Health and Human Services

Iowa Department of Health And Human Services

CHILD CARE CENTER ANNUAL EVALUATION

Name of Center: Kids West-Jordan Creek Elementary

Provider No.: 41575

Address: 4105 Fuller Rd, West Des Moines, IA, 50265

County: Polk

Director's Name: Ashley Kunz

On-Site Supervisor: Jordyn Lashley

Phone Number: 5156335018

E-Mail: jckidswest@wdmcs.org
kunza@wdmcs.org

HHS Visit Date: 09/29/2025

Licensing Period: 11/01/2024 to 11/01/2026

Fire Inspection:

Date Inspected: 11/20/2024

Comments: West Des Moines Fire Marshal. For licensing, inspections are due at least every three years. The West Des Moines Fire Marshal typically does annual inspections.

Report Visit Type:

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

License Type:

- [X] Full
- [ ] Provisional

Quality initiative:

- [ ] Accrediation

Program Duration:

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

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Program Population Served:

- [ ] Infant(0-<24 Months)
- [ ] Toddler
- [ ] PreSchool
- [X] School Age
- [ ] All Ages

LICENSE CAPACITY	Infants	2 Years	Preschool	School-Aged	Capacity
General	0	0	0	150	150
Summer					0

1. Basic Overview

An off-year inspection was conducted on 9/29/25. The director and 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.

Kids West Jordan Creek is a school-age program located within the Jordan Creek Elementary School in West Des Moines. The center primarily uses the gym and cafeteria, but they also use a music room as well as the outdoor playground area. The program was given permission to open by HHS (formerly known as DHS) on 8/22/14. Previous to this date, the center was under the Department of Education's supervision. There is a before and after school component as well as a full-day component during the summer and no school days. Before school hours are 6:30am - 8:55am and after school hours are 3:55pm - 6:00pm (with the exception of early out days). Full day programming is 6:30am - 6:00pm.

The center is overseen by a Board and owned by the West Des Moines School District. Ashley Kunz is the director of this program and the seven other Kids West programs. Ashley has a Bachelor's degree as well as past experience being a director over multiple programs. Jordyn Lashley is the on-site supervisor of this program. Jordyn has past experience working in child care and has taken a number of professional development training to meet the qualifications for on-site supervisor.

During the visit, children were divided up between the cafeteria and the gym. In the cafeteria, children were observed playing cards (UNO), looking on center tablets at educational items, playing with a variety of different kinds of blocks, playing with manipulative toys, and also playing with dramatic play toys. In the gym, children were divided up into smaller groups and playing basketball. Staff were spaced out in the cafeteria and in the gym supervising and interacting with children. Toys and other equipment are sanitized daily as required.

2. Identify Observed Strengths of the program

There is a secure entrance into the school during programming hours.

CHILD CARE CENTER ANNUAL EVALUATION

A nutritionist reviews all meal items. The West Des Moines School District provides all meals (AM snack, lunch, PM snack) at all times other than when it's a No School day during the school year (parents provide lunch on these days).

Typically, children get three credible food items for snack when only two are required to be served.

Staff use walkie-talkies to communicate throughout different areas used by the center.

The center has a good working relationship with the school.

A staff person sits at a "communication desk" in the cafeteria entrance to greet parents and children and to ensure children are signed into/out of the center.

Weekly team lead meetings are held. This center has monthly all staff meetings. In addition, the director meets quarterly with other directors of before/after school programs in the western suburbs.

Staff pictures and bios are posted.

There is a focus for children to get any homework completed they may have received during the day.

Good staff-child interactions were again observed among the different groups of children and staff.

The on-site supervisor stated staff work well together.

The director and on-site supervisor are organized.

3. Identify the aspects that fall below the standard

No below standards were observed at this year's inspection.

4. Any corrective action plans, provisional license, and safety plans-steps to get into compliance

N/A.

5. Special Notes/Recommendations

The center is exempt from environmental testing as they are located in a school and only serve school-age children.

For transportation for field trips, the center contracts with the school district for a driver and a bus.

A nutritionist reviews all meal items. The West Des Moines School District provides all meals (AM snack, lunch, PM snack) at all times other than when it's a No School day during the school year (parents provide lunch on these days). All food storage was sufficient.

I-Power was again discussed with the director and on-site supervisor. Staff will need to upload training certificates into I - Power.

It was noted that there are a couple of small holes in the poured in place rubber on the playground. These are covered by cones and there is a work order in to repair these areas. Another area of the playground is fenced off and not being used at this time by the center.

*****Staff files for Hillside Elementary Kids West were also reviewed at this inspection. It was noted that one staff is slightly past due for an updated physical, but this is scheduled in the near future already per the director.

CHILD CARE CENTER ANNUAL EVALUATION

Date: 09/30/2025

HHS Licensing Consultant: Nate Knepper

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**.