Health and Human Services

Iowa Department of Health And Human Services

CHILD CARE CENTER ANNUAL EVALUATION

Name of Center: Noah's Ark Preschool

Provider No.: 25043

Address: 6455 E Ave NW, Cedar Rapids, IA, 52405

County: Linn

Director's Name: Kristine Crowther

On-Site Supervisor: Kristine Crowther

Phone Number: 3193963125

E-Mail: Office@noahsarkcr.org

HHS Visit Date: 10/07/2025

Licensing Period: 11/01/2025 to 11/01/2027

Fire Inspection:

Date Inspected: 11/15/2024

Comments:

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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HOURS:	*Year-round*	*School-Year*	*Summer Only*
Sunday			
Monday	9:00 AM to 3:30 PM		
Tuesday	9:00 AM to 3:30 PM		
Wednesday	9:00 AM to 3:30 PM		
Thursday	9:00 AM to 3:30 PM		
Friday	9:00 AM to 3:30 PM		
Saturday			

Program Population Served:

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

LICENSE CAPACITY	Infants	2 Years	Preschool	School-Aged	Capacity
General			50		50
Summer					0

1. Basic Overview

Noah's Ark Preschool has been in operation since 1969. Noah's Ark Preschool is located inside Cedar Hills Community Church and continues to be governed by a board of directors.

Combined director/on-site supervisor of Noah's Ark Preschool is Kristine Crowther. Ms. Crowther has been the director since summer, 2019. Ms. Crowther has a BS degree in elementary education, has a plethora of experience working with children and continues to participate in annual professional development.

On 10/7/2025, building, grounds and program space were observed to mostly be in good repair. Primary programming occurs in 3 separate, spacious classrooms with access to restrooms and hand washing facilities. This license includes a 3yo preschool program, a 4yo preschool program and lunch bunch enrichment program. On the day of the monitoring visit, rooms were observed to be inviting and nicely arranged to encourage child learning. The areas of study throughout the classrooms were clearly visible and included pumpkins, color orange, and letter "A". Group circle discussions included calendar, weather, fingerplays, music with movement and literacy experiences. Curriculum on the day of the monitoring visit allowed for a variety of play experiences (e.g. writing "A", skilled cat craft, pumpkin punch-out) that were interesting, peaked child interest and encouraged positive responses as well as interactions. On 10/7/2025, staff were observed to be in ratio and actively engaged with the children in activities that included snack rituals, group circle events, center play experiences, and routine transitions. Children appeared comfortable with staff and to be truly enjoying their day.

2. Identify Observed Strengths of the program

The purpose of Noah's Ark Preschool's is "...is to help your child develop physically, emotionally, socially, spiritually, and

cognitively. Our preschool aims to build a solid foundation for Kindergarten and Alternative Kindergarten..."

Noah's Ark Preschool has the following website for families and the community to gain more information about the program: http://www.noahsarkcr.org/. The program also has a private social media page for families with enrolled children.

Combined director/on-site supervisor Ms. Crowther is invested in the community, has been a mentor to others and has helped connect families and children with various community resources and events. Ms. Crowther continues to have a system of organization in place to help ensure administrative items are completed and maintained in a secure manner. Ms. Crowther remains knowledgeable of licensing guidelines as well as their own program's policies and procedures. On 10/7/2025, Ms. Crowther discussed having a seasoned, great team of staff who are innovative and enjoy working with children.

As of 10/7/2025, Noah's Ark Preschool was again found to be maintaining the required postings, maintaining parent-staff-program information centers, utilizing technological communication resources, and offering family programming activities. Curriculum provides skill work consistent with kindergarten readiness, lengthening attention span, enhancing small/large motor skills, increasing social/emotional growth, and promoting social graces. Additional enrichment activities are provided for lunch bunch preschoolers.

Noah's Ark Preschool continues to have and update as needed policies and procedures that include those for safety, daily health checks, hand washing, cleaning, sanitizing and disinfecting. On the day of this monitoring visit, staff discussed how they help ensure the children's space is sanitary and hazard free each day by following their current policies and procedures as well as maintaining checklists for cleaning and maintenance. Staff also talked about having continued supports from their board and Cedar Hills Community Church administration and maintenance persons as to daily building and grounds conditions and repairs.

Noah's Ark Preschool has emergency plans, policies, and procedures in place which are annually reviewed and updated as needed. This preschool has successfully navigated through flooding events (2008 historic Linn County flood), 2019 winter Polar Vortex, 2019 health (covid-19) pandemic, 8/10/20 Derecho Storm, 2021 food supply issues, 2022 infant formula shortages, air quality alerts (2023, 2025), and repeated technology outages (7/19/24 global technology outage, 10/10/2025 AWS outage, 10/29/2025 Microsoft outage).

3. Identify the aspects that fall below the standard

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

Not applicable.

5. Special Notes/Recommendations

A UL Standard 2034 carbon monoxide detector is required to be in use.

Repair the outdoor playground fence which is currently being propped up by a plastic playhouse and picnic table. Also, repair the section of the outdoor playground fence that has a large hole.

A full license is issued. Thank you for the visit.

Date: 11/03/2025

HHS Licensing Consultant: Amy Lyons

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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**.