Health and Human Services

Iowa Department of Health And Human Services

CHILD CARE CENTER ANNUAL EVALUATION

Name of Center: Lil Tattle Tales Childcare & Learning Center

Provider No.: 52145

Address: 3303 Harry Langdon BLVD, Council Bluffs, IA, 51503

County: Pottawattamie

Director's Name: Janelle Kannedy and Esther Schroeder

On-Site Supervisor:

Phone Number: 7123667034

E-Mail: liltattletalescb@gmail.com

HHS Visit Date: 08/21/2025

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

Fire Inspection:

Date Inspected: 10/18/2022

Comments:

Report Visit Type:

- [ ] PTO
- [ ] 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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Program Population Served:

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

LICENSE CAPACITY	Infants	2 Years	Preschool	School-Aged	Capacity
General		8	8	6	22
Summer					0

1. Basic Overview

An unannounced visit was made to Lil Tattle Tales Childcare & Learning Center on 8/21/25. Lil Tales Childcare and Learning Center opened on 7/5/23. Janelle Kannedy is the director. Esther Schroeder, Janelle's mother, works at the center. Esther and Janelle have several years of experience operating a registered home child care. There are 18 children enrolled. The building is locked and staff have to let a person inside.

Observation of room: Seventeen children were present when I visited (4 - three-year-olds, 5 – four-year-olds, and 8 children over age 5). They were in ratio. All of the children were napping/resting. The room was too dark and children were not visible. Janelle turned on some lights. During rest time, adequate lighting must be maintained for staff to effectively supervise children. They must be able to see their face and chest to make sure they are breathing. The center looks great. It is one large room. There is a fun variety of age and developmentally appropriate toys and equipment. There are two TVs mounted on the wall to watch movies which were on during nap time. The center has lesson plans hanging on the door. They use the curriculum printout from Mother Goose on Brightwheel. Staff were positive and attentive to the needs of the children.

Nutrition: There is a gate to prevent children from entering the kitchen. Meals are prepared onsite. Make sure the staff who is cooking is not considered in ratio. Even if you aren't on the federal food program you still need to follow the CACFP food guidelines. Esther reports they follow CACFP guidelines. Proper food storage was observed. Menus were posted. Thermometers were in the refrigerator and freezer.

Health and safety: Monthly fire/tornado drills are practiced and documented. Radon testing was done in March 2024 with a test score of 0.3 pCi/L. Radon testing is required every five years and the score must be under a 4.0 pCi/L. Janelle and Esther reported that the building does not have fuel burning appliances, therefore an annual fuel burning inspection is not required. Medication management procedures are followed when children are prescribed medication. They have one child currently on medication and have the medication administration form with the medication. The medication management class is recommended. There is a diaper changing station in the bathroom; however, currently they don’t have any children in diapers. Please follow the directions on your specific bottle of bleach for mixing instructions. If the instructions aren't on the bottle, go to the website on the bottle for instructions. Please use the three-bottle procedure 1. Soap/water for cleaning, 2. Water for rinsing and 3. Your EPA and child care approved product for sanitizing and disinfecting. Bleach/water must be mixed daily. You can discuss other options for sanitizing and disinfecting besides bleach/water with your child care nurse consultant. Handwashing procedures are posted. There is a first aid kit that goes outside with them when they go outside to play. Each cot had its own sheet, blanket, and pillow that are washed weekly.

Playground: The center has a playground with several pieces of equipment as well as swings. Pea gravel is used for surfacing. Please refer to the Public Playground Safety Handbook for specific information regarding surfacing, fall zones,

etc. A new fence around the playground was installed in 2024. Monthly playground safety checks are completed. The slide was loose and needed to be tightened. Esther said it is tightened regularly due to the children putting gravel down the slide.

Transportation: Daily transportation services aren't provided.

Administrations: Staff files were read and both were complete. Three child files were read and they were all incomplete. Please update all children's files immediately. The mandatory reporting form and fire/tornado diagrams were not posted. There also were no emergency numbers posted by the phone. Please get all of these posted immediately. The center uses Brightwheel.

2. Identify Observed Strengths of the program

Your center is an excellent resource for the community. Janelle and Esther are enthusiastic and proud of the center. They both have many years of experience providing child care.
They are continuing to learn the licensing rules.

3. Identify the aspects that fall below the standard

109.4(2): Postings are required for: The certificate of license. Notice of exposure to communicable disease. Notice of decision to deny, suspend, or revoke center license or reduce to provisional status. Mandatory reporting requirements. Notice of availability of the handbook. Name and contact information of the HHS licensing consultant. Program activities and menus. All postings shall be conspicuously placed at the main entrance of the center. The center did not have the mandatory reporting sign posted nor did they have fire/tornado and emergency exits labeled. Diagrams of the fire/tornado routes should be posted near the doors.

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. Three child files were read and two did not have contact names and/or numbers for their doctor and/or dentist.

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. The room was too dark and children were not visible during nap time. During rest time, adequate lighting must be maintained for staff to effectively supervise children. They must be able to see their face and chest to make sure they are breathing.

109.11(4)a: Center must have safe outdoor program area adjacent to the center, with sufficient square footage to accommodate at least 30 percent of the enrollment capacity at any one time at 75 spear feet per child. Outdoor space must: Be free from litter and unsafe materials and free from contamination by the drainage or ponding of sewage or storm water. Include safe play equipment and an area of shade. Include fencing to protect from bodies of water or vehicular traffic. The slide on the playground was loose and needed to be tightened.

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 7/1/25 to 7/1/27

Please send me an email by 9/19/25 and let me know how the noncompliance items listed above have been corrected.

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Please contact CCR&R if you need help with child files.

Date: 08/31/2025

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**.