Iowa Department of Human Services
CHILD CARE CENTER EVALUATION AND RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE

Name of Center: Drake University Head Start-Newton **Enrollment:** 15 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 51241

Street: 2713 N 4th Avenue E **City:** Newton Iowa **Zip** 50208 **County:** Jasper

Mailing Address: 3800 Merle Hay Rd Suite 323, Des Moines, IA, 50310

Director's Name: Sue Abel **Phone Number:** 641-791-2922

On-Site Supervisor(s): Lori Archer **E-Mail:** susan.abel@drake.edu, lisa.proctor@drake.edu

Date(s) of Visit: 04-15-2025

X **Licensing Visit** X **Unannounced Visit** **Off Year Visit** **Administrative Change**

LICENSING VISITS

New Application X **Re-Application** **NA**

Signed Application (470-0722) Received X **Yes** **No** **NA** **Date Signed:** 02-10-2025

FIRE INSPECTION X **State** **Local** **NA** **Is Fire Inspection Approved?** X **Yes** **No** **NA**

Date Inspected: 03-22-2024

Comments :

LICENSE TYPE: **Child Care** X **Preschool (ages 3-5 meets three hours or less per day)**

Financial Type: Profit X Non-Profit NA

Accredition: Accredited NAEYC NSACA Other X NA

Program Serves: Infants (0-23 mo.) 2 Years X Preschool-Age School-Age

Get-Well Evening Care Special Needs

SCHEDULE: Year-round X School-Year Summer Only

HOURS:	*Year-round*	*School-Year*	*Summer Only*
Sunday			
Monday		7:30 AM to 2:00 PM	
Tuesday		7:30 AM to 2:00 PM	
Wednesday		7:30 AM to 2:00 PM	
Thursday		7:30 AM to 2:00 PM	
Friday		7:30 AM to 2:00 PM	
Saturday			

LICENSE CAPACITY	Infants	2 Years	Preschool	School-Age	Capacity
General			17		17
Summer					0

QRS Rating: 3

RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE:	
X	**FULL** license from 04-01-2025 to 04-01-2027
	PROVISIONAL license from
	DENIAL of initial application
	SUSPENSION of license
	REVOCATION of license

Licensing Consultant: Melinda Larson, Child Care Licensing Consultant **Date:** 04-17-2025

I. IF CURRENT LICENSE IS PROVISIONAL, IDENTIFY THE CORRECTIVE ACTIONS

II. IDENTIFY THE AREAS OBSERVED ON THE VISIT:

Drake University Head Start - Newton opened in February 2021. The center is located within The Early Learning Center. The program operates in a single classroom. The preschool has it's own secured entrance. Drake University operates this Head Start program. The preschool has it's own outdoor playground. Sue Abel is the executive director for this program. The lead teacher is Lori Archer. Lori has a BA in Early Childhood Education. She has been with Head Start since 2013.

An unannounced visit was completed on today's date. All areas subject to HHS rules were reviewed. Mandatory postings are in place at the center's entrance. The class schedule is posted. The lesson plan, Clothes, is posted. The classroom is well supplied with well developed learning and play centers. Head Start uses Gold Curriculum. Talking Points is used for communication with parents.

Lori assisted with today's visit. There is one assistant teacher working in this classroom. Twelve children were present today. Children were observed in the classroom. Staffs' interactions with the students were positive.

The center serves breakfast, lunch and afternoon snack. The center gets their meals and snacks from Newton School District. Menus reflect CACFP requirements are met.

The center has a fenced playground. There is poured rubber for surfacing material. The center has a shed that has outdoor play materials and toys. The center completes monthly playground checks.

The center doesn't provide transportation.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

Head Start programs are well supported, having well supplied classrooms with age appropriate furnishings, toys and educational materials. Children benefit from Head Start's ability to access and support participation from other educational and health professionals. The center participates in IQ4K and has a three star rating.

IV. IDENTIFY THE ASPECTS OF OPERATION THAT FALL BELOW THE STANDARDS REVIEWED:

There were no licensing violations cited during the visit.

V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:

The center has a full license.

*Note: If you are the Child Care Center Director and you feel something is unclear or unjustly cited, please contact me (phone 515-362-7823; email melinda.larson@hhs.iowa.gov) so that we may discuss the issue. If necessary, I can make a notation in your record. You may also send a letter that will be included in your licensing file noting any disagreement you may have with this report. If you have the need for any additional information discussed during my visit, please contact me and I will forward the information to you. Thank you.

*Note: If you are the Child Care Center Director and you feel something is unclear or unjustly cited, please contact your DHS Licensing Consultant to discuss the issue. The child care director may also send a response which will be placed in the licensing file.

*Note: If you are a member of the general public, there may be additional information contained in the public file. You may contact the DHS Licensing Consultant to inquire.