Health and Human Services

Iowa Department of Health And Human Services

CHILD CARE CENTER ANNUAL EVALUATION

Name of Center: Raccoon River Preschool

Provider No.: 45927

Address: 28059 Fairground Rd, Adel, IA, 50003

County: Dallas

Director's Name: Betsi Ausdemore

On-Site Supervisor: Amanda Taborga

Phone Number: 5154443492

E-Mail: raccoonriverpreschool@gmail.com

HHS Visit Date: 01/21/2026

Licensing Period: 02/02/2026 to 02/01/2028

Fire Inspection:

Date Inspected: 09/09/2025

Comments: State Fire Marshal inspections are due every three years for licensing.

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

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HOURS:	Year-round	School-Year	Summer Only
Sunday			
Monday		8:45 AM to 2:45 PM	
Tuesday		8:45 AM to 2:45 PM	
Wednesday		8:45 AM to 2:45 PM	
Thursday		8:45 AM to 2:45 PM	
Friday			
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	30	0	30
Summer					0

1. Basic Overview

A licensing inspection was conducted on 1/21/26. The director was present for the entire visit and the on-site supervisor was present for a portion of the visit.

All areas of the program were observed. These areas observed consisted of classroom observations and activities, ratios, nutritional practices, health and safety practices, playground observation, field trip and transportation practices, and administrative review.

Raccoon River Preschool (formerly known as New Hope Beginnings Preschool) is a program that was given permission to open on 9/8/15. In 8/2022, the program moved and changed their name. The program is located in a building on the Dallas County Fairgrounds in Adel, IA. The program serves children ages three to five years of age using the Creative Learning Curriculum. The preschool prefers that children are fully toilet trained or close to being toilet trained before being enrolled. There are AM and PM classes (8:45am - 11:15am and 12:00pm - 2:45pm). The capacity of classroom #1 is 16 children. Capacity of classroom #2 is 22. However, since there are only two toilets, total capacity that can be present at any given time is 30 children. Overall capacity is currently 54 children between the AM and PM classes.

The preschool is overseen by a Board. The director of this program as of 5/24/18 is Betsi Ausdemore. Betsi has a Bachelor's degree in Child and Family Services. Betsi also has past experience working in child care. The on-site supervisor of this program is Amanda Taborga. Amanda has an AA degree as well as past experience working in child care.

During the visit, in classroom one, children were sitting at a table doing an activity being facilitated by staff. In classroom two, children were engaged in free-choice play at the different learning stations made available to them. Child hand

washing was also observed. Children gave specific answers as to where they relocate to for monthly fire and tornado drills.

NUTRITION: Parents are required to bring in snack for the class when it is their child's turn during the month. The center informs parents what they are to bring that meet CACFP guidelines. All food storage was sufficient.

TRANSPORTATION/FIELD TRIPS: The program will bring in different agencies for presentations to children. The only field trips taken are walking field trips around the Dallas County Fairgrounds.

PLAYGROUND: The center has their own fenced in playground with a shade structure and has more of a nature play theme.

2. Identify Observed Strengths of the program

This preschool meets a growing demand in the Adel community. Enrollment remains steady.

Parent participation is highly encouraged. Special events are scheduled throughout the school-year for parents to attend. There is also a parent advisory board. The director stated they have a good relationship with their families.

The preschool has their own website. The center also has their own Facebook page for more communication with parents.

Lead teachers have degrees.

There is a secure entrance during preschool hours of operation.

There are good community partnerships with local businesses such as the library, Lion's Club, Fareway, ISU Extension Office, Fairgrounds, 4-H, etc.).

The program participates in IQ4K which is a voluntary program based on best practice.

Staff stated they work well together and enjoy working with each other.

Good child/staff interactions were observed.

The program works closely with AEA, CCR&R, and their nurse consultant as needed. This was observed on the day of the inspection.

The center uses Brightwheel for further communication with parents and for child forms.

The director recently completed her NAC.

The center has a radon mitigation system.

Over the past year through grants and fundraisers, the center has installed automated paper towel dispensers, planted some trees on the playground, and took out a wall to increase the size of the second classroom.

3. Identify the aspects that fall below the standard

Two staff are past due for Mandatory Reporter re-certification. THIS IS A REPEAT ISSUE FROM LAST YEAR.

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

N/A.

5. Special Notes/Recommendations

Radon testing was completed 9/5/25 - 9/8/25. Radon levels came back below the 4.0 cutoff in both classrooms. Because levels were below 4.0, the center can move to testing for radon at least every five years now. So long as radon levels remain below 4.0, they can remain on a five year plan. If at the next testing, levels in any classroom come back 4.0 or higher, the center will have to have a mitigation plan, retest, and at least temporarily move back to testing every two years.

The annual furnace inspection was completed 1/5/26.

A new, full, two-year license is recommended.

Date: 01/21/2026

HHS Licensing Consultant: Nate Knepper

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**.