Health and Human Services

Iowa Department of Health And Human Services

CHILD CARE CENTER ANNUAL EVALUATION

Name of Center: Crittenton Child Development Center-Orange City

Provider No.: 52635

Address: 1103 Lincoln CIR SE, Orange City, IA, 51041

County: Sioux

Director's Name: Daniela Haas

On-Site Supervisor: Indy Nelson

Phone Number: 7127373889

E-Mail: dhaas@crittentoncenter.org

HHS Visit Date: 04/08/2026

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

Fire Inspection:

Date Inspected: 08/21/2024

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
- [ ] All Ages

LICENSE CAPACITY	Infants	2 Years	Preschool	School-Aged	Capacity
General	56	44	126	57	283
Summer	56	44	110	119	329

1. Basic Overview

I completed an unannounced visit at the center on 04/08/26. I was able to speak with onsite staff member Indy Nelson. Director Daniela Haas oversees several Crittenton Center childcare sites. She brings many years of experience to her role and holds an associate degree in Early Childhood Education.

The center is located in a large building designed specifically for childcare, with multiple classrooms across two levels. The program offers both daycare and preschool services. Classrooms are brightly decorated and welcoming. The center operates Monday through Friday from 6:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. and serves children from infancy through school age (up to 5th grade). The front entrance is secured with a system that provides controlled access for parents and staff.

All areas of the program were observed, including classroom environments and activities, nutritional practices, health and safety procedures, playground spaces, field trip and transportation practices, and an administrative review. Head Start partners with the center and maintains a classroom within the building.

There are 200 children enrolled in this program and 110 were present during my visit.

Each classroom includes a variety of learning areas for children to explore, such as library, art, blocks, toys, puzzles, puppets, dramatic play, and a grocery store area. A sufficient supply of toys and equipment was available for the number of children in care. Daily schedules were posted, and displays throughout the rooms included numbers, a helper’s list, colors, children’s artwork, and the alphabet. Visual signage with pictures supports children in routines such as handwashing. The center also brushes children’s teeth after meals.

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The younger-age classrooms use a theme-based curriculum. For example, during this week the theme focused on the letter B, and children participated in crafts and activities related to that topic. This approach helps introduce early literacy concepts in a fun and developmentally appropriate way. The preschool classrooms use Creative Curriculum along with Launch. Creative Curriculum is a research-based program that supports learning through play, exploration, and intentional teaching strategies. It emphasizes social–emotional development, hands-on learning, and helping children build skills across all early learning domains. The curriculum allows teachers to follow children's interests while providing structured, intentional learning experiences. It promotes a responsive classroom environment, positive relationships, and routines that help prepare children for kindergarten in a developmentally. The Launch program is used alongside it to help prepare children for kindergarten by building readiness skills, supporting early literacy and math, and promoting problem-solving and independence.

Each room contained a first aid kit stored out of children's reach. Kits were clearly labeled and stocked with supplies appropriate for common first aid needs. Medication storage practices were appropriate, and documentation for medications was available. One helpful practice observed is that when a child has a food allergy, a red stop-sign symbol is placed at the child's spot at the table. This clearly identifies the allergy and helps ensure staff are aware and able to maintain safe mealtime practices.

Fire/tornado drills were current along with Playground inspection. Radon testing is complete and within normal levels. First aid bags are available in each classroom and are stored in locations that are easily accessible to staff yet kept out of children's reach. This ensures that staff can respond quickly and appropriately in the event of a minor injury or emergency.

This center has experienced a change in directors and has managed the transition effectively. There have been some positive new changes within the center. For example, the older age room will be split into two groups so staff can spend more individual time supporting each child's learning and development.

This type of engagement has a very positive impact on children. When staff get down to the child's level, it helps children feel seen, heard, and supported. It strengthens relationships, encourages communication, and helps children feel comfortable expressing themselves. This approach also promotes better learning, as children are more likely to stay engaged, follow guidance, and participate in activities when they feel connected to the adults around them.

