Health and Human Services

Iowa Department of Health And Human Services

CHILD CARE CENTER ANNUAL EVALUATION

Name of Center: Tinker Tots Preschool

Provider No.: 7382

Address: 1501 Industrial AVE, Bedford, IA, 50833

County: Taylor

Director's Name: Tracy Ebrecht

On-Site Supervisor:

Phone Number: 7125232411

E-Mail: tinkertotspreschool@gmail.com

HHS Visit Date: 11/03/2025

Licensing Period: 08/01/2024 to 08/01/2026

Fire Inspection:

Date Inspected: 03/03/2025

Comments:

Report Visit Type:

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

License Type:

- [X] Full
- [ ] Provisional

Quality initiative:

Quality Rating: 3

- [ ] Accrediation

Program Duration:

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

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Program Population Served:

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

LICENSE CAPACITY	Infants	2 Years	Preschool	School-Aged	Capacity
General	10	23	13	29	75
Summer					0

1. Basic Overview

An unannounced licensing visit was made to Tinker Tots Preschool, Inc. on 11/3/25. Tinker Tots Preschool built a new center at 1501 Industrial Ave., Bedford Iowa 50833 and opened in November 2021. This is a nonprofit center that is run by the board. The board is very supportive of the center. Tracy Ebrecht became the director in November 2024. She worked at the center since 2017. She has her CDA and started her associate's degree in early childhood education. Child care services are offered to infants to school age children, Monday through Friday, 6:00 AM to 6:00 PM. There are 65 children enrolled.

Observation of rooms:
There are six rooms and two of the programming rooms have nap rooms. The center partners with Head Start for the preschool room. Four rooms were being used during my visit. The infant room, one year old room, two-year-old room, and the Preschool room were being used on the day of my licensing visit. School age children were in school at the time of my visit. The rooms look great and have a fun variety of age and developmentally appropriate equipment and supplies. All rooms were in ratio. Staff were positive and attentive to their needs. The children were having fun. The two-year-old room was jumping around to music and appeared to be having a lot of fun. Staff in the programming rooms are responsible for preparing the lesson plans/activities. The lesson plans were not completed in the one and two-year-old rooms as well as the school age room. The daily sheets looked good. They are on the Procare app. The Preschool room is for three- and four-year-old kids. The children were observed cutting colored paper. The room had a variety of centers.

Nutrition:
The center employs a cook. The center participates in the federal food program. Proper food storage was observed. The infant room did not have a thermometer in the freezer. One of the freezers in the utility room did not have a thermometer. Menus are posted and are on the ProCare App.

Health and safety:
Tracy reported monthly fire/tornado drills are practiced; however, they are not documented. Please document all drills. Emergency diagrams and phone numbers are posted. I asked the children in the Preschool room about fire and tornado drills. The children knew what to do in their drills; however, they provided fire responses to the tornado drills and the tornado responses for the fire drills. Radon testing needs to be completed. The center has fuel burning appliances. Tracy reported their HVAC is serviced twice a year, but she did not have documentation. The center follows medication management procedures when a child is on medication. Staff must be med certified to dispense medication. Bleach/water is used for sanitizing - 3 tsp. to 24 oz of water. I thought this sounded like too much bleach to water ratio. I made a referral to the Child Care Nurse Consultant for training on sanitizing and disinfecting and to discuss potential alternate options for sanitizing. Please refer to your specific bottle of bleach for mixing instructions. If the directions aren't on the bottle, go to the website listed on the bottle for mixing instructions. If you are using bleach/water for disinfecting please make sure you are mixing correctly - follow the same instructions for locating the mixing instructions as listed above. If you are using

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Oxivir Tb for disinfecting, you can also use it for sanitizing. The three step bottle procedure is used for sanitizing and disinfecting 1. Soap/water for cleaning, 2. Water for rinsing and 3. Your EPA approved product for disinfecting and sanitizing product. Refer to the specific bottle of bleach you are using for mixing instructions or the website listed on the bottle of bleach. Staff in the Preschool room reported using sanitizer to clean the bathrooms. Disinfecting is for diaper changing. Sanitizing is for food surface areas and hard surface toys. Toys are sanitized daily. Sheets are washed weekly.

