Health and Human Services

Iowa Department of Health And Human Services

CHILD CARE CENTER ANNUAL EVALUATION

Name of Center: Sheldon Head Start

Provider No.: 31041

Address: 105 N 18th Ave, Sheldon, IA, 51201

County: Obrien

Director's Name: Angie Mitchell

On-Site Supervisor: Megan Noyes

Phone Number: 7122911738

E-Mail: ssmith@udmo.com
dhelget@udmo.com

HHS Visit Date: 11/06/2025

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

Fire Inspection:

Date Inspected: 09/11/2024

Comments:

Report Visit Type:

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

License Type:

- [X] Full
- [ ] Provisional

Quality initiative:

Quality Rating: 2

- [ ] Accrediation

Program Duration:

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

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HOURS:	*Year-round*	*School-Year*	*Summer Only*
Sunday			
Monday		8:00 AM to 3:00 PM	
Tuesday		8:00 AM to 3:00 PM	
Wednesday		8:00 AM to 12:15 PM	
Thursday		8:00 AM to 3:00 PM	
Friday		8:00 AM to 3:00 PM	
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			20		20
Summer					0

1. Basic Overview

I completed an unannounced visit on 11/06/25at the Sheldon HeadStart. I was able to speak with Megan Noyes onsite supervisor. Ms Noyes has a 4-year degree in elementary education & early childhood and several years working with children. Sheldon Head Start program is administered through Upper Des Moines Opportunities, Inc
The capacity of this center is 20 and there are 15 children enrolled. On the day of my visit there were 15 children present.

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

The classroom was well-equipped with a sufficient quantity and variety of toys and educational materials appropriate for the number of children present. A clearly visible daily schedule of activities was posted, providing structure and predictability for the children. Throughout the room, a rich array of visual and educational displays was observed, including colorful representations of basic concepts such as colors, shapes, and the five senses. Additional materials included a globe of the world, a picture-based daily schedule tailored for the children, a job chart to promote responsibility, children's artwork that reflected creativity and engagement, and a prominently displayed alphabet to support early literacy development. The center implements the Creative Curriculum Gold as the foundation for its educational programming. This research-based curriculum supports developmentally appropriate practices and emphasizes exploration, discovery, and hands-on learning to foster cognitive, social-emotional, and physical growth in young children. Lesson planning and classroom activities are aligned with the curriculum’s objectives, ensuring a well-rounded and intentional approach to early childhood education.

Staff were actively engaged with the children throughout the visit. They were observed assisting children with various hands-on activities, maintaining consistent verbal interaction, and providing guidance and support. Staff led the children in

physical exercises, reinforced classroom rules in a positive manner, and encouraged participation in both structured and free-choice activities. During mealtimes, staff sat at the tables with the children, modeling appropriate behavior and fostering social interaction.

The center follows the CACFP guidelines for nutrition. Menus were posted. Meals are provided by the Sheldon Community School District and are brought to the center.
The center adheres to proper guidelines for the administration of medication. While no children currently require medication, staff are prepared to follow appropriate procedures should the need arise.

Sanitation and hygiene practices were observed to be well-implemented. Tables are sanitized prior to each meal, and both staff and children demonstrated proper handwashing techniques, promoting a healthy environment. The center maintains a fully stocked first aid kit, sufficient to address minor injuries. Emergency preparedness is evident, with documented monthly fire and tornado drills. A radon test has been completed, and results fall within the normal and safe range. The facility uses an all-electric heating system, and a functioning carbon monoxide detector is present, ensuring indoor air safety. Overall, the center follows strong sanitary procedures. All program areas were observed to be clean, orderly, and well-maintained, reflecting a commitment to providing a safe and healthy environment for children and staff.

The center features a relatively new, fully fenced playground designed to promote safe and active outdoor play. The playground includes a variety of engaging equipment such as slides, tunnels, musical play structures, and climbing apparatuses. Shredded rubber mulch is used as a safety surface beneath and around all equipment, providing cushioning to help prevent injuries. Monthly playground inspections are conducted and documented to ensure ongoing safety and maintenance.

The center does not provide direct transportation for children. However, for field trips, transportation is arranged using a school bus.

Their goal is to increase enrollment and to increase their IQ4K level.

2. Identify Observed Strengths of the program

One of the notable strengths of the program is its commitment to supporting a bilingual learning environment. The center incorporates both English and Spanish throughout the classroom, helping to create an inclusive and accessible space for children from diverse linguistic backgrounds. Signs, labels, and educational displays are presented in both languages, often accompanied by pictures to support comprehension and language development for all learners. This approach not only fosters early bilingual language skills but also promotes cultural awareness and respect among the children.

3. Identify the aspects that fall below the standard

109.4(2): Postings are required for: The certificate of license. Notice of exposure to communicable disease. Notice of decision to deny, suspend, or revoke center license or reduce to provisional status. Mandatory reporting requirements. Notice of availability of the handbook. Name and contact information of the HHS licensing consultant. Program activities and menus. All postings shall be conspicuously placed at the main entrance of the center. Missing Mandatory Reporter posting.

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

5. Special Notes/Recommendations

Please email this consultant when MAR has been posted.

A full license is recommended at this time.

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

Date: 11/10/2025

HHS Licensing Consultant: Leann Steinhauer

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**.