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

Name of Center: Inspired Kids Academy **Enrollment:** 56 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 52116

Street: 5255 Ella Ivy LN **City:** Van Meter Iowa **Zip** 50261 **County:** Dallas

Mailing Address: 5255 Ella Ivy LN, Van Meter, IA, 50261

Director's Name: Stephanie Chase **Phone Number:** 515-336-5152

On-Site Supervisor(s): Lauren Bishop **E-Mail:** stephanie@inspiredkidsacademy.com

Date(s) of Visit: 05-31-2023

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

LICENSING VISITS

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

Signed Application (470-0722) Received X **Yes** **No** **NA** **Date Signed:** 02-14-2023

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

Date Inspected: 03-16-2023

Comments : State Fire Marshal inspections are due every three years.

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

Financial Type: X Profit Non-Profit NA

Accredition: 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:	*Year-round*	*School-Year*	*Summer Only*

LICENSE CAPACITY	Infants	2 Years	Preschool	School-Age	Capacity
General	24	28	88	45	185
Summer					0

QRS Rating: N/A

RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE:	
X	**FULL** license from 06-01-2023 to 06-01-2025
	PROVISIONAL license from
	DENIAL of initial application
	SUSPENSION of license
	REVOCATION of license

Licensing Consultant: Nate Knepper **Date:** 05-31-2023

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

N/A.

II. IDENTIFY THE AREAS OBSERVED ON THE VISIT:

A licensing visit was conducted on 5/31/23. The director and the on-site supervisor were both present for this visit.

All areas of the program were observed. These areas observed consisted of classroom observations and activities, ratios, nutritional practices, health and safety practices, playground observation, field trip and transportation practices, and administrative review. The most recent COVID updates were also reviewed.

Inspired Kids Academy is a new center in Van Meter, IA that was given permission to open on 3/20/23. The center is privately owned. The executive director of the program is Stephanie Chase. Stephanie has a BA degree in Early Childhood Education and has past experience working in child care, which also includes being a director at another program in the past. Lauren Bishop is the on-site supervisor of this program. Lauren has an AA degree in Early Childhood Education and also has past experience working in child care, which also includes being an on-site supervisor at another program in the past.

The center serves children six weeks to 12 years in age using the Learning Beyond Papers Learning Curriculum. There are a total of nine classrooms. The two infant classrooms have capacities of 12 children each. The two two-year old classrooms have capacities of 14 children each. The two three-year old classrooms have capacities of 20 children each. The two four/five year old classrooms have capacities of 24 children each. The school-age classroom has a capacity of 45 children.

During the visit, children were observed napping in cribs, being held, playing in free-choice play at the different learning stations set up in classrooms, and playing outside on the playground. Staff were actively engaged with children and their activities.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

This is a new center that meets a need in a growing community.

Both the director and the on-site supervisor are organized and pay attention to detail.

The center was clean and very nicely decorated in classrooms.

The director and the on-site supervisor both have extensive past experience in their roles at other programs. In addition, many of the staff working at this center have a lot of knowledge and past experience working in child care.

The center uses the Pro-Care electronic app for many of their procedural duties as well as for additional communication with parents.

The center uses Trello which is essentially an intranet for the company and used to train new employees, review handbooks,

etc.

The center utilizes CCR&R as needed.

For field trips, children were center shirts.

Monthly staff meetings are held.

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

No below standards were identified at this visit.

V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:

Radon testing is due no later than one year after the center's open date (3/20/23). All classrooms will need to be tested for radon. If radon levels in classrooms come back below the 4.0 cutoff, radon testing can then be done every five years. If 4.0 or higher, retesting and a mitigation plan will be needed and testing will then need to be every two years again.

The furnace is new and was installed when the building was built in early 2023. Inspections will be needed annually going forward.

For transportation and field trips, the center contracts with the school district. Only school-age children are allowed to go on field trips at this time. The center will also bring in different agencies for presentations at times throughout the year.

I-Power and IQ4K were discussed at the visit.

A sample written Emergency Plan was emailed to the director after the visit concluded. This consultant's phone number should also be included in that plan.

A separate monthly fire and tornado drill form should be used for school-age children.

An email was sent to the director after the visit concluded on some updates needed to the handbooks (medications in original container, not locking up emergency medications such as epipens, the child abuse hotline number, and training hours needed as well as timeframes when they need renewed.

A new, full, two-year license is recommended.

*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.