The center uses the Playground app to communicate with parents. This tool allows staff to share updates, photos, daily notes, and important messages in real time. Using the app helps keep families informed about their child's day and strengthens communication between the center and parents. It also provides a convenient way for families to receive reminders, schedules, and center announcements.

Goals of this center is to increase their IQ4K level and ensure that all staff are current with their professional development.

2. Identify Observed Strengths of the program

The center is working toward having all staff complete PBIS (Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports) training. PBIS is a framework that helps staff create consistent, positive expectations for children and encourages supportive, relationship-based guidance. The training provides staff with tools to model appropriate behaviors, reinforce positive choices, and respond to challenging behaviors in a calm and constructive way. This approach promotes a supportive classroom environment and helps children develop strong social–emotional skills.

The center chooses to overstaff its infant room to ensure that each infant receives appropriate, attentive care. This practice allows staff to be more responsive to individual needs, support safe routines, and provide consistent, nurturing interaction throughout the day.

The center works to keep the same staff consistently assigned to the same classrooms. This practice is beneficial because it helps children build strong, trusting relationships with their caregivers. Consistency also supports smoother routines, reduces stress for children, and helps staff better understand each child's individual needs, preferences, and developmental progress. This stability creates a more secure and supportive learning environment.

3. Identify the aspects that fall below the standard

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109.7(1): All staff (within first three months of employment):Iowa's training for the mandatory reporting of child abuse.At least one hour of training regarding universal precautions.Certification in First Aid infant, child, and adult cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) or equivalent certification approved by the Department. A valid certificate indicating the date of training and expiration date shall be maintained.Certification in infant, child, and adult first aid that uses a nationally recognized curriculum or is received from a nationally recognized training organization including the American Red Cross, American Heart Association, American Safety and Health Institute, or MEDIC First Aid or an equivalent certification approved by the Department. A valid certificate indicating the date of training and expiration date shall be maintained.Minimum health and safety trainings, (Essentials) approved by the Department. If significant changes occur to content, the Department may require the training be renewed.

109.11(3)a: Center shall ensure that: Facility and premises are sanitary, safe, and hazard free. Sufficient lighting shall be provided. Sufficient ventilation. Sufficient heating. Sufficient cooling. Equipment placed in the program area is maintained so as not to result in injury to the children. Please fix the toilet that is not working.

109.11(8)c: All centers: Annual inspection prior to heating season of all fuel-burning appliances to reduce risk of carbon monoxide poisoning and shall install one carbon monoxide detector on each floor that conforms to UL Standard 2034.

109.13(5): Centers shall ensure that food preparation and storage procedures are consistent with the recommendations of the CACFPs. Please date items that have been opened and put into a Ziploc.

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

5. Special Notes/Recommendations

Targeted Assessment: Behavior Management

I discussed with Ms. Nelson, their oversight of behavior management related to helping childcare staff: 1) Understand expectations, 2) managing frustrations, 3) monitor performance. Ms. Nelson indicates that her motivation for maintaining high expectations and offering positive redirection at the center comes from her own children attending and her desire for every child to receive quality care. She explained that she visits each classroom daily to assist, observe, and stay connected with what staff and children need. Indy appreciates the interior windows that allow for easy observation and encourages open communication. She also strives to keep consistent staffing in each room so team members can understand one another's triggers and work together smoothly. When I spoke with classroom staff about how they support each other and recognize when a coworker is becoming frustrated, they all agreed that they have a strong sense of one another's needs and step in easily. Staff also shared that communication with their supervisor is positive, and they appreciate her open-door policy.

The center needs to email consultant by 06/01/26 regarding those items that are blow standards have been completed. It is recommended to continue working with CCRR for support.

A full license is in effect at this time.

At least one visit will be made to the center during the next year

Date: 04/08/2026

HHS Licensing Consultant: Leann Steinhauer

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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**.