Health and Human Services

Iowa Department of Health And Human Services

CHILD CARE CENTER ANNUAL EVALUATION

Name of Center: KidQuest Preschool and Daycare

Provider No.: 21897

Address: 427 Nash St, Aplington, IA, 50604

County: Butler

Director's Name: Ann Cutshall

On-Site Supervisor:

Phone Number: 3193476366

E-Mail: kidquest427@gmail.com, kquestboard@gmail.com

HHS Visit Date: 03/25/2026

Licensing Period: 06/01/2025 to 06/01/2027

Fire Inspection:

Date Inspected: 08/28/2024

Comments:

Report Visit Type:

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

License Type:

- [X] Full
- [ ] Provisional

Quality initiative:

Quality Rating: 1

- [ ] Accrediation

Program Duration:

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

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HOURS:	*Year-round*	*School-Year*	*Summer Only*
Sunday			
Monday	6:00 AM to 6:00 PM		
Tuesday	6:00 AM to 6:00 PM		
Wednesday	6:00 AM to 6:00 PM		
Thursday	6:00 AM to 6:00 PM		
Friday	6:00 AM to 6:00 PM		
Saturday			

Program Population Served:

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

LICENSE CAPACITY	Infants	2 Years	Preschool	School-Aged	Capacity
General	14	14	48	11	87
Summer					0

1. Basic Overview

An unannounced annual visit was made to Kidquest Child Care and Preschool in Aplington on 03-25-26 where I met with center director Ann Cutshall. Anm became the director in the fall of 2023 and is well qualified for the position with an extensive history of formal education, experience, and on-going professional development in early childhood education. The program is located in a free standing building that was designed as a daycare. The program is operated as a non-profit center overseen by a board of directors. The center provides full range child care serving infants through school-aged children, formal 3 year old preschool, and also partners with the local school system to provide the state wide voluntary four-year-old preschool program. There are approximately 80 children enrolled in the daycare and preschool programs served by 16 teachers. All aspects of the program subject to licensing standards were reviewed during the visit.

The general layout of the building and classrooms, and programming remains the same as in prior visits. The classrooms are determined by age groups. of infants, 2 year olds, 3 year olds 4/5, and school age. Each room has windows along the exterior walls that provide natural light, a view of the outdoors, and ventilation. Each room has a secondary emergency exit that provides direct egress to the outdoors. All exits were observed to be clear of obstruction and opened easily and freely. Each classroom has access to restroom facilities directly from the room. The infant and toddler rooms have changing stations present in the room. Additional sinks are available in the classrooms to facilitate hand washing. The infant room has a central counter that divides the space with primary programming on one side, and cribs on the other. Small refrigeration units were present in classrooms many of which were maintained on counters or small tables. Each room was observed to be clean with only a few minor maintenance issues that did not present a safety concern. Each classroom is arranged with activity centers that are created though the placement of shelving units, furniture, and play structures which are arranged so as not to create any blind areas.

CHILD CARE CENTER ANNUAL EVALUATION

2. Identify Observed Strengths of the program

Each classroom had a copy of the daily schedule and curriculum posted and the teachers did appear to be following these. At the time of arrival all of the children with exception of the formal preschool, and infant classrooms were outside engaged in large motor play activities. The teachers were positioned and moved throughout the playground to provide supervision. After returning to the classrooms the teachers moved into other activities such as a teacher lead large group activity of reading a story. The center uses a positive support system of behavior management with teachers using using routines, transition activities, reminders of expected behavior, and redirecting children as needed. During the visit one child was having a difficult time with following directions when transitioning from the playground and the staff did an excellent job of responding to that. One teacher remained in the playground with the child while another requested assistance from Ann. The staff speaking with the child used calm tones and presenting the child with positive compliance choices and was able to help the child return to joining the class without escalating the situation into a negative confrontation. Ratio was maintained in the classrooms as required by age.

Good health and safety policies were generally observed but some practices do need to be reviewed. During the time of my visit I was able to observe a diaper change and the staff involved did not wash the child's hands following the procedure. Good handwashing practices were observed for other situations with older children washing their hands after restroom use, and prior to meal service. Tables were sanitized before and after meal service. Chemical cleaners, personal items, medications, and other items that could pose a safety risk to children were stored in areas where they were not readily accessible to the children. First aid kits are kept in each classroom and contained a good supply of materials necessary to address most common first aid needs. Cribs, cots and mats were used for those children that nap and all were in good repair and contained appropriate bedding. Safe sleep practices were followed for children under 12 months of age.

