Health and Human Services

Iowa Department of Health And Human Services

CHILD CARE CENTER ANNUAL EVALUATION

Name of Center: Ankeny Christian Academy

Provider No.: 27508

Address: 1604 W 1st St, Ankeny, IA, 50023

County: Polk

Director's Name: Teri Ellwanger

On-Site Supervisor: NA

Phone Number: 5159639933

E-Mail: teri.ellwanger@acaeagles.net

HHS Visit Date: 01/28/2026

Licensing Period: 02/01/2026 to 02/01/2028

Fire Inspection:

Date Inspected: 02/05/2026

Comments: Fire inspections due at least every three years; completed by Lt Tyson Hood, Ankeny Fire Dept.

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	6:15 AM to 5:45 PM		
Tuesday	6:15 AM to 5:45 PM		
Wednesday	6:15 AM to 5:45 PM		
Thursday	6:15 AM to 5:45 PM		
Friday	6:15 AM to 5:45 PM		
Saturday			

Program Population Served:

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

LICENSE CAPACITY	Infants	2 Years	Preschool	School-Aged	Capacity
General			43	35	78
Summer					0

1. Basic Overview

An unannounced licensing visit was completed 1/28/26. Director Teri Ellwanger was present for the visit.

Ankeny Christian Academy (child care) was started in January 2001. They offer care to preschool age children and school age children; this site serves school-age children. They provide preschool, year round full day child care, and before and after school age care. The program is in operation from 6:45 am-5:45 pm. Teri Ellwanger is the director for the three programs. She has been with this program since 2004, and has been the director since 2006. She is a licensed preschool teacher and meets the requirements for the program director position.

Room observations/activities: The school age programs operates from 6:45-7:30 am, and after school from 3:20-5:45 pm. The before/after school program uses the cafeteria. The kindergarten and first graders use the preschool room, and the 2nd-6th graders use the multi-purpose room and cafeteria. Recently, the preschool/childcare program was established at a separate site. The program spaces were observed during the school day while children were attending school.

Nutritional practices: Healthy snacks are provided cafeteria style, and families provide lunch.

Playground: the playground area is maintained by the school; enclosed by wooden privacy fence, offering cement basket ball play or the like; along with play equipment with new pour and play safety surfacing; the playground is in good repair.

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2. Identify Observed Strengths of the program

The program has a strong working relationship and partnership with the school.

The director has been with the school and the preschool for more than twenty-five years and is a strong resource for the program.

The program has a family atmosphere and the staff work well together. The director indicated there is a good working environment at this program and the staff are invested in providing quality and nurturing care to the children. Staff are appreciated and Teri conducts staff activities.

The center has a secure entrance.

The staff are creative and take pride in their classrooms.

3. Identify the aspects that fall below the standard

There were not aspects identified that fall below standard of review.

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

N/A.

5. Special Notes/Recommendations

The furnace is inspected annually by the school.

Children can bring in their own lunch or buy a school lunch. The center provides snacks.

Date: 03/05/2026

HHS Licensing Consultant: Maggie Gibson, SWIV

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**.