Health and Human Services

Iowa Department of Health And Human Services

CHILD CARE CENTER ANNUAL EVALUATION

Name of Center: Lil' Grease Monkey Childcare

Provider No.: 52634

Address: 808 W Thomas AVE, Shenandoah, IA, 51601

County: Page

Director's Name: Hannah Rief

On-Site Supervisor:

Phone Number: 7125819003

E-Mail: lilgreasemonkeychildcare@aol.com

HHS Visit Date: 05/14/2026

Licensing Period: 09/01/2026 to 09/01/2028

Fire Inspection:

Date Inspected: 08/20/2024

Comments:

Report Visit Type:

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

License Type:

- [X] Full
- [ ] Provisional

Quality initiative:

- [ ] Accrediation

Program Duration:

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

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HOURS:	*Year-round*	*School-Year*	*Summer Only*
Sunday			
Monday	6:30 AM to 6:00 PM		
Tuesday	6:30 AM to 6:00 PM		
Wednesday	6:30 AM to 6:00 PM		
Thursday	6:30 AM to 6:00 PM		
Friday	6:30 AM to 6:00 PM		
Saturday			

Program Population Served:

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

LICENSE CAPACITY	Infants	2 Years	Preschool	School-Aged	Capacity
General	8	14	9	6	37
Summer					0

1. Basic Overview

A licensing visit was made to Lil' Grease Monkey Childcare on 5/14/26. The center opened on September 16, 2024. The center is located in the business district in Shenandoah, Iowa. Child care services are provided to children infant age to school age. The hours are from 6:30 AM to 6:00 PM Monday through Friday. Hannah Rief is the director. She was an in-home provider for 5 years prior to opening the center. There are 27 children enrolled. I met with Hannah during my licensing visit.

Observation of rooms:
The center is decorated with a fun automotive theme. The center is one large open room separated into programming areas according to ages of children (Hannah has been given information on ratio and age of separation of children). There are a wonderful variety of age and developmentally appropriate toys and equipment. There are two handwashing sinks in the main area of the center used for diaper changing. The only food prep sink is in the kitchen. Fifteen children were present during my visit. The center was not in ratio. There was a two-year-old child combined with children four years old. The center did not have daily schedules or lesson plans in the infant or preschool area. Hannah could not find the lesson plans but reported the curriculum they are using is the Montessori Book and The Giant Encyclopedia of Lesson Plans for older children. It would be beneficial to receive consultation/training on developing lesson plans/activities. The center has a laundry room. Screentime needs to be monitored and not used very often. Hannah reported it is used a little for dancing and movement. The center uses the Brightwheel Child Care App. Daily sheets looked good. They have hard copies and they are posted on Brightwheel. Staff aren't knowledgeable of DHHS rules, disinfecting, safe sleep, lesson planning, etc. Consultation and training are needed for all staff. Hannah said the on-site supervisor is knowledgeable about licensing guidelines. Hannah is now spending more time in the center. She is present in the mornings, during observations, and in the evenings. Hannah will also step in if there are issues with the children or staff.

CHILD CARE CENTER ANNUAL EVALUATION

Nutrition:
The center has a kitchen and meals are prepared on-site. They have a convection oven, microwave, etc. There is no gas or electric oven. Hannah has been planning the menus and she is following the CACFP food program guidelines even though the center is not on the federal food program. The center was not using proper food storage. Please make sure all food is sealed in an air-tight container after opening. Butter and meatballs were two items I noticed were not properly sealed. The menus are normally on Brightwheel but were not this week. No menu was posted. Menus are required to be posted.

Health and safety:
There were no emergency diagrams posted for emergency exits or where to go in the event of severe weather. There were emergency phone numbers posted. Fire and tornado drills are practiced and documented. Medication management procedures will be followed when a child is prescribed medication. Staff weren't properly disinfecting the diaper changing tables in the infant area. There are two diaper changing stations in the infant area and neither was being used correctly. One was dirty underneath the mat and the other had a cloth sheet over it. I informed Hannah that the cloth sheet was not acceptable and staff needed to start cleaning underneath the mat on the diaper changing station after each use. You need the diaper changing procedure posted at all diaper changing stations. Sheets are washed weekly and more often if needed. There were six cribs in the infant area and seven infants were present. Staff were placing multiple children in the same crib at different times without changing the sheets in between each use so some infants were sleeping on sheets that other children had slept on. Hannah said she would get another crib so each child could have their own crib. Toys are sanitized weekly and they should be sanitized daily. They have a “yuck bucket” to sanitize toys if they have been mouthed. The center has not had radon testing done. It was required within the first year of being open. Please refer to the DHHS handbook on information regarding radon testing and the frequency of testing. Hannah reported that all appliances are electrical therefore an annual fuel burning inspection is not needed. The center uses bottled water for cooking and drinking due to concerns of lead in the water. I suggested she begin testing the water to see if there is lead as using bottled water for cooking and drinking is expensive. There was no handwashing sign with the proper procedures by the handwashing sinks nor was there a handwashing sign in the restroom. Make sure you follow the three-bottle procedure for sanitizing and disinfecting: 1. Soap/water for cleaning, 2. Water for rinsing, and 3. You EPA and child care approved products for sanitizing and disinfecting. (Three separate bottles for sanitizing and disinfecting). The center uses Clean Smart for sanitizing and disinfecting.

