Health and Human Services

Iowa Department of Health And Human Services

CHILD CARE CENTER ANNUAL EVALUATION

Name of Center: Carroll Area Child Care Center & Preschool

Provider No.: 6222

Address: 113 W 7th Street, Carroll, IA, 51401

County: Carroll

Director's Name: Keely Fara

On-Site Supervisor: Lexie Flug

Phone Number: 7127921375

E-Mail: keelycacccp@gmail.com

HHS Visit Date: 05/20/2026

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

Fire Inspection:

Date Inspected: 07/19/2023

Comments: Fire inspections are due every three years. Please get me a new inspection by 7/9/26.

Report Visit Type:

- [ ] PTO
- [ ] Licensing Visit
- [X] Drop In
- [ ] Administrative Change

License Type:

- [X] Full
- [ ] Provisional

Quality initiative:

Quality Rating: 2

- [ ] Accrediation

Program Duration:

- [X] Year-Round
- [ ] School Year
- [ ] Summer Only

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HOURS:	*Year-round*	*School-Year*	*Summer Only*
Sunday			
Monday	6:00 AM to 6:00 PM		
Tuesday	6:00 AM to 6:00 PM		
Wednesday	6:00 AM to 6:00 PM		
Thursday	6:00 AM to 6:00 PM		
Friday	6:00 AM to 6:00 PM		
Saturday			

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	32	30	106	0	168
Summer					0

1. Basic Overview

An unannounced licensing visit was made to Carroll Area Child Care Center & Preschool on 5/20/26. Keely Fara is the director of this center and the school-age center next door as of 11/2021. Keely was previously the on-site supervisor. Keely has a bachelor's degree in Child, Adult, and Family Services. She has been working with children since 2011. Lexie Flug has been the on-site supervisor at this location since 12/2021. Lexie has a bachelor's degree in Elementary Education with an active teaching license. She obtained her master's degree in Early Childhood Education and also has experience working in child care. I met with Keely and Lexie during my visit. The center provides child care for infant age children to preschool age children. Carroll Area CCC & PS KC site is located in the Renew Church building next door. This site provides child care to preschool and school age children. Both centers are overseen by a board. Monthly board meetings are held.

Observation of rooms:
The center has eight programming rooms but they use only five. They would be able to fill the rooms if they had enough staff. The programming rooms look great and have a fun variety of age and developmentally appropriate toys and equipment. The rooms all had the necessary postings. There is also a large motor skills room that is split into two sides. One side is for the younger children and the other side is for the older children. The center uses the Playground child care app. All rooms were in ratio. Children were observed playing both inside and outside. Staff had excellent interactions with the children; they were positive and attentive to the needs of the children. I observed a staff member washing a child's hands after diapering. I also observed children washing their hands after using the restroom. This leads me to believe the center is following the proper times for children to wash their hands. The daily sheets looked good. The center uses Frog Street and their own curriculum they have developed over the years for the younger children and they follow children's interests. The rooms had lesson plans/activities. The lead teacher creates the lesson plans for each room. Once children become school

age, they go to the Carroll Area Child Care Center & PS KC Site that is next door that serves school-age children; preschool programming is also located at this site. The Playground app is the main source of communication with parents. If something is urgent, they post immediately. Every room was painted in 2025 and there was new flooring put in in the classrooms in 2026. In 2026, the center is cleaning and power washing the exterior and they will be painting this year.

Nutrition:
Meals are prepared onsite. Breakfast, lunch, and snack are served daily. Menus are posted on a five-week rotation menu. They are posted at the center and on the Playground app. The center is on the federal food program. A package of hamburger was being thawed laying out. Frozen foods should be thawed in the refrigerator.

Health and Safety:
Monthly fire and tornado drills are practiced and documented. The center uses Purell Surface for sanitizing and disinfecting. The three step bottle procedure is used: 1. Soap/water for cleaning, 2. Water for rinsing, and 3. Your EPA and child care approved product for sanitizing and disinfecting. Keely, Lexie, and the lead teachers in each room have received medication administration training. They follow proper medication administration procedures. Emergency medications are not locked up and are easily accessible to staff. Radon testing was done in May 2023. The test results for all programming rooms were under 4.0 pCi/L. Radon testing is due every five years if the test results are under 4.0 pCi/L. The furnace inspection was completed on 10/31/25. The carbon monoxide detector is built into the fire system.

Playground:
The center has a nice, fenced playground area. It is divided into two separate areas depending on the ages of the children. The center has done fundraising and received grants for the playground. New fencing, equipment, and poured in place surfacing on the younger children's area were completed in the fall of 2025. It has climbing structures, slides, balls, riding toys, playhouse, and a sandbox. There is a shade tarp. The older playground is for three years and up. It has climbing structures, slides, a sandbox, balls, and tunnels. Rubber tiles are used for fall surfacing. They have trees for shade. Monthly playground safety checks are completed and documented.

Transportation:
The center doesn't offer daily transportation services. The center takes walking field trips. If they go on a field trip that requires transportation, the center contracts with the Carroll School District.

Administrative records:
Four staff files were reviewed and were in excellent order. Eleven children’s files were reviewed and were in excellent order. Staff meetings are held quarterly and weekly updates are emailed to staff. There are monthly staff celebrations. Keely and Lexie maintain daily contact with staff. The center participates in IQ4K level 2.

2. Identify Observed Strengths of the program

Keely and Lexie are very enthusiastic and proud of the center. They are very organized and manage the center very well. They work with Jami with Childcare Collaborative. They work with CCR&R as needed. The Child Care Nurse Consultant visits the classrooms for educational purposes such as the benefits of sunscreen. The center is a wonderful resource for the community. There is a secure entrance into the center. Security cameras are also in place both indoors and outdoors. The center participates in IQ4K level 2. Staff have excellent interactions with the children. The center has an employee recognition program for good work. Staff longevity is a strength of the center. There are 11 staff with over three years of employment. Staff work really well together. The center has a website and a Facebook page. The center has a supportive board that is highly involved in the center's operations. Several staff are involved with the TEACH and WAGE$ programs. All of the lead teachers are pursuing CDA’s. The center uses the Playground child care app for communication with parents, signing children in and out of the center, etc. The center participates in fundraising, receives grants, and community funding for equipment, supplies etc. The center is a new member to NAEYC.

3. Identify the aspects that fall below the standard

109.13(5)b: Sanitary and safe methods in food preparation, serving, and storage sufficient to prevent transmission of disease, infestation, and spoilage are followed. Staff preparing food that have injuries on hands wear protective gloves. Staff serving food use clean serving utensils and have clean hands/wear protective gloves. Frozen food was not properly being thawed.

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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.

Targeted Assessment Behavior Management
I discussed with Keely and Lexie their oversight of behavior management related to helping childcare staff: 1. Understand expectations, 2. Managing frustrations, 3. Monitor performance. There are cameras in every room. They try to be proactive and preventative rather than reactive. Staff communicate with each other very well. Teachers can ask for breaks as needed. Some staff have PBIS training. Staff with longevity model how to handle behaviors.

I provided Keely with the instructions on how to properly thaw frozen food.

Date: 05/26/2026

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**.