

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

Name of Center: Kessel Kids Child Care & Learning Center **Enrollment:** 193 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 19073

Street: 1135 Canterbury ST **City:** Cresco Iowa **Zip:** 52136 **County:** Howard

Mailing Address: 1135 Canterbury ST, Cresco, IA, 52136

Director's Name: Melissa Vobr **Phone Number:** 641-330-0371

On-Site Supervisor(s): Melissa Vobr **E-Mail:** kesselkids@iowatelecom.net

Date(s) of Visit: 02-22-2019

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:** 11-27-2018

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

Date Inspected: 12-14-2018

Comments :

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

Financial Type: Profit X **Non-Profit** NA

Accreditation: Accredited NAEYC NSACA Other X NA

Program Serves: X **Infants (0-23 mo.)** X **2 Years** X **Preschool-Age** X **School-Age**
 Get-Well Evening Care Special Needs

SCHEDULE: X **Year-round** **School-Year** **Summer Only**

HOURS:	<u>Year-round</u>	<u>School-Year</u>	<u>Summer Only</u>		
LICENSE CAPACITY	Infants	2 Years	Preschool	School-Age	Capacity
General	28	15	51	43	137
Summer					0

QRS Rating: N/A

RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE:	
X	FULL license from 03-01-2019 to 03-01-2021
	PROVISIONAL license from
	DENIAL of initial application
	SUSPENSION of license
	REVOCAION of license

Licensing Consultant: Becky Frost

Date: 02-26-2019

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

N/A

II. IDENTIFY THE AREAS OBSERVED ON THE VISIT:

On 02/22/19 I made an unannounced licensing visit to Kessel Kids Child Care and Learning Center in Cresco. I met with Melissa Vobr, the director. Ms. Vobr has been the director since 2008. She has a BA in psychology and business administration. She was an assistant director for two years at the center prior to becoming the director. Ms. Vobr has received her National Administrator Credential (NAC). She is also a NAEYC member. Heather O'Brien is in charge when Ms. Vobr is away from the center. She has been with the program since August 2012. There is 32 staff members employed at the center.

Kessel Kids Child Care and Learning Center operates out of a free standing building. The program operates Monday through Friday from 5:00 am until 6:00 pm. They care for infants through school-aged children. The program started in 1993 and they moved to their current location on 06/02/08. The building was a partnership between the Howard-Winneshiek School District, Head Start, HAWC and Keystone AEA. There are currently 193 children enrolled.

The center operates out of the following rooms: two infant rooms (one for mobile and non-mobile children), a room for one-year-old children, a room for two-year-old children, a room for younger three-year-old children, a room for older three-year-year-old children, four and five-year-old room, and a school-aged room. An inspection of each room was completed. Windows provide natural lighting. The rooms are decorated with multiple pictures of the children and their families, the children's art projects, and posters to assist the children with the learning process, such as the alphabet, shapes, colors and numbers. The children's birthdays were posted. There are areas for circle time.

The centers observed on the day of the licensing visit include library, Lego/blocks, table toys, games, puzzles, transportation, puppets, art, dramatic play, Play Doh, Ipads, writing, math, science/discovery, woodworking, sensory table and music. Centers were arranged in a manner that allowed easy movement between activities, but it also allowed for clear supervision by staff members. Materials were in good condition. The materials are located at child level so they were easily accessible to the children.

In the one-year-old room had a child with a teething necklace on. These are considered choking hazards and are not allowed in child care. I discussed the diaper changing procedures with a one-year-old staff member. I was informed they only use soap and water to clean the changing table if the child has a bowel movement. The changing table must first be cleaned and then disinfected for all diaper changes. The staff member also leaves the gloves on for the entire diaper change. Gloves are considered soiled and must be removed prior to putting on the new diaper and dressing the child. If the handwashing sink is used to provide the children water for snack, the sink must first be sanitized. It may be easier to bring a pitcher of water into the room from the kitchen. Make sure staff members always document the time medicated products are applied to a child. I observed that sometimes this is done and other times it is not. There are medications in the infant room that state a doctor must provide the dosage for children under 24 months old. Staff members cannot provide this medication to children without a note from the doctor. The infant room staff member informed the children the medication is for is no longer in the room and they typically have parents provide the medication.

The program uses the Creative Curriculum and a variety of other resources to create lesson plans. Activities are based on

themes. The length of the theme depends on the topic. Each teacher prepares their own lesson plans. Newsletters are prepared monthly by each room and provided to the parents.

There was a phone with emergency numbers in each of the classrooms. Emergency fire and tornado procedures and diagrams were posted by the main program and outdoor exits. Post the emergency evacuation diagram near the door in the gym/cafeteria that leads to the hallway. A daily schedule was posted and lesson plans were available for review in each room except for the one-year-old room.

I reviewed documentation of monthly fire and tornado drills. Monthly playground inspections are maintained. A radon test was completed in January 2018 and is good for two years. Results were within EPA guidelines. The fuel burning inspection was completed and no concerns were noted. A carbon monoxide detector was on site and is located in the hallway. Outlets were protected. The fire marshal inspection occurred on 12/14/18, with compliance on 12/19/18.

The parent information is located on a bulletin board inside the entrance. The mandatory reporter, child care consultant and the handbook availability were posted. The license was conspicuously hung. A no-smoking sign was posted at the entrance.

Staff and children files were reviewed at the time of the licensing visit. I reviewed twenty children files. They were in great condition. I reviewed six staff files. They were in great condition. I also reviewed parent and staff handbooks and they were in good condition.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

Ms. Vobr states they have great staff members at the center. She states they are kind, good-hearted people who make it pleasant to come to work every day. She states there are no personnel problems or drama.

Ms. Vobr states things are coming together and they are hiring more staff members. The staff members are open to going to trainings.

Ms. Vobr is in the process of trying to restructure things at the center, but it is going to take a while.

Ms. Vobr no longer has her assistant, but she has two staff members who support her with administrative duties and at the front desk.

The program has a Quality Rating System (QRS) level of 4, which expires on 04/01/19.

There are pictures of staff members in the entrance and the hallways are decorated with the children's art projects.

Ms. Vobr has her National Administrator Credential (NAC) and she is a NAEYC member.

The program installed cameras in each of the classrooms in August 2018.

Ms. Vobr is an amazing director. She is organized and does a terrific job with the staff members, the children and the families. She maintains a positive attitude and provides the staff members with positive reinforcement frequently.

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

109.11(3)a: Center shall ensure that: Facility and premises are sanitary, safe, and hazard free. Adequate indoor and outdoor space is provided. The outdoor area shall include safe play equipment and area of shade. Sufficient space provided for dining. Sufficient lighting shall be provided. Sufficient ventilation. Sufficient heating. sufficient cooling. Sufficient bathroom and diapering facilities. Equipment, including kitchen appliances, are maintained so as not to result in burns, shock, or injury to children. Sanitation and safety procedures for the center are developed and implemented to reduce risk or injury or harm to children and reduce transmission of disease.

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V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:

A full license is issued. All DHS licensing standards and procedures must be maintained during the renewal period.

*Note: If you are the Child Care Center Director and you feel something is unclear or unjustly cited, please contact me (phone 319-292-2429; email rfrost@dhs.state.ia.us 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.