GETTING OFF TO A GOOD START
Welcome to LCCDC for the new program year. To help your child get off to a good start, new families may wish to try the following tips:

a) Familiarize yourself and your child with the daily schedule. Each classrooms daily schedule is different so if you did not receive one at your home visit please ask your child’s classroom teacher.

b) Remain calm. When you are not rushed, your calmness conveys a feeling that your child is in good hands.

c) Remember to say goodbye and hello. Children need to see you leave the building. Wave good bye as they watch you from the window or playground. When you return, offer a hug and/or words of encouragement.

d) Be consistent with your pick up time so your child knows when you will be back.

e) Call the center at 892-5700 if you need to check on the status of your child after a difficult separation.

Be patient. Your child needs time to adjust to a new environment. Being consistent in arriving and departing at the same time helps your child to adjust to the daily routine sooner.

Please do not enter the front door without a mask on. If you are not wearing a mask the staff member taking temperatures will open the door to take your child’s temperature and give you the okay to go.

September Events

Monday, September 7 - Center Closed for Labor Day

Tuesday, September 8 - First Day of Classes

Tuesday, September 21 - Hearing Screening on children by HACAP

COVID-19 Exclusion Guidance for Parents

If your child has any of the following symptoms they will need to be excluded from the center:

1) For 10 days from the onset of symptoms,

2) Symptoms must be improving over the last 72 hours and

3) Fever free for 72 hours without fever reducing medications.

The symptoms include any of the following:

- Fever of 100.4 degrees or higher
- Cough
- Trouble breathing
- Sore throat
- Body aches
- Headache
- New loss of taste or smell
- Reddened, blotchy rash
- Stomach pain
- Vomiting/diarrhea

If your child has been exposed to COVID-19 or someone who has had any of the symptoms listed above, they must be out of the center for 14 days from the time of exposure and they cannot have any of the above mentioned symptoms during that 14-day time period.

If anyone has travelled internationally or been on a cruise ship within the past 14 days, they would need to self-isolate for 14 days upon return.

If your child becomes ill while at the center they will be isolated as best we can and you will be called. It is the expectation that you will pick up your child immediately. You will need to contact your child’s physician so that he/she can determine if the child should be seen in the office or via a telehealth visit. If the child is diagnosed with something other than COVID-19, you will provide a doctor’s note explaining the diagnosis and when the child may return to the center. Testing for COVID is recommended by the CDC for any illness with children.

Linn County Child Development Center reserves the right to have the final determination as to when a child has met the COVID-19 criteria to return to the program.
Welcome to new families - We want to extend a warm welcome to new families that are joining our center this fall! We hope you find Linn County Child Development Center to be a “family-friendly” place where you feel comfortable and at home. Our goal is to create a sense of community among children, parents and staff. We hope to be able to open our doors again to parents so that you will be able to spend some time in the center and visit your child’s classroom. We will have no more than 10 children in each classroom and will continue to follow DHS, CDC and IDPH guidelines before we slowly taper in more children.

Call us if your child will be absent or late: Please give us a call at 892-5700 by 9:00 AM if your child is going to be absent or late. This allows us to have an accurate lunch count and to assure that we have enough food without having a lot of waste. In general, it’s best for children to be here by 9:00, so they don’t miss out on classroom activities.

Important Center Phone Numbers: The center’s office hours are from 8:00 to 5:00 and our primary phone number is 892-5700. To reach classroom staff from 6:30 to 8:00 am and after 5:00 pm please call 892-5712.

Pick up time and policy: We want to remind everyone that the center closes at 5:30 PM each day for the full day students and 12:30 pm for the half day students. We don’t have a financial penalty for late pick-ups, but if a family is late very often, we will need to set up a corrective plan. Ongoing problems could result in dropping a family from the center. DHS is our contact for children who are here after 5:40 with no call or staff not being able to reach parents or contacts on emergency cards. So it is very important to be on time and to keep your emergency cards up to date. Thanks for your cooperation.

Center Hours 6:30-5:30 M-F

Footwear Reminder: We have a footwear policy which states that children should not come to the center in sandals, flip-flops or slip-on footwear. Children can get hurt if their sandals become loose while running or climbing. Sandals can also get caught more easily in bike pedals, causing children to fall. We will send a friendly reminder note home when children come to the center in sandals or flip-flops.

