Health and Human Services

Iowa Department of Health And Human Services

CHILD CARE CENTER ANNUAL EVALUATION

Name of Center: Central Preschool

Provider No.: 22860

Address: 601 Milwaukee ST STE 1, Charles City, IA, 50616

County: Floyd

Director's Name: Dusty Schmitt

On-Site Supervisor: Stacy Larson, Carrie Jones

Phone Number: 6412286803

E-Mail: centralpreschool3@gmail.com

HHS Visit Date: 10/15/2026

Licensing Period: 11/01/2026 to 11/01/2028

Fire Inspection:

Date Inspected: 10/11/2024

Comments:

Report Visit Type:

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

License Type:

- [X] Full
- [ ] Provisional

Quality initiative:

Quality Rating: 1

- [ ] Accrediation

Program Duration:

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

Health and Human Services

Iowa Department of Health And Human Services

CHILD CARE CENTER ANNUAL EVALUATION

HOURS:	*Year-round*	*School-Year*	*Summer Only*
Sunday			
Monday		7:45 AM to 3:30 PM	
Tuesday		7:45 AM to 11:30 AM	
Wednesday		7:45 AM to 3:30 PM	
Thursday		7:45 AM to 11:30 AM	
Friday		7:45 AM to 3:30 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	0	0	36	0	36
Summer					0

1. Basic Overview

An unannounced annual visit was made to Central Preschool in Charles City on 10-15-26 where I met with the center director, Dusty Schmitt. Dusty started with the program in August 2018 and is well qualified for the position based on her experience and training. Stacy Larson is the co-teacher who joined the program at the start of the 2023 school year. Carrie Jones is also a co-director, and lead teacher for the 4 year old class. The preschool is located in Trinity United Methodist Church in Charles City and is the oldest continuous preschool program in the state having opened in 1950. The program offers a formal 3 three old program which is operated under DHHS oversight, and four-year-old preschool in partnership with the Charles City School System for the statewide voluntary four-year-old preschool program. Programming is offered in 3 sessions each of which is a half day session, with a 2 day TTh morning class, 3 day MWF morning class, and 3 day MWF afternoon class. There are 46 children enrolled in the program between the two classes served by 3 teachers and volunteer. All aspects of the program subject to licensing standards were reviewed during the visit.

The general layout of the building and classrooms remains the same as in prior visits but the classroom arrangement did change. The preschool operates out of two rooms that are connected by a short pass-through where a toilet and sink are located. This pass through also serves as the secondary egress for each room. Additional sinks are available in each room to further facilitate hand washing. During the visit the water temperature was measured to be 144 deg. F which is well above the maximum allowable temperature of 120 deg. F and can result in instant scald burns. The water temperature needs be adjusted to below 120 deg. and staff will need to monitor handwashing to ensure that the temperature is moderated by cold water. Windows along the exterior walls provide natural lighting, a view of the outdoors, and ventilation. Both rooms were observed to be clean with no concerns related to maintenance. As noted the classroom arrangement has changed with the teacher work desk, and storage cabinets having been removed to a new office location providing more programming space for the children. One classroom is now used for center play activities, and the other for large and small group learning

activities. The equipment and furnishings were arranged so that they did not create any blind areas.

2. Identify Observed Strengths of the program

Programming & Interaction:
The center uses the Creative Curriculum to develop lesson plans and learning activities. A copy of the planned curriculum is posted at the parent sign-in and notice board.
Good interactions were observed on the day of my visit with the teachers being actively engaged with the children. This included general interactions while the children were engaged in self-directed center play with the teachers moving through the room and talking to the children about their play. It also included more direct interaction with assisting children 1:1 on a craft activity.
The program uses a positive behavior support approach to encourage appropriate behaviors. This was observed during the visit with one child having a difficult time focusing. Each of the teachers responded to the child depending on proximity and all used calm tones, and positive word choices. Each maintained a focus on safety and peer interactions explaining why certain behaviors were not good choices, and helping to identify appropriate alternatives.

