Health and Human Services

Iowa Department of Health And Human Services

CHILD CARE CENTER ANNUAL EVALUATION

Name of Center: Waverly Child Care & Preschool

Provider No.: 18382

Address: 1600 W Bremer Ave, Waverly, IA, 50677

County: Bremer

Director's Name: Heather Wagner

On-Site Supervisor: Kristin Kuiper

Phone Number: 3193524664

E-Mail: wccp1970@gmail.com

HHS Visit Date: 06/03/2026

Licensing Period: 07/01/2025 to 07/01/2027

Fire Inspection:

Date Inspected: 05/17/2024

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

CHILD CARE CENTER ANNUAL EVALUATION

HOURS:	*Year-round*	*School-Year*	*Summer Only*
Sunday			
Monday	6:00 AM to 6:00 PM		
Tuesday	6:00 AM to 6:00 PM		
Wednesday	6:00 AM to 6:00 PM		
Thursday	6:00 AM to 6:00 PM		
Friday	6:00 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	46	52	103	60	261
Summer					0

1. Basic Overview

On 06/03/26 I made an unannounced off year licensing visit to Waverly Child Care and Preschool. I met with Heather Wagner, the director. Her internal title is Director of Operations. She started this position in December 2021. Ms. Wagner has an AAS in child development and has been employed with the program for seventeen years. She has completed NAC training. Kristin Kuiper is the on-site supervisor for this program. Her internal title is assistant director. She has been with the center since January 2002 and the on-site supervisor since May 2022. She has a BA in psychology. There are 28 staff members employed by the center.

The center is in a free-standing building. The center operates Monday through Friday from 6:00 am until 6:00 pm. The program cares for infants through school-aged children, aged ten-years-old (or fourth grade). There are currently 178 children enrolled.

There are resources for parents inside the entrance. The center partners with Central Rivers AEA to provide services to children with identified needs.

The center has the following rooms: an infant room (birth until approximately 12 months), a toddler room (approximately 12-24 months), two two-year-old rooms, three three-year-old rooms, and preschool and school-aged children are cared for in the multi-purpose room. There is a space that is currently not being used that will be used for the before and after care of the voluntary four year old preschool children once school starts. An inspection of each room was completed. Four rooms will be used by the Wavery Shell Rock School District once school starts to house the voluntary preschool program. Windows provide natural lighting. The rooms are decorated with the children's art projects, and posters to assist the children with the learning process, such as the alphabet, shapes, colors and numbers. The children's birthdates are also

CHILD CARE CENTER ANNUAL EVALUATION

posted. There is an area for circle time in most rooms.

The centers observed on the day of the licensing visit include library, Lego/blocks, table toys, games, puzzles, transportation, art/crafts, dramatic play, writing, math, science/discovery, puppets, play dough, sensory table and music. Centers were arranged in a manner that allowed easy movement between activities, but it also allowed for clear supervision by staff members. Materials were in good condition. The materials are located at child level, so they are easily accessible to the children. Make sure staff personal items, such as purses, are stored out of the reach of children.

A variety of resources are used to develop lesson plans. Activities are planned around themes. The length of the theme depends on the topic and the children's interest. Lesson plans were available for review in every room.

The center uses ProCare to complete daily sheets for the children under the age of two years old. They also use the app to communicate with all the families. They can send pictures and document activities or concerns. Parents have access to the information immediately and enjoy using the app and receiving pictures of the children.

There was a phone in each of the classrooms. Emergency numbers with the center's address and phone number were posted in each room. Emergency fire and tornado procedures and evacuation diagrams were posted by all the main program doors and outdoor exits throughout the center. A daily schedule was posted in each room.

I reviewed documentation of monthly fire and tornado drills. I reviewed documentation of monthly playground inspections. A radon test was completed in December 2025 and must be repeated in five years. Results were within EPA guidelines. The fuel burning inspection was completed and no concerns were noted. A carbon monoxide detector was on site and located in each program room as part of the safety system on the ceiling along with the fire alarms. Outlets were protected. The fire marshal inspection occurred on 05/17/24.

The program participates in the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP). The center provides the children with breakfast, lunch and a morning and afternoon snack. Ashley Wiele is the cook. Ms. Wiele uses an eight week rotation of menus. Menus are adjusted for seasons. Menus were posted. Food was stored according to the NHSPS guidelines. There are an industrial refrigerator and two industrial freezers in the kitchen and thermometers were present. There is also a bread freezer and a milk cooler and thermometers were present. There are three industrial sinks and an industrial dishwasher. There are also two handwashing sinks.

In the infant room, the center provides one brand of formula, baby food and cereal. Parents can bring a different brand if they choose. There is a refrigerator and thermometers were present. Bottles are sent home or to the kitchen to be washed and sanitized.

The center uses bleach and water to sanitize the food tables and disinfect the changing tables.

I observed or discussed diaper changes with staff members, and proper procedures are followed in most rooms. In the infant room, the staff member did not wash the child's hands. This must occur after every diaper change. In addition, the changing table was not cleaned and disinfected properly. The table must always be cleaned with soap and water prior to the bleach. There was not a pattern of disregard so this will not be cited.