LCCDC’s National Accreditation and Family Survey results: LCCDC has been accredited by the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) since 1990 and our current accreditation is valid through 2023.

NAEYC-Accredited programs demonstrate their quality by meeting 10 NAEYC Early Childhood Program Standards, which are based on the latest research on the education and development of young children.

Family Surveys are an important part of this process and LCCDC gets input from parents each year using the NAEYC survey form. Our 2019 Family Survey, which served as a center evaluation form, was completed by parents in May 2020. We will be conducting the family survey again this year during conferences in November and May with families enrolled during this school year.

I’d like to thank you in advance for filling these out and helping us to improve in any areas needed.
MEET OUR MANAGEMENT AND SUPPORT STAFF

Office

Gloria Witzberger
Director

Colette Stocks
Program Supervisor

Margene Howard
Clerk Typist

MaryAnn Pudar
Enrollment

Child Care Workers

Andrea Edward

Rose Mahnke

CACFP Food Service

Jessica Roach
Food Service Coordinator

Diane Rowe
Center Aide

Karen Goodwin
Head Start Family Support Worker

MEET OUR TEACHING STAFF FOR THE TODDLER CLASSROOM

Room 1 Toddlers

Mary Belcher

LuAnn Case

Daryl Byrd
Early Head Start Family Support Worker

Mary Belcher: Early Childhood Teacher. Mary has her BS in Elementary Education with endorsements in Early Childhood Education and Special Education and an AA in Sign Language and Interpreting. Mary has been teaching at our center since 2008.

LuAnn Case: Assistant Teacher. LuAnn has a 1 year Diploma in Early Childhood Education and has been teaching at our center since 2016.
MEET OUR TEACHING STAFF FOR THE PRESCHOOL CLASSROOMS

Room 2

Kelly Schulte: Early Childhood Teacher/Team Leader. Kelly has a BS in Elementary Education with endorsements in Early Childhood Special Education, Reading and English/Language Arts. Kelly has been teaching at the center since 2004.
Shawnee Blackhawk: Assistant Teacher. Shawnee has her CDA and has been teaching at our center since 2015.
Melissa Kirby: Assistant Teacher. Melissa has a BA in Psychology and an AA in Early Childhood Education. Melissa joined our team in 2020.

Room 3

Sherri Koch: Early Childhood Teacher. Sherri has her BA in Elementary Education with Endorsements in Early Childhood Education, Spanish and Reading. Sherri has been teaching at our center since 2010.
Donna Bigley: Assistant Teacher. Donna has her CDA and has been teaching at our center since 1999.
Jodie Hanson: Assistant Teacher. Jodie has a B.A. in General Studies and has been teaching at our center since 2016.

Room 4

Alida Kolthoff: Early Childhood Teacher. Alida has her BA in Elementary Education and Early Childhood Education with a minor in Special Education. Alida has taught at our center since 2012.
Nikki Atkins: Assistant Teacher. Nikki has her AA degree and has taught at our center since 1993.
Kayla Acosta: Assistant Teacher. Kayla has her AA in Early Childhood Education and has taught at our center since 2016.

Room 5

Andria Davis: Early Childhood Teacher. Andria has her BA in Early Childhood Education with endorsements in ESL, Reading and Special Education. Andria has been teaching at our center since 2001.
Sandy Waddell: Assistant Teacher. Sandy has her CDA and has been teaching at our center since 2001.
Adriane McClintock: Assistant Teacher. Adriane has her AA in Early Childhood Education and has been teaching at our center since 2005.
Save Your Hy-Vee Receipts To Earn Money For Your School!

$1 WILL BE EARNED FOR EVERY $200 COLLECTED IN RECEIPTS!

Qualifying Hy-Vee Receipts Include:

GROCERY, CATERING, PHARMACY, FUEL, HY-VEE STARBUCKS AND CARIBOU, WINE & SPIRITS + MORE!

APRIL 1, 2020 - MARCH 31, 2021
Save Hy-Vee receipts to turn them into your school.

APRIL 1-11, 2021
Schools turn in receipts with completed redemption forms to any local Hy-Vee.
Receipts for the Hy-Vee Cash 4 Students program must be from the 13 Cedar Rapids and Marion Hy-Vee Food Stores and Drugstores. Receipt total to include tax. Pay out of the total amount collected will be in 50% in cash and 50% in Hy-Vee gift cards.