Iowa Department of Human Services
CHILD CARE CENTER EVALUATION AND RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE

Name of Center: Crayon Corner Learning Center **Enrollment:** 37 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 17932

Street: 409 Washington St **City:** Gladbrook Iowa **Zip** 50635 **County:** Tama

Mailing Address: PO Box 223, Gladbrook, IA, 50635

Director's Name: Amber Gebel **Phone Number:** 641-473-2600

On-Site Supervisor(s): Megan Weber **E-Mail:** crayonclc@gmail.com

Date(s) of Visit: 05-30-2025

Licensing Visit X **Unannounced Visit** X **Off Year Visit** **Administrative Change**

LICENSING VISITS

New Application X **Re-Application** **NA**

Signed Application (470-0722) Received X **Yes** **No** **NA** **Date Signed:** 04-12-2024

FIRE INSPECTION X **State** **Local** **NA** **Is Fire Inspection Approved?** X **Yes** **No** **NA**

Date Inspected: 02-03-2023

Comments : Fire inspections are due at least every three years.

LICENSE TYPE: X **Child Care** **Preschool (ages 3-5 meets three hours or less per day)**

Financial Type: Profit X Non-Profit NA

Accredition: Accredited NAEYC NSACA Other X NA

Program Serves: X Infants (0-23 mo.) X 2 Years X Preschool-Age X School-Age

Get-Well Evening Care Special Needs

SCHEDULE: X Year-round School-Year Summer Only

HOURS:	*Year-round*	*School-Year*	*Summer Only*

LICENSE CAPACITY	Infants	2 Years	Preschool	School-Age	Capacity
General	12	12	40	16	80
Summer					0

QRS Rating: N/A

RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE:	
X	**FULL** license from 06-01-2024 to 06-01-2026
	PROVISIONAL license from
	DENIAL of initial application
	SUSPENSION of license
	REVOCATION of license

Licensing Consultant: Maggie Gibson, SWIV **Date:** 06-04-2025

I. IF CURRENT LICENSE IS PROVISIONAL, IDENTIFY THE CORRECTIVE ACTIONS

N/A.

II. IDENTIFY THE AREAS OBSERVED ON THE VISIT:

An unannounced annual off year visit was completed 5/30/25. The director was present throughout the visit.

Crayon Corner Learning Center has been in operation for many years, providing child care in the current location since June 2010. The center is located in a single standing building. The center provides child care services to children ages infancy through school age. The center offers before and after school care for school age children as well as summer programming for school age children. During the school year, the center offers Preschool with a morning session M-F from 8:30 am to 11:15 am for three year old children and an afternoon session from 12:30 pm to 3:15 pm for four and five year old children.

Amber Gebel is Director for the center. Amber has worked at this center for the past nine years and meets qualifications for this position. Megan Weber is the assistant director; she has resumed this role after previously holding the same position. She has prior experience as an assistant director along with prior child care experience. She meets qualifications for this role.

All areas of the program were observed. These areas observed consisted of classroom observations and activities, nutritional practices, health and safety practices, playground observation, field trip and transportation practices, and administrative review.

Room observations/Activities: The center works with the school district to provide the SWVPP program, started for three and four year old children. The center utilizes creative curriculum and the procare application to communicate with families. Rooms are in ratio. Staff were observed to maintain good structure in the rooms while also providing nurturing responses. The children were content and readily approached teachers if they needed. Classrooms offer a variety of age/developmentally appropriate play centers and toys. Handwashing signs are posted and good handwashing technique was utilized. The center uses bleach, and soapy water for cleaning/sanitation.

Nutrition Practices: There is an onsite kitchen and dedicated staff. The center is enrolled in the CACFP food program and as such menus are inline with CACFP requirements. The cook and director craft menus, which rotate seasonally. Meals/snacks are served family style in the classroom. Menus were posted in the the kitchen, which was very clean and organized.

Health/safety: Medication is stored securely and the director/AD administers when necessary. All rooms had first aid kits. Tornado and Fire emergency plans and diagrams were posted; drills were documented to have been completed monthly. Radon testing was completed in 2022; HVAC is inspected professionally twice yearly. Carbon monoxide detectors are located in the hallway. The center has crafted a disaster plan that enables off-site evacuation if necessary that is trained upon hire and then annually for staff.

Playground: Playground safety checks have been completed as required; The playground is enclosed with chain link an offers play equipment and shade structures. Surfacing is grass and rubber chips. The playground appears in good repair.

Transportation/Field Trips: NA

Administrative Review: fliers for mandatory reporter; Handbook, consultant contact, license, emergency exit plans and non-smoking signs were all posted. All staff files that were reviewed contained all required information. Five child files were reviewed, with one needed an updated physical.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

This building was constructed specifically for a daycare center. The classrooms are nicely organized and displayed the children's art projects.

The center has a strong relationship with the Gladbrook - Reinbeck School District.

The center has spacious outdoor playground areas. They received a grant to put up three shade structures; which were installed in 2023.

The staff work well together and are dedicated to the center.

The center receives strong support from the Board of Directors.

The center has strong community support.

The center participates in the food program.

There are security cameras in the classrooms and outside.

IV. IDENTIFY THE ASPECTS OF OPERATION THAT FALL BELOW THE STANDARDS REVIEWED:

109.10(1)a: Preschool (for children five years and younger not enrolled in school): Physical exam report submitted within 30 days of admission, was obtained no more than 12 months prior to admission, is signed by a licensed MD, DO, PA, Chiropractor or ARNP, and contains health history; present health status including allergies, medications, and acute/chronic conditions; and recommendations for continued care if necessary.
Number not in compliance: 1

V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:

The center participates in the food program and their menus reflect they are following the CACFP guidelines.

Radon testing is now required every five years if testing is under the 4.0 cutoff. The center last conducted radon testing in April of 2022 and all rooms tested fell below the 4.0 cutoff.

The center has geo-thermal heat and this is inspected every fall.

The staff were observed to be engaged in close supervision and tending to the children. The children were content and were observed to readily approach staff with different requests.

*Note: If you are the Child Care Center Director and you feel something is unclear or unjustly cited, please contact your DHS Licensing Consultant to discuss the issue. The child care director may also send a response which will be placed in the licensing file.

*Note: If you are a member of the general public, there may be additional information contained in the public file. You may contact the DHS Licensing Consultant to inquire.