Playground:
There is a playground for school-age children and the other side has a playground for preschool and toddler age children. There is a playground for infant age children. Tracy reported monthly inspections are completed, but they are not documented. Please complete and document monthly playground inspections.

Transportation:
The program doesn't provide daily transportation services.

Administrative records:
Staff files were read and were in excellent order. Seven children's files were reviewed. Many files listed themselves as emergency contacts. Please have parents/guardians list alternate emergency contacts in the event a parent/guardian cannot be contacted. Two files were missing current immunization records. The center provides a monthly newsletter. Staff meetings are held monthly. The enter is IQ4K Level 3.

2. Identify Observed Strengths of the program

The center is an excellent resource for the community. Tracy continues to work hard to learn the HHS rules. She is very helpful and enthusiastic about the program. Staff were attentive to the needs of the children. The center continues to receive equipment and supplies from grants. The center is IQ4K level 3.

3. Identify the aspects that fall below the standard

109.9(2)a-c: All files contain sufficient information to allow the center to contact the parent or emergency contact at any time child is in center's care as well as who can pick up the child as authorized by the parent.

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.

109.10(13)b: Emergency instructions, phone numbers, and diagrams for fire, tornado, and flood shall be visibly posted and documented at least once a month for fire and tornado. Records shall be maintained for current and previous year.

109.11(4)b: Record of monthly inspections of outdoor recreation area and equipment shall be kept.

109.11(8)b: Centers at ground level that use basement area as program space, or have a basement beneath program space: Testing and plan for remedy of radon is conducted.

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.

109.12(1)a: Program provides a curriculum or program of activities that promotes self-esteem and positive self-image, social interaction, self-expression and communication, creative expression, and problem-solving skills.

109.13(5)a: Sufficient refrigeration appropriate to perishable food is provided.

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

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5. Special Notes/Recommendations

A full license is recommended from 8/1/24 to 8/1/26.

109.9(2)a-c: All files contain sufficient information to allow the center to contact the parent or emergency contact at any time child is in center's care as well as who can pick up the child as authorized by the parent. Many files listed themselves as emergency contacts. Please have parents/guardians list alternate emergency contacts in the event a parent/guardian cannot be contacted.

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. Please make sure each file has a current immunization record.

109.10(13)b: Emergency instructions, phone numbers, and diagrams for fire, tornado, and flood shall be visibly posted and documented at least once a month for fire and tornado. Records shall be maintained for current and previous year. Please complete monthly fire and tornado drills and keep documentation for each month.

109.11(4)b: Record of monthly inspections of outdoor recreation area and equipment shall be kept .Please complete monthly playground inspections and document each month.

109.11(8)b: Centers at ground level that use basement area as program space, or have a basement beneath program space: Testing and plan for remedy of radon is conducted. Please complete radon testing. If the reading is below 4.0 pCi/L, testing will not be needed for another five years. If the reading is 4.0 pCi/L, additional testing will need to be done.

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. Please complete annual fuel burning appliance testing and keep documentation of the yearly inspections.

109.12(1)a: Program provides a curriculum or program of activities that promotes self-esteem and positive self-image, social interaction, self-expression and communication, creative expression, and problem-solving skills. Each room should have current lesson plans.

109.13(5)a: Sufficient refrigeration appropriate to perishable food is provided. Please make sure each refrigerator and freezer have a thermometer and monitor to make sure it is in the acceptable range.

I made a referral to the Child Care Nurse Consultant to discuss sanitizing and disinfecting products and to make sure they are using sanitizing and disinfecting products correctly. It is also recommended the nurse consultant make sure the center is using the correct mixing instructions for the bleach water.

Date: 11/10/2025

HHS Licensing Consultant: Tausha Bottorff

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**.