Health and Human Services

Iowa Department of Health And Human Services

CHILD CARE CENTER ANNUAL EVALUATION

Name of Center: Little Raptor Daycare

Provider No.: 50355

Address: 519 E Maple ST, Holstein, IA, 51025

County: Ida

Director's Name: Nicki Jacobson

On-Site Supervisor:

Phone Number: 7123684353

E-Mail: njacobson@rvraptors.org

HHS Visit Date: 08/01/2025

Licensing Period: 07/01/2024 to 07/01/2026

Fire Inspection:

Date Inspected: 07/25/2024

Comments: I completed a visit on 08/01/25 to measure additional rooms completed through renovation which increased their capacity to 62

Report Visit Type:

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

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

LICENSE CAPACITY	Infants	2 Years	Preschool	School-Aged	Capacity
General	21	17	24		62
Summer					0

1. Basic Overview

On 08/14/25 I completed an unannounced visit to the Little Raptors Daycare Center in Holstein. I was able to speak with Director Nicki Jacobson. Ms. Jacobson became the director in July 2021. Ms. Jacobson has over 15 years' experience working with children in a childcare center. Little Raptors is housed in the Holstein Elementary School and Center is within the Galva-Holstein Community School. The school built an addition to including a childcare wing. The center operates Monday through Friday from 5:45am to 6pm and serves children ages 6 weeks to 12 years old. This childcare wing consists of 3 rooms; an infant to two-year-old room; two-three-year-old room; and PK to 5th grade. The program may also use a commons area for the school agers at times. Capacity of the area is 50. There are 45 children enrolled in the program but 16 present at the time of my visit. Tomorrow there will be a low census as they are having their fire alarms checked as well as their fire inspection.

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

There is nice engagement with staff and the children in their care. They were seen playing with the children on the floor or reading books to them. In the infant room there were 3 staff focused on helping the children fall asleep. This was done through rocking and patting children's backs. All the infants in the room were quiet and appeared comfortable in the care of staff. This suggests that these children have regular contact with an identified staff member, helping the children feel at ease. The infant room has wooden gates to keep children out of the kitchen/office area. The room has a nice flow to it and the separation of younger children from older children is very effective.

Meals are prepared by the Galva-Holstein school as well as snacks. Food is brought down to the infant and toddler rooms and the PK and school agers go to the gym to eat. Food storage practices are good. The center follows the CACFP guidelines for nutrition since the school is currently on the food program. Menus were posted.

This worker observed the 2-3 rooms finishing their meal. They all got up with no prompt and went and washed their hands. This indicates that this is not something new but that it has done so frequently it has become a good habit. They were also very curious with questions which suggest that good social mentoring is occurring.
Family photos are incorporated into the classrooms to support children's comfort and ease the transition from home to school. A wide selection of educational toys and materials were observed, providing opportunities for exploration and learning. Visual aids, including sight words, classroom rules, handwashing reminders, the alphabet, and numbers, were displayed to support early literacy and self-help skills. Staff are bilingual, nurturing, and attentive to cleanliness, which contributes to the diversity and inclusive environment of the center. The center provides a supportive and engaging environment for children using a theme-based curriculum, educational toys, and meaningful visual displays. The inclusion

of family photos, children's artwork, and bilingual staff further fosters a sense of belonging, comfort, and cultural diversity.

Medication practices are followed. First aid is sufficient to treat minor injuries. Thermometers were observed in all freezers and refrigerators. Fire/tornado need to be documented monthly.

A Fenced-in playground is adjacent to the childcare wing. Surfacing is grass and rubber square tiles. The playground has a nice big shade structure. There are holes that need to be fixed on the area around the playground area. There is quite a gap between the cement used to make the playground to the grass. A request was made last year for this to be corrected and still not done. These need to be fixed asap. The center does not have any climbing equipment on the playground. Preschool/school agers use the school's playground which also added a new shade structure. They do have access to an area of the school for large motor development or the gym for inclement weather.

They use school bus transportation if needed for the older children.

Staff use Bright Wheel to communicate regularly with parents.

Goals for the center include completing their food assistance application. They would also like to begin the process of IQFK's evaluation.

2. Identify Observed Strengths of the program

Staff are very engaging with the children in their care.

Their work force is diversified and is committed to providing good care.

Children responded well to staff; it was obvious that there was a bond between them.

3. Identify the aspects that fall below the standard

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.

109.10(13)a: The center shall have written emergency plans and diagrams for responding to fire, tornado, flood, and plans responding to intoxicated parents and lost or abducted children.Emergency plans shall include written procedures including plans for:Evacuation to safely leave the facility.Relocation to a common, safe location after evacuation.Shelter in place to take immediate shelter when the current location is unsafe to leave due to the emergency issue.Lock down to protect children and providers from an external situation.Communication and reunification with parents or other adults responsible for the children, which includes emergency telephone numbers.Continuity of operations.To address the individual children, including those with functional or access needs.

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(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.

109.11(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.

109.11(4)b: Record of monthly inspections of outdoor recreation area and equipment shall be kept.

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

5. Special Notes/Recommendations

Director needs to email consultant by 09/30/25 confirming that those aspects that fall below standard have been corrected.

A referral was made to CCRR at the request of the Director to assist with paper worker and administrative duties.
A full license is recommended at this time at this time.

At least one visit will be made to the center during the next year.

Date: 11/10/2025

HHS Licensing Consultant: Leann Steinhauer

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**.