Health and Human Services

Iowa Department of Health And Human Services

CHILD CARE CENTER ANNUAL EVALUATION

Name of Center: Red Oak Head Start Preschool

Provider No.: 6915

Address: 1201 Highland Av, Red Oak, IA, 51566

County: Montgomery

Director's Name: Danni Segebart

On-Site Supervisor: Michaela Baratta

Phone Number: 7126234981

E-Mail: DSegebart@westcca.org
wmueller@westcca.org

HHS Visit Date: 11/13/2025

Licensing Period: 11/01/2024 to 11/01/2026

Fire Inspection:

Date Inspected: 08/30/2023

Comments:

Report Visit Type:

- [ ] PTO
- [ ] Licensing Visit
- [X] 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:

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

LICENSE CAPACITY	Infants	2 Years	Preschool	School-Aged	Capacity
General	4	4	16		24
Summer					0

1. Basic Overview

An unannounced licensing visit was made to Red Oak Head Start on 11/13/25. Red Oak Head Start is located at 1201 Highland Ave, Red Oak, IA 51566. There are two program rooms - one room is Early Head Start which is for 18 months to three years and the other room is used for preschool age children. The Early Head Start is a year-round program and the preschool room is during the school year. The hours are Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday 8:15 AM to 3:15 PM and Wednesday 8:15 AM to 12:30 PM. Penny Schuesster is the Education Support Specialist. Twenty-four children are enrolled.

Observation of room:
I met with Penny Schuesster during my visit. The rooms looked great and have a great variety of age and developmentally appropriate equipment and supplies for the children. The program uses Creative Curriculum Gold. Fun, hands-on learning experiences are provided for the children on a daily basis. The teachers prepare the lesson plans and use Teaching Strategies Curriculum. The Early Head Start room had eight children present with two staff. The children were coloring. Staff had excellent interactions with the children. Lesson plans and the daily schedule were posted. The room was set up in centers including dramatic play, reading time, and carpet time. The room was colorful with the children's art displayed on the walls. They use Learning Genie for daily sheets and communicate with the parents. The three- and four-year-old room was completing hearing exams on the day I was present. There were 15 children and two staff present. The children were having fun playing in centers. Lesson plans were not posted. Staff could not find the lesson plans. There is a gross motor room to allow for indoor play time. Both rooms were in ratio.

Nutrition:
Breakfast, lunch, and snack are provided each day. The food is catered from Treat America/Company Kitchen each day. They use a thermometer to measure the food temperature when it arrives and again at mealtime. The program participates in the Federal Food Program. Monthly menus are posted.

Health and safety:
Medication management procedures are followed when a child is prescribed medication. It was reported the building has all electrical appliances. An annual fuel burning inspection was completed in April 2025 and was in the acceptable range. Fire and tornado drills are practiced and documented each month. The first aid kit is properly stocked. The center uses bleach water for sanitizing and disinfecting. Each room is responsible for mixing the bleach water daily. Please use the three-step bottle procedure for both sanitizing and disinfecting 1. Soap/water for cleaning, 2. Water for rinsing and 3. Your EPA and child care approved products for sanitizing and disinfecting. Please refer to the specific bottle of bleach you are using for mixing instructions for sanitizing and disinfecting. If the mixing instructions aren't on the label, please refer to the website on the bottle for mixing instructions. Bleach/water needs to be mixed daily. Toys are sanitized daily in the Early Head Start and as needed or when the children are not present with the older kids. Bedding is washed weekly. There were no paper

towels in the bathroom for the older children. In the gross motor room, there is a mat on the bathroom floor to change diapers for the older children. This is not recommended for sanitary and health and safety purposes. Please consult with your nurse consultant to discuss this issue and other options. The Early Head Start students always return to their room to use the changing station. The gross motor room is used mostly during inclement weather.

Playground:
The center uses the playground. Sand is used for fall surfacing. Monthly playground inspections are documented. The center obtained grant money for a new playground. Active supervision is used to keep eyes on children when they are outside playing. A new fence will be built. There is a climbing structure and riding toys.

Transportation:
The Head Start program doesn't provide transportation services. Some children ride the bus.

Administrative Records:
The emergency contact information was reviewed in the children's files and was in good order. Please make sure the dentist's contact information, including phone number, is provided. Staff files were read at the administrative office on a prior date. Staff training is provided on an ongoing basis. One staff member did not have her CPR/first aid certification. She had completed the online portion but was not current on the hands-on portion.

2. Identify Observed Strengths of the program

Red Oak Head Start and Early Head Start is an excellent resource for the community. Staff had excellent interactions with the children. They were positive and nurturing. Children participate in fun educational learning experiences on a daily basis.

3. Identify the aspects that fall below the standard

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

109.9(2)d: All files contain sufficient information and authorization to allow the center to secure emergency medical and dental services at any time child is in center's care.

109.11(2)b: Program space must meet the following conditions: Room must be arranged so as not to obstruct the direct observation of children by staff. Individual covered mats, bed, or cots and appropriate bedding will be provided for all children who nap. Equipment and materials are maintained in a sanitary manner. Sufficient spacing must be maintained. The center will have sufficient toilet articles for each child for hand washing.

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.

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.

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

5. Special Notes/Recommendations

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A full license is recommended for 11-1-2024 to 11-1-2026.

109.7(2): One staff is not current on her CPR/First Aid. Please make sure all staff are current on all the mandatory training.

109.9(2)d: One file did not have a dentist's phone number. Please make sure all files contain the dentist's contact information including phone number.

109.11(2)b: One of the children's restrooms did not have paper towels. Please make sure there are paper towels in all restrooms.

109.11(3)a: In the gross motor room, there is a mat on the bathroom floor to change diapers for the older children. This is not recommended for sanitary and health and safety purposes.

109.12(1): The Head Start room did not have current lesson plans. Please make sure all rooms have lesson plans.

Date: 11/18/2025

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**.