program

Good interactions were observed on the day of the visit. Each child was greeted upon arrival and welcomed to the program. The teachers did appear to know each child on an individual and personal level being able to ask questions about their weekend, and home life. The program uses a curriculum that has a general learning focus, paired with specific number, letter, shape, color learning concepts, and also includes a faith based component. The current focus theme was "Insects" and the teachers did have activities that reflected that theme. Each teacher presented a very positive and energetic attitude, and spoke with the children using positive tones and word choices. The center makes effective use of proactive behavior management techniques that include routines, reminders, praise, and simple redirection. This approach was very effective in that there were no behavior issues observed. Ratio was maintained with two teachers being present which allowed one to escort children to the restroom as needed.

Good health and safety practices were observed on the day of the visit. Children were directed to wash their hands upon arrival. The teachers also provide supervision to ensure that the children wash their hands after restroom use and before snack, and also ensure that they wash in an effective manner. A first aid kit is maintained and had materials necessary to address most common first aid needs. Good cleaning practices were observed with the teachers waiting for the children to be out of the immediate area before using cleaning products, and sanitizing tables after use. Chemical cleaners, personal items, and other items that could present a safety risk to children were stored in areas where they were not accessible to the children.

Due to the limited hours of operation the program does not serve meals but snacks are provided. A menu of served snacks is maintained. Good food storage practices were observed with all foods properly stored in an air tight sealable food grade container as required once the original packaging seal had been broken.

The program has access to large open green spaces, a paved area, and a climbing structure. A manufactured woodchip product is used for fall surfacing which also meets ADA compliance requirements for handicapped accessibility. Additional material has been added since the time of the prior visit and a good depth of fall surfacing was present. The equipment was observed to be in good repair. The program also has access to an indoor gymnasium where they can play when the weather is not conducive to playing outdoors. Mature trees are present on the outdoor playground space to provide shade.

All required notices for No Smoking, Consultant Contact, License Certificate, and Mandatory Abuse Reporting were posted in an area readily visible and accessible to parents. Other required postings for emergency evacuation, emergency contacts, hand washing, daily schedule, curriculum, and menu were also present. All staff and child files were reviewed. In reviewing child files all contained current enrollment information but 1 did not have a copy of a physical. There was a note about a scheduled appointment that was set to occur after the start of the program but a copy of that updated physical had not been provided. In reviewing staff files for Mary, Elisa, and Sandy all needed to be updated for a current Iowa SING background check, and Elisa also needed a a copy of a current physical. In reviewing inspection logs and certificates a copy of Radon testing could not be located. The church office confirmed that one had been completed but they would need to contact the board member that oversees the physical facilities to obtain a copy of the results. The parent handbook was reviewed and it was noted that some policies had not been included in the most recent update.

3. Identify the aspects that fall below the standard

109.4(1): Written policies on: Enrollment and discharge. Field trips and non-center activities. Discipline/Behavior/Biting. Nutrition. Health and safety policies. Transportation if applicable. Assurance people do not have unauthorized access to children at the center. Protecting children’s confidentiality.
-- Written polices either needed to be developed or expanded to include all required information for the following elements. Transportation, Notification of Immunization Exemption, Health Response Plans, Confidentiality of Child Records, Incident Reports (injury, substantial change in functioning, sexualized behavior), and Access (parents, visitors, sex offenders).

109.6(4)c: Center repeats Iowa record checks at a minimum of every two years or when aware of additional child abuse or criminal history that occurs.
-- Documentation of Iowa SING background checks had expired for all staff.

CHILD CARE CENTER ANNUAL EVALUATION

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

Documentation with a list of all required written policies with guidance was provided to the center.

Instructions for renewing Iowa SING background checks was provided to the center. Mary stated that she would complete the background checks and provide confirmation by April 30th.

5. Special Notes/Recommendations

A full license will remain in effect at this time. Please provide a written response to the licensing consultant identifying a plan of action to correct and maintain those aspects cited as not meeting licensing standards and identifying an anticipated date of compliance. At least one visit will be made to the center during the next year.

Date: 04/10/2026

HHS Licensing Consultant: Ray Salsbury

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**.