Health and Human Services

Iowa Department of Health And Human Services

CHILD CARE CENTER ANNUAL EVALUATION

Name of Center: Little Huskies North Preschool

Provider No.: 39619

Address: 1726 N John Wayne Dr, Winterset, IA, 50273

County: Madison

Director's Name: Stephanie Haffner

On-Site Supervisor: Daina McKeever and Paige Williamson

Phone Number: 5154621208

E-Mail: shaffner@maturaia.org

HHS Visit Date: 09/15/2025

Licensing Period: 10/01/2025 to 10/01/2027

Fire Inspection:

Date Inspected: 10/30/2023

Comments: State inspections are due every three years per licensing regulations.

Report Visit Type:

- [ ] PTO
- [X] Licensing Visit
- [ ] Drop In
- [ ] Administrative Change

License Type:

- [X] Full
- [ ] Provisional

Quality initiative:

Quality Rating: 4

- [ ] Accrediation

Program Duration:

- [ ] Year-Round
- [X] School Year
- [ ] Summer Only

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Program Population Served:

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

LICENSE CAPACITY	Infants	2 Years	Preschool	School-Aged	Capacity
General	0	0	45	0	45
Summer					0

1. Basic Overview

A licensing inspection was conducted on 9/15/25. On-site supervisor, Paige Williamson, was present throughout the visit.

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

Little Huskies North Preschool used to be called Winterset Head Start and also Pretend Kindergarten. The two programs combined and changed their name in the late Summer/early Fall of 2012. The program is non-profit and owned by Matura Action Corporation. Children served are three to five years of age. Classes are held Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday during the school year. Children attend 7:45am - 12:00pm. The program utilizes the Creative Learning Curriculum in their teachings. The Gold Assessment is also used.

The director of this program is Stephanie Haffner. Stephanie has a BA degree in Early Childhood Administration. One on-site supervisor is Daina McKeever. Daina has her CDA and has been with the program for several years. Daina is working towards a BA degree in education. The other on-site supervisor is Paige Williamson. Paige is working on her CDA and also has past experience and training to meet the requirements for on-site supervisor.

The program uses a main preschool classroom. There is a second classroom that is used sparingly, but mostly just the main classroom is used.

During the visit, all of the children and staff were sitting at the child-size tables finishing up lunch. Afterwards, children washed their hands and then dismissed for the day when their parents/guardians arrived. Children gave specific answers as to where they relocate to for monthly fire and tornado drills. Sufficient learning stations were observed in the classroom. Toys and other equipment are sanitized daily.

2. Identify Observed Strengths of the program

The program participates in the food program (CACFP).

A dietitian also reviews all menus/meals.

Staff meetings are held weekly. On-site supervisors of the different Matura Head Start programs meet monthly.

Parents receive a monthly newsletter. There are two parent-teacher conferences a year and two school visits. Parents also received weekly sheets for their child's daily activities. Parents are encouraged to visit the program and participate in their children's activities. The program tries yearly to implement a parent committee.
A family activity set is sent home every weekend. Communication with parents is stressed.

The program has their own website (Matura Action Corporation).

There is a secure entrance into the preschool area of the building. The center has security cameras with video surveillance of the classroom and surrounding building.

The program uses a computer tracking system for child and staff files (Child Plus).

The program utilizes CCR&R, AEA, and other community resources on a regular/as needed basis. The center has established good relationships with other community businesses, including the local library who comes to the center monthly to read to children. A conservation person also visits the center monthly.

The program participates in IQ4K which is a voluntary program based on best practice.

Both on-site supervisors are organized.

The program provides free dental and vision screening for children.

Staff get more than the minimum required annual professional development training.

The program has implemented a "taste experience" where children get to try different type of food throughout the school year.

3. Identify the aspects that fall below the standard

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.
One staff is past due for needing a physical.

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.
One child file was missing the immunization being signed and dated.

109.9(2)i: 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, Chiropractor, PA, or ARNP, and contains health history; present health status including allergies, medications, and acute/chronic conditions; and recommendations for continued care if necessary.
One child file was missing a current physical.

109.11(4)a: Center must have safe outdoor program area adjacent to the center, with sufficient square footage to accommodate at least 30 percent of the enrollment capacity at any one time at 75 spear feet per child. Outdoor space must: Be free from litter and unsafe materials and free from contamination by the drainage or ponding of sewage or storm water. Include safe play equipment and an area of shade. Include fencing to protect from bodies of water or vehicular traffic.
Several bolts on both gates of the playground need to be cut/capped so that no more than two threads are showing.

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

N/A.

5. Special Notes/Recommendations

Radon testing was last completed 3/21/25 - 3/24/25. All classrooms came back with radon levels below the 4.0 cutoff. Because levels were below 4.0, the center can move to testing for radon at least every five years now. So long as radon levels remain below 4.0, they can remain on a five year plan. If at the next testing, levels in any classroom come back 4.0 or higher, the center will have to have a mitigation plan, retest, and at least temporarily move back to testing every two years.

The furnace was last inspected on8/29/25.

It was previously noted that the center usually only take two field trip a school year. Parents are responsible for getting their own child to the field trip destination and/or the program will take the town trolley.

The center has their own kitchen and they provide breakfast and lunch to children.

I - Power was again discussed at the visit. Staff should be uploading professional development training as well as Mandatory Reporter, etc. If any staff are no longer with the program, they should be unlinked from the program in I - Power.

Date: 09/16/2025

HHS Licensing Consultant: Nate Knepper

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**.