Health and Human Services

# Iowa Department of Health And Human Services

## CHILD CARE CENTER ANNUAL EVALUATION

Name of Center: St Patrick School Gingerbread Preschool

Provider No.: 52605

Address: 1302 5th ST, Perry, IA, 50220

County: Dallas

Director's Name: Kandice Pattillo

On-Site Supervisor: N/A

Phone Number: 5154654186

E-Mail: kpattillo@stpatricks-perry-ia.org

HHS Visit Date: 09/16/2025

Licensing Period: 10/01/2024 to 10/01/2026

**Fire Inspection:**

Date Inspected: 10/16/2024

Comments: State Fire Marshal. Inspections are due at least every three years per licensing regulations.

**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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**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 | 18 | 0 | 18 |
| Summer | | | | | 0 |

**1. Basic Overview**

An off-year inspection was conducted on 9/16/25. The director/principal 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.

St. Patrick School Gingerbread Preschool is a program that is now under HHS licensing. The program was given permission to open on 8/26/24. Prior to this, the program was under the Department of Education's oversight. The program is overseen by a Board. Kandice Pattillo is the principal of the school and also the current director of the program. Kandice holds several degrees and has past experience and training overseeing this program and other similar programs.

The program serves four and five year old children during the school year. The program is located in one classroom on the lower level of the school building. The program uses their own learning curriculum that is faith based as well as parts of the San Francisco Math Curriculum.

During the visit, children were observed initially in the lunch room eating lunch. Children stated they washed their hands before sitting down for snack. Children also gave specific answers as to where they relocated to for monthly fire and tornado drills. The classroom was set up that allowed for full observation of children at all times. Cot spacing (which was the next activity after lunch) was sufficient.

**2. Identify Observed Strengths of the program**

This is a new program that meets a need in the community. The program was open in the past, but now licensed by HHS.

The program uses the Bloomz app for added communication with parents. Weekly newsletters are also sent to parents.

Parents are highly encouraged to participate, visit, and volunteer unless restricted by a court order.

The program has a good relationship with other school personnel.

All staff take intruder in the center training annually.

There are outdoor security cameras.

## CHILD CARE CENTER ANNUAL EVALUATION

The director/principal is highly organized and has a lot of experience/training/education.

Staff use walkie talkies to communicate with each other throughout the building.

The program uses Fluentalk whenever translation is needed as the center serves a lot of Hispanic families.

**3. Identify the aspects that fall below the standard**

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 was missing an immunization record.

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.
1. There was a dangling cord in the classroom that needs to be more securely fastened to the wall and/or tucked behind the shelf.
2. There was a sanitizer/disinfectant spray in a lower unlocked cabinet that was potentially accessible to children. THIS ISSUE WAS CORRECTED DURING THE INSPECTION.

109.13(1 and 2): Center shall serve each child a full, nutritionally balanced meal as defined by CACFP guidelines. Staff shall provide supervision at table during snacks and meals. Children at center two hours or longer shall be offered food of not less than two hours and no more than three hours apart unless child is asleep. Menus shall be made available to parents and kept on file with substitutions noted. Avoid foods with high incident rate of causing choking.
The meal times between lunch and PM snack need to be adjusted some as discussed at the inspection.

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

N/A.

**5. Special Notes/Recommendations**

The program conducted radon testing 11/18/24 - 11/10/24. The classroom came back with a radon level 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.

An annual boiler/HVAC unit was inspected on 10/22/24 so it is again coming due.

For transportation for field trips, the program contacts with the Perry School District and takes a bus. The program may also take walking field trips to nearby places. Finally, the program will also bring in different agencies for presentations to children.

The center provides breakfast, AM snack, lunch, and a PM snack to children through the school's nutrition department.

I-Power and IQ4K were discussed at the visit. The program has had some more conversations with their CCR&R consultant about the IQ4K process. For I - Power, all staff will need to have I - Power profiles and be uploading training.

The daily schedule was in a binder, but it should be posted on the main parent board also.

The "S" hooks on the swings still need to be tightened and there is still one bolt on the gate that is longer than two threads showing.

## CHILD CARE CENTER ANNUAL EVALUATION

It is recommended the center's emergency preparedness kit be stored in a suitcase on wheels. The list of what could go all in this kit was emailed to the center after the inspection concluded.

The previous year's fire and tornado drills and monthly playground inspections should all be kept together.

The director will need to contact DCI on their fingerprint results that appear to have gotten misplaced.

Date: 09/17/2025

HHS Licensing Consultant: Nathan 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**.