The center has a full kitchen and meals are prepared on-site. The center participates in the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP). A menu was posted and identified a good variety of nutritious food options. The kitchen was observed to be clean with no indication of pests. Good food storage practices were observed for both refrigerated and dry pantry items. Meals are served in the classrooms and good food handling practices were observed. The staff used food service gloves and measured scoops when serving meals. Hotdogs were served on the day of my visit and were modified to reduce the risk of choking. Supervision was provided at the tables.

The center playground is fully fenced and divided into two areas with one that contains larger climbing structures and equipment for the older children, and the other for the younger children. The center has had some renovations with the addition of climbing structures and wood chip fall surfacing in the toddler playground area. The play equipment in both areas was observed to be in good repair. The center has a paved patio area that the children can use for riding toys, sidewalk chalk, or other activities, and a paved basketball court. Wood chips are used for fall surfacing beneath climbing structures and a good depth of material was present. A gazebo shelter, and awning are present along with large mature trees to provide shade. A storage shed is present where additional toys and materials can be stored.

In reviewing administrative records all required notices for No Smoking, License Certificate, Consultant Contact, and Mandatory Abuse Reporting were present in an area that were readily visible to parents and visitors. Other required postings for emergency evacuation, emergency contacts, hand washing, diapering, daily schedule, curriculum, and menu were also present. The center is using a communication and electronic file maintenance application to provide information to parents, and maintain child and staff records. A random selection of the child and staff files were reviewed and compared to the self audit generated by the electronic application which was found to be accurate. The review and self audit of the children's files found substantial compliance with all required documentation. The review and self-audit of staff files found that several needed an updated Iowa SING, and National FBI Fingerprint background check. Inspection logs and certificates were reviewed and found to be present and current for all required elements. The center handbook was reviewed and several policies had not been brought forward in the last revision, and others needed to be expanded.

3. Identify the aspects that fall below the standard

109.4(1): Written policies on: Enrollment and discharge. Field trips and non-center activities. Discipline/Behavior/Biting. Nutrition. Health and safety policies. Transportation if applicable. Assurance people do not have unauthorized access to

children at the center. Protecting children's confidentiality.
-- Written polices need to be developed or expanded to include all required elements for Health & Safety (immunization exemption, response plans), Staff Orientation & Training, Access (sex offenders), and Confidentiality.

109.6(4)c: Center repeats Iowa record checks at a minimum of every two years or when aware of additional child abuse or criminal history that occurs.
-- Several record checks were expired, incomplete, or could not be found. -- CORRECTED

109.6(4)d: Center repeats national criminal history checks at a minimum of every four years or when aware of additional history that occurs.
-- Several record checks were expired, incomplete, or could not be found. -- CORRECTED

109.11(3)a: Center shall ensure that:Facility and premises are sanitary, safe, and hazard free.Sufficient lighting shall be provided.Sufficient ventilation.Sufficient heating.Sufficient cooling.Equipment placed in the program area is maintained so as not to result in injury to the children.
-- The small refrigeration units maintained in classrooms need to be moved from unstable tables/counters, or otherwise secured to reduce the risk of being a topple hazard.

109.12(4)b: Each infant and toddler shall be diapered in a sanitary manner as frequently as needed at a central diapering area. Diapering, sanitation, and hand-washing procedures shall be posted and implemented in every diapering area. There shall be at least one changing table for every 15 infants.
-- Infant hands were not washed following diapering as required.

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

Documentation regarding all required written policies and recommendations for implementation was provided to the center.

Confirmation was received via e-mail on 04-06-26 that Iowa SING background checks had been completed, and renewed fingerprints for a national background check had been submitted.

Diapering procedures were reviewed with staff and staff did wash the children's hands following diapering afterwards.

5. Special Notes/Recommendations

A full license will remain in effect at this time. Please provide a written response to the licensing consultant identifying a plan of action to correct and maintain those aspects cited as not meeting licensing standards and identifying an anticipated date of compliance. At least one visit will be made to the center during the next year.

Date: 04/10/2026

HHS Licensing Consultant: Ray Salsbury

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**.