Handwashing procedures were posted near all the sinks in the center. Diaper changing procedures are posted near all the changing tables.

The parent information is in the entrance of the center. The mandatory reporter, childcare consultant and the handbook availability were posted. The license was conspicuously hung. A no-smoking sign was posted at the entrance.

There are three fenced in playground areas behind the original building. Two of the areas are used for two-year-old children. One has rubber tiles for surface cushioning. The area has a playhouse and small slides. It has some pushing toys and riding toys and a picnic table. There is a large shade structure in this area. The picnic table is cracked in multiple areas and this could be a pinching hazard. Please remove it.

The second area uses woodchips for surface cushioning. There is climbing equipment with slides and other activities, a balance beam, a sandbox and a cemented area for sidewalk chalk and riding toys. There is a tree planted in this area.

CHILD CARE CENTER ANNUAL EVALUATION

The third area is for the preschool children. Woodchips are used for surface cushioning and there is also a large grassy area. There is climbing equipment with slides, ramps and other activities, a sandbox, a balance beam, a playhouse and a picnic table. There is also a cemented area for riding toys and sidewalk chalk. There is a large shade canopy in this area and trees to provide shade. You should add more sand to the sandbox.

Behind the new building there is a fenced area for infants and toddlers and a larger space for the older children. The larger space is currently being used by school age children but will eventually be used by preschool children also. This is a large grassy area with no equipment. They plan to keep the space natural for right now. The area for the infants and toddlers has turf surfacing. There are small slides, rocking toys and a dramatic play center.

2. Identify Observed Strengths of the program

This program has several staff members who have been with the center for ten years or more. This is evident during my observations in the classrooms. Staff members had great teamwork. I observed seasoned staff members guiding newer staff members. They were actively engaged with the children and introducing activities to them. They encouraged the children to use their imaginations during play. They knelt to the child's level to talk with them. They encouraged the children to use their words to solve problems and used positive redirection when necessary. Staff members provided the children with praise. They were nurturing and attentive. They took the children outside to enjoy the weather. The school age children enjoyed an activity at the library. The preschool aged children had a picnic outside for lunch.

Ms. Wagner states their staff members seem to enjoy working at the center and they are dedicated to it. They have a willingness to want to be a part of the program through all the changes that have been made. Ms. Wagner states there have been several long and slow changes over the last few years. They are willing to change with the program for the better.

Ms. Wagner states they are starting to regain notoriety within the community and their reputation is improving with staff members and parents.

Ms. Wagner states they serve a lot of good families. They help with fundraising.

Ms. Wagner states they try to be more competitive with staff pay.

Ms. Wagner sates they received a grant to make improvements to a couple of the playground areas. The one year old area is getting a shade structure. The school age area is getting a climber.

Several age groups participate in the summer library program.

The center is going to house the voluntary four year old preschool program for the school and the center will provide the childcare before and after school.

The program has provided childcare since 1970. They will celebrated 55 years of existence in August 2025. They purchased land next to the existing center and completed construction of a new addition and took possession of it in February 2023. They completed renovating the original center in August 2023.

The program is in a secured building.

The center has a Facebook page and an Instagram account.

There is information about teachers outside of each classroom.

The center works with Central Rivers AEA to assist children with identified needs.

I said this last year and it remains true; Ms. Wagner is a great director. She is committed to the center and the staff members. She has great ideas. She knows licensing standards and reaches out to me when she has questions.

3. Identify the aspects that fall below the standard

CHILD CARE CENTER ANNUAL EVALUATION

There are no citations.

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

N/A

5. Special Notes/Recommendations

A full license is issued for the remainder of the licensing period. All HHS licensing standards and procedures must be maintained during the renewal period.

An administrative change is being made to change the capacity. Four of the classrooms are not being used by the center because the Waverly Shell Rock School District is going to use them for the voluntary preschool program. Additionally, they have shifted some age groups to different classrooms. The total new capacity is 261 children.

Targeted Assessment: Behavior Management:
I discussed with Ms. Wagner her oversight of behavior management related to helping childcare staff: 1) Understand expectations, 2) managing frustrations, 3) monitor performance. Ms. Wagner states all new staff members receive orientation when they start and they address the behavior piece. They also have a checklist in each classroom. During staff meetings they discuss behavior concerns and how to deal with it. Ms. Wagner states the staff members have no problem coming to her if they have concerns about the actions of another staff member and how they handle children. Ms. Wagner states she offers help. They decide if a staff member would be a better fit in a different room and explore other options.

Ms. Wagner states she talks with staff members about stepping out of the room, having someone call the office or the staff member should walk up to the office to ask for assistance and someone from administration will step in. They talk about the staff members' feelings and talk about strategies. They use charts or assign the child with duties to help staff members, etc.

Ms. Wagner states to monitor she visits the rooms and she checks in with the parties who have concerns, along with talking with others in the classroom. She states she wants to make sure the tension is decreasing.

Date: 06/25/2026

HHS Licensing Consultant: Becky Frost

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**.