Playground:
The center has a fenced playground area located down the alley. There are a climbing structure, slide, swings, picnic table, and seesaw. There is a gazebo for shade. Woodchips are used for fall surfacing. Monthly playground inspections are completed. Daily checks for debris on the playground and the walking path to the playground through the alley are needed.

Transportation:
The center doesn't provide daily transportation services. The center will go on walking field trips.

Administrative records:
Four children’s files were read. One was missing a physical exam. Three staff files were reviewed and all were incomplete. None had CPR/first aid, two were missing mandatory reporter training, one was missing Essentials training, and all were missing the annual personal development training. Please come up with a plan for how you will get all staff current on their training. Please get the plan to me by May 29th. I want all staff to be current on their training by August 1st.

2. Identify Observed Strengths of the program

Hannah is very enthusiastic and proud of her new child care center. She continues to learn the DHHS rules and regulations. Please read the handbook. Hannah would like to apply for IQ4K. The new center is a wonderful resource for the community. Staff had good interactions with the children; they were positive and nurturing. Hannah identified the center’s strengths as they are a close-knit community, the parents are comfortable with the care the children receive, there is no drama, and the staff work great together. Staff love the work they do. Hannah said she follows through with staff requests.

3. Identify the aspects that fall below the standard

109.7(2): Center directors and all staff have the required contact hours of training.

CHILD CARE CENTER ANNUAL EVALUATION

109.8(2): Ratio maintained in center as required:Brief absence of staff person permitted for 5 or less minutes when another staff person is presentAt least one staff is present in every room where children are resting.If ratio reduced to one staff per room during nap time, does not exceed one hour and ratio in center is still maintained.Ratio in infant rooms is always maintained.When more than eight children are present on the licensed premises, at least two staff members shall be present.For a period of two hours or less at the beginning and end of the center's hours of operation, one staff member may care for eight or fewer children, provided no more than four of the children are under two years of age and there are no more than eight children in the center.Ratio exceeded for school-age children when school classes unexpectedly start late, are dismissed early, or cancelled. For no more than four hours, care is limited to children already in the program and licensed capacity is not exceeded.

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.

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(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.

109.12(1): Program structure that uses developmentally appropriate practices and written program of activities planned to the developmental needs of children served.Program complements but does not duplicate school curriculum.Schedule of program is posted in a place visible to parents.

109.12(4)b: Each infant and toddler shall be diapered in a sanitary manner as frequently as needed at a central diapering area. Diapering, sanitation, and hand-washing procedures shall be posted and implemented in every diapering area. There shall be at least one changing table for every 15 infants.

109.12(4)d: Safe, washable toys, large enough so they cannot be swallowed and with no removable parts, shall be provided. All hard-surface toys used by children shall be sanitized daily.

109.12(4)f: Crib or crib-like furniture, waterproof mattress covering, and sufficient bedding that meets CPSC or ASTM standards is provided for each child under two years of age.

109.13(5)b: Sanitary and safe methods in food preparation, serving, and storage sufficient to prevent transmission of disease, infestation, and spoilage are followed.Staff preparing food that have injuries on hands wear protective gloves.Staff serving food use clean serving utensils and have clean hands/wear protective gloves.

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

5. Special Notes/Recommendations

A full license is recommended for 9/1/26 to 9/1/28.

Targeted Assessment Behavior Management
I discussed with Hannah her oversight of behavior management related to helping childcare staff: 1. Understand expectations, 2. Managing frustrations, 3. Monitor performance. Hannah provides one on one training with staff and communicates how to respond to behaviors. Hannah watches cameras to see if staff are getting frustrated. Staff will switch rooms if someone is getting frustrated.

CHILD CARE CENTER ANNUAL EVALUATION

I made a referral to Child Care Resource and Referral and the Child Care Nurse Consultant to address all areas that fall below standards.

Please come up with a plan for how you will get all staff current on their training. Please get the plan to me by May 29th. I want all staff to be current on their training by August 1st.

ADMININSTRATIVE CHANGE REPORT
5/28/26
Due to the size of the program, space limitations and history care, Lil' Grease Monkey Childcare formally has the ability to utilize one room
for infants ages 6 weeks to 24 months, and the second room will be utilized for children ages 2 years through preschool aged

children (ages 4 – 5).

The following rule is being waived as the center cannot easily manage aged-group sizes with just two rooms.
109.8(2)
c. Children between 18 months and three years of age may be combined, if appropriate to the developmental needs of the child. If a child under two years is in a combined age group, the staff ratio of one to seven shall be maintained. Otherwise, staff ratio may be determined by the age of the majority of the children in the group.

6. ADDENDUMS:

- Addendum1: The playground has very minimal shade and would benefit from a shade tarp or some other type of object to provide shade in order to meet basic licensing requirements.

This Addendum is approved by supervisor on 9/24/2026 12:02:22 PM

Date: 05/28/2026

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**.