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

Name of Center: Ms. Hollie's Preschool **Enrollment:** 19 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 39644

Street: 1118 Timberlane Dr **City:** Huxley Iowa **Zip** 50124 **County:** Story

Mailing Address: 1118 Timberlane Dr, Huxley, IA, 50124

Director's Name: Hollie Allen **Phone Number:** 515-291-5604

On-Site Supervisor(s): Kelly Lewis **E-Mail:** hollieallen@gmail.com

Date(s) of Visit: 02-01-2024

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

LICENSING VISITS

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

Signed Application (470-0722) Received X **Yes** **No** **NA** **Date Signed:** 01-05-2023

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

Date Inspected: 09-13-2021

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

LICENSE TYPE: **Child Care** X **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: 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*

LICENSE CAPACITY	Infants	2 Years	Preschool	School-Age	Capacity
General			20		20
Summer					0

QRS Rating: N/A

RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE:	
X	**FULL** license from 02-01-2023 to 02-01-2025
	PROVISIONAL license from
	DENIAL of initial application
	SUSPENSION of license
	REVOCATION of license

Licensing Consultant: Maggie Gibson, SWIV **Date:** 02-11-2024

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

N/A.

II. IDENTIFY THE AREAS OBSERVED ON THE VISIT:

An unannounced, off year visit was completed 2/1/24. Both the director on on-site supervisor were present during the visit.

This preschool was started in 2012 and was in a church for the first year. In 2013 the preschool moved to the walk-out basement of the directors newly built home. This space was designed specifically for the preschool program. There are several windows on two sides of the room. They are able to see approaching visitors who walk down the sidewalk to get to the preschool.

Hollie Allen is the owner/director. She is a licensed teacher. Her assistant is Kelly Lewis. They both meet the requirements for their positions.

This preschool provides the universal preschool program that is offered to four year old children through the Ballard School District. This is a school year only program. Preschool meets Monday-Thursday from 8:30-11:30 am.

All areas of the program were observed. These areas observed consisted of classroom observations and activities, nutritional practices, health and safety practices, playground observation, field trip and transportation practices, and administrative review.

Room observations/activities: Activity centers are arranged around the large and open room. Low shelves are used to separate areas and store play items for the centers. Child size tables are used for academic activities, a surface for free play activities, and for eating snacks. There is a nice selection and duplication of age appropriate toys and learning materials. The preschool uses the Creative Curriculum. The program is in ratio. The staff maintained a good structure and flow with staff-lead activities. The children were content and responsive to programming. This center is organized and very clean.

Nutrition practices: NA--not provided.

Health and Safety: first aid supplies/kit is available. Handwashing signs are hung. Emergency exit drills were documented as completed monthly as required. HVAC is inspected annually. Carbon monoxide detectors are integrated with the centers fire alarms.

Playground: This center has an enclosed green space with natural structures and shades in a barn/farm concept. The director explained the children had been working on building their own structure with sticks. There is a shade structure and natural shade available.

Transportation: NA

Administrative Review: The center's handbook is available upon admission and on-line. New posters for mandatory reporter and consultant contact was sent to the director. License needed displayed. Emergency exit plans were available. The director had cleaned the glass on the exit door and would re-post the non-smoking signs.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

Hollie believes they offer a great preschool program because they follow the QPPS requirements which have a higher standard than DHS licensing requirements. Her students continue to test high compared to the other preschool programs.

The preschool focuses on a play based, hands on approach to learning.

Hollie and Kelly work well together as a team and were nurturing with the children. There is good structure and flow to the program and the children were actively engaged with the group activity.

The preschool continues to have strong enrollment and a waiting list.

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

109.4(3)b: Postings are required for:Mandatory reporter requirements.Notice of availability of handbook.Program activities.These shall be posted in area frequented by parents or public. New posters for mandatory reporter, consultant contact were provided.

109.9(2): All files are updated at least annually and when a change occurs.

109.9(2)b: All files contain sufficient information and authorization to allow the center to secure emergency medical and dental services at any time child is in center's care.
Number not in compliance for dental: 1

Files need updated yearly or when changes occurred; There was one child file reviewed missing dental contact information.

V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:

The preschool last completed radon testing in February of 2022 and this fell below the 4.0 cutoff. The preschool also has a mitigation system installed. Radon testing is due every five years.

A geothermal system was installed when the house was built and furnace inspections are not required.

This program was observed to be organized and offer a nurturing structure for the children that attend. The children were observed to be responsive to the structure provided.

*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.