Health & Safety:
Good hand washing practices were observed with the teachers ensuring the children washed their hands as required after using the restroom, before snack, and at other times as needed.
The teachers did monitor the hand washing to ensure that children washed their hands in an effective manner, and to ensure that water temperatures were moderated after the excessive hot water temperature concern was identified.
Chemical cleaners and other items that could pose a risk to children were stored in areas where they were not readily accessible to the children.
Tables were sanitized prior to snack service.
First aid kits are maintained and contain materials necessary to address most common first aid needs.
Carrie was completing an advanced medication administration course with the public health nurse during the time of the visit.

Nutrition:
Due to the limited hours of operation meals are not served but snacks are provided. The parents take it in turn to provide snacks and a list of appropriate options is provided to parents.
A good variety of snack options were present that generally consisted of prepackaged single serving options such as crackers. A record of snacks that were provided is maintained on a calendar and shows that the snacks provided were credible.
Good food storage practices were observed for both dry pantry and refrigerated items.

Playground:
The center does have a playground area available which is fully enclosed by fencing which was observed to be in good repair.
The playground is an open grassy area with no climbing structures, and a variety of dramatic play structures, balls, and other equipment for the children to play with that are all ground based units that do not require fall surfacing.
All equipment was observed to be in good repair and appropriate to the ages of the children present.
Several mature trees around the exterior of the space provide shade.

Administration:
In reviewing administrative records all required notices for No Smoking, Consultant Contact, License Certificate, and Mandatory Abuse Reporting were posted in an area readily available to parents. Other postings for emergency evacuation, emergency contact numbers, hand washing, schedule, and curriculum were also present.
All child files were reviewed and 8 were identified as needing a current physical.
All staff files were reviewed and found to contain all required documentation.
With recently moving the teacher desks/office areas, and with Carrie being involved in the advanced medication administration training I was not able to review inspection logs and certificates but Carrie stated she would forward copies of the documentation and any issues identified will be addressed at that time.
The parent handbook was reviewed and all required written policies were present but several needed to be expanded to include all required elements including Health & Safety (immunization exemptions, response plans), Incident Reporting

(change in functioning, sexualized behavior), Staff Orientation & Training.

3. Identify the aspects that fall below the standard

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.
-- Documentation of a current physical was missing for 8 children.

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.
-- Hot water temperatures of the handwashing sink were measured to exceed 144 deg. F. which can result in immediate scald burns. Temperatures need to be adjusted so that hot water temperatures do not exceed 120 deg. F. at the spigot when only the hot water tap is turned on.

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

The center has communicated with those families that still needed to provide a current physical and is working to obtain those. It was reviewed that Licensing Standards would require the center to not accept children for programming who have not provided the required documentation. Carrie stated she would notify families that files would need to be updated by the following Friday, 10-23-26.

Dusty stated she would notify the building maintenance of the need to reduce the hot water temperatures. Options of turning off the supply to the hot water tap, installing a mixer valve, and providing close monitoring of children when washing their hands were discussed.

5. Special Notes/Recommendations

A full license is recommended at this time. Please provide a written response to the licensing consultant identifying a plan of action to correct and maintain those aspects cited as not meeting licensing standards and identifying an anticipated date of compliance. At least one visit will be made to the center during the next year.

NOTE: The issue of the hot water temperatures is a critical safety issue verification of correction, or acceptable plan of correction needs to be provided by 10-23-26.

6. ADDENDUMS:

- Addendum1: Email confirmation was received on 10-22-26 with an action plan. The email stated that for the hot water issue at Central Preschool. Mills Inc was contacted by the building and ground manager at the church. He said they will come tomorrow and the church will make any necessary changes needed to lower the temp of the water. The 8 students who were missing physical forms 2 have been turned in and the other 6 were given a deadline of 10-23-26 to have them in. They are all aware that students may not attend after 10/23 without the proper paperwork on file.

This Addendum is approved by supervisor on 10/29/2026 4:21:55 PM

Date: 10/16/2026

HHS Licensing Consultant: Ray Salsbury

CHILD CARE CENTER ANNUAL EVALUATION

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**.