Health and Human Services

Iowa Department of Health And Human Services

CHILD CARE CENTER ANNUAL EVALUATION

Name of Center: Sunshine Learning Center

Provider No.: 19109

Address: 101 Creslane DR, Maquoketa, IA, 52060

County: Jackson

Director's Name: Amanda Burken

On-Site Supervisor:

Phone Number: 5636522847

E-Mail: amanda@sunshinemaquoketa.org

HHS Visit Date: 04/13/2026

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

Fire Inspection:

Date Inspected: 11/28/2023

Comments: PER FIRE INSPECTION: The remodel of Sunshine Learning Center Preschool & Daycare Infant Room & Gross Motor Room is granted a certificate of occupancy and inspection, dated 09/05/2025 by the Iowa Department of Inspections, Appeals, & Licensing – Fire Prevention.

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

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CHILD CARE CENTER ANNUAL EVALUATION

HOURS:	*Year-round*	*School-Year*	*Summer Only*
Sunday			
Monday	6:00 AM to 5:30 PM		
Tuesday	6:00 AM to 5:30 PM		
Wednesday	6:00 AM to 5:30 PM		
Thursday	6:00 AM to 5:30 PM		
Friday	6:00 AM to 5:30 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	40	19	48	44	151
Summer					0

1. Basic Overview

An unannounced off year visit was completed at this center on 4/13/26. Amanda Burken is the center director, and she was present on the day of the visit along with other staff. Amanda is qualified with a Bachelor's degree in education with a prek endorsement as well as an early childhood education diploma. Amanda has been with the center since 1999, and has been in the center director role off an on over that time and when not center director then functioned as assistant director. This is a non-profit center governed by a board of directors. The center operates out of the main level of a large building. The second level of the building is an attic just used for utilities and storage. The center does participate in the Iowa Voluntary Preschool Grant. The center director states the center uses the Creative Curriculum throughout the center. The center reports enrollment of 68 children at the time of the visit.

On the day of the visit, the center consists of the following program space: Breakfast dining room (discussed allowable age combinations for this room), infant 1 room (six weeks to 12 months, next to ball room), infant 2 room (not yet ready for use), twos room (two/three year old), “Ball room" (gross motor room for all except school age), "FAST room" (school age), fours room (four/five years), threes room (three years), ones and tots room (12 months through 23 months). All program rooms are visible from the hallways either through large windows or through windows in the doors. Program rooms are generally well stocked with accessible materials. Materials were generally well maintained and organized. Program rooms include adjacent restroom areas and sinks in the restroom areas and also within the program rooms. Rooms with children in diapers include appropriate diaper stations. An additional hand washing sink within the program room has been added to some of the rooms. All program space was observed.

The center serves breakfast, morning snack, lunch, and afternoon snack. All meals are prepared on-site in the center's kitchen by the experienced cook(s) and assistant. The center does participate in the CACFP. The kitchen continues to

CHILD CARE CENTER ANNUAL EVALUATION

appear clean and is highly organized.

2. Identify Observed Strengths of the program

The director, administration, and staff continue to work well together and the center appears to be well managed. Staff were once again observed to be engaged with the children in activities in all program areas. Community support for the center continues to be strong. Program rooms are large and bright with windows, and children's crafts and projects are posted throughout. The center is in the process of a two phase remodeling project which continues to improve the appearance of the center both inside and outside of the building. Required licensing documentation, staff, and child files continue to be highly organized.

3. Identify the aspects that fall below the standard

109.7(1): All staff (within first three months of employment):Iowa's training for the mandatory reporting of child abuse.At least one hour of training regarding universal precautions.Certification in First Aid infant, child, and adult cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) or equivalent certification approved by the Department. A valid certificate indicating the date of training and expiration date shall be maintained.Certification in infant, child, and adult first aid that uses a nationally recognized curriculum or is received from a nationally recognized training organization including the American Red Cross, American Heart Association, American Safety and Health Institute, or MEDIC First Aid or an equivalent certification approved by the Department. A valid certificate indicating the date of training and expiration date shall be maintained.Minimum health and safety trainings, (Essentials) approved by the Department. If significant changes occur to content, the Department may require the training be renewed.
1. _2_ staff files reviewed did not have the required trainings completed within the first three months of employment as required.

109.9(1)a: All files contain:Copy of a department criminal history record check form or any other permission form approved by Department of Public Safety for conducting an Iowa or national criminal history record checkCopy of a request for child abuse information form, when applicable.Copies of results of Iowa record checks conducted through the SING for review by the department upon request.Copies of national criminal history check results.Any department issued documents sent to the center related to a record check, regardless of findings.
1. _1_ staff file reviewed did not have the Iowa record check completed prior to the staff's involvement with child care.

109.11(3)a: Center shall ensure that:Facility and premises are sanitary, safe, and hazard free.
1. Diaper ointment accessible to the children in the ones and tots room.
2. Miscellaneous choking hazards accessible in drawer in the infant 1 room.

109.12(4)b: Each infant and toddler shall be diapered in a sanitary manner as frequently as needed at a central diapering area. Diapering, sanitation, and hand-washing procedures shall be posted and implemented in every diapering area. There shall be at least one changing table for every 15 infants.
1. Review diaper changing procedures with staff as they are posted. Reminder to wash child's hands after diaper change.

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

N/A

5. Special Notes/Recommendations

Targeted Assessment: Behavior Management
I discussed with (director) their oversight of behavior management related to helping childcare staff: 1) Understand expectations, 2) managing frustrations, 3) monitor performance.
The center director provided the following responses:
1) Some of the things we want staff to do and understand is that staff need to supervise actively, help teach emotional regulation, use calm voices and respectful language along with redirecting inappropriate behavior. Staff also need to use consistent routines, reinforce positive behavior, model problem-solving and document serious incidents with children.
2) We try to train staff to recognize physical and emotional cues such as repeating commands, talking louder or faster,

CHILD CARE CENTER ANNUAL EVALUATION

feeling personally challenged by a child or children, feeling tight/overwhelmed, etc. A short model is to pause before responding, take a slow deep breath, lower your voice and body posture, and connect before correcting.
3) Sitting in classrooms and observing the children and teachers, providing behavior management training, staff reviews, staff to child ratios, changing the classroom environment, providing staff a few minute break, making sure staff is engaged with the children.

The total capacity of the center is 151 children with the following individual room capacities:

Infant 1 room = 15 children (CRIBS)
Ones room = 25 children
Twos room = 19 children
Threes room = 24 children
Fours room = 24 children
FAST room (school age) = 44 children

The ball room is not included in the center's capacity because it is a multi-purpose room, however, it may have not exceed 16 children at any given time.

The breakfast dining room is not included in the center's capacity because it is used only for breakfast for multiple groups of children, however, it may not exceed 20 children at any given time.

The center is reminded of the rules about combining different age groupings of children and what is allowed and when. Two year old children may not be combined with four year old children and three year old children may not be combined with six year old children unless under the very specific rule 109.8(2)h for the very beginning and/or end of the day with only the number of children and staff present at the center as defined by the rule. The center will need to ensure compliance.

1. Emergency plan posting is needed at hallway exit door near the FAST room. This has been noted previously.
2. Paper towel dispenser is needed at the hand washing sink in the FAST room.

The center will continue with a full license. Please address the violation(s) and/or concern(s) noted in the report so that corrections are obvious and ensure that items remain in compliance. This report does not require a written response. Thank you.

Date: 05/26/2026

HHS Licensing Consultant: Heidi Hungate

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**.