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

Name of Center: Kids World Inc **Enrollment:** 76 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 7238

Street: 1408 Robbins St **City:** Sac City Iowa **Zip** 50583 **County:** Sac

Mailing Address: 1408 Robbins St, Sac City, IA, 50583

Director's Name: Kelle Wedeking **Phone Number:** 712-662-7259

On-Site Supervisor(s): Kari Friedmann **E-Mail:** kwsc@frontiernet.net

Date(s) of Visit: 02-05-2024

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

LICENSING VISITS

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

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

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

Date Inspected: 03-29-2023

Comments :

LICENSE TYPE: X **Child Care** **Preschool (ages 3-5 meets three hours or less per day)**

Financial Type: Profit X Non-Profit NA

Accredition: Accredited NAEYC NSACA Other X NA

Program Serves: X Infants (0-23 mo.) X 2 Years X Preschool-Age X School-Age

Get-Well Evening Care Special Needs

SCHEDULE: X Year-round School-Year Summer Only

HOURS:	*Year-round*	*School-Year*	*Summer Only*

LICENSE CAPACITY	Infants	2 Years	Preschool	School-Age	Capacity
General	32	16	33	16	97
Summer					0

QRS Rating: 4

RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE:	
X	**FULL** license from 03-01-2023 to 03-01-2025
	PROVISIONAL license from
	DENIAL of initial application
	SUSPENSION of license
	REVOCATION of license

Licensing Consultant: Raymond Salsbury **Date:** 02-19-2024

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

NA

II. IDENTIFY THE AREAS OBSERVED ON THE VISIT:

An announced annual visit was made to the Kids World Inc. child care center on 02-05-23 where I met with center director Kelle Wedeking, and assistant director Kari Friedmann. Kelle stated she would be leaving the center and Kari would assume the director role while the board looked for a replacement director. Kari is well qualified for the position having been with the program since 2002, and has also completed a CDA degree. This program is located in a free standing building that was designed as a child care center in Sac City. The center leases space to Head Start and while they have a strong collaborative relationship they are operated independently of each other and have separate entrances. The program is operated as a non-profit entity overseen by a board of directors and provides daycare and pre-school programming. The center serves children ranging in age from birth through school age. There are approximately 76 children enrolled in the program served by 19 staff. All aspects of the program subject to licensing standards were reviewed during the visit.

The layout of the building and classrooms remains the same as in prior visits. Classrooms are determined by age groups with the infants on the south side of the building, and the older children on the north side. This arrangement provides direct access to age appropriate playground spaces each group. The infants are divided into two classrooms by age with children birth to one in one classroom, and infants one to two years of age in another. The older children are also in separate classrooms as determined by age for 2 year olds, 3 year old, 4 year olds, and school age children. Each classroom has a secondary exit providing direct egress to the outside. Each exit door opened easily and freely. The center did install a fob system that restricts return access into the building from these exits. The building does have a large basement area that is used as an emergency storm shelter. Each room has bathroom facilities accessible directly from the classroom. Additional sinks are located in each room to facilitate hand washing. Each classroom has windows along the exterior walls that provide natural light, a view of the outdoors, and ventilation. Each room was observed to be clean with no concerns regarding maintenance noted. Each classroom is divided into activity centers through the placement of furniture and play structures that were arranged to provide ample room for the children to play without creating any blind areas. Each activity center was well stocked with a variety of toys and materials that were in good repair and appropriate to the ages of the children in the classroom.
A daily schedule and curriculum was posted in each classroom. Ratio was maintained in each classroom as required by age.

All staff were observed to be actively engaged with the children throughout the time of my visit and implementing the planned schedule. This included the children moving from engaging in planned curriculum activities, to lunch service, and then quiet/nap time. Much of the staff interactions were with regard to assisting the children with these activities such as restroom breaks, meal service, and soothing children for nap time. The center does use positive behavior management techniques such as praise and recognition, redirection, and transition activities to reduce the occurence of behavioral issues. This approach was effective during the time of the visit with only minor behavioral issue arising that were easily addressed by simple redirection.

Good health and safety policies and practices were generally observed on the day of my visit but some issues do need to be reviewed. I was able to observe a diaper change and required practices were followed. One issue that was noted in the infant room was a child with pierced ears. While this is not specifically prohibited it was reviewed that infants with jewelry

can present a safety risk from children who may choke or have other health issues from ingesting jewelry. As noted the center did engage in nap time during the visit and a good level of illumination was maintained in classrooms that allowed the staff to be able to observe children and determine if they were in need of assistance. One issue that was observed was a staff stepping over a cot while a child was resting. It was reviewed that staff should not do this as it presents a risk for stepping on, or tripping on a child that could cause injury. Good cleaning practices were observed with the staff waiting for the children to be out of the immediate area before using chemical cleaners. Chemical cleaners were stored where they are not accessible to children. Good hand washing practices were observed with the staff reminding the children to wash their hands as needed, and ensuring that they did so in an effective manner. First aid kits are maintained in each classroom and additional materials are present in the center office to replenish as needed. Safe sleep practices were followed for all children under 12 months of age.

The center does have an on-site kitchen where meals and snacks are prepared for both the daycare, and the head start program that shares space in the center. The kitchen was observed to be clean and well maintained with no indication of insect or rodent infestation. Good food storage practices were observed. Refrigerators were observed to be clean, had thermometers present, and good storage practices were in place. The center does participate in the Child & Adult Care Food Program and a 4 week menu rotation of nutritious food options is posted. The children are served in a large cafeteria space at child sized tables. Good food handling and services practices are practiced with the teachers using measured scoops, wearing food service gloves, and replacing contaminated food items as needed. The teachers were observed to provide supervision at the tables.

The center has two playground areas including an toddler/infant playground, and a playground for the preschool/school age children. As noted each classroom has a secondary emergency exit that opens directly on to the playground space appropriate to their age group. The playgrounds contain a variety of surfaces that include pavement, grass, and unitary rubberized foam fall surfacing beneath climbing structures. The equipment is appropriate for the intended age groups in each area. The equipment was observed to be in good repair though some of the set screws on the climbing structure for the preschool children were loose. While these did not present an immediate safety concern such that the equipment should not be used these do need to be tightened. Shade is provided by the building, patio umbrellas, and other structures. All of the playground spaces are enclosed by fencing which was observed to be in good repair.

A review of administrative records found all required notices were posted in areas readily accessible to parents and visitors. A random sample of 10% of staff and child files were reviewed and compared to the self-audits prepared by the center which were found to be accurate. Based on the self-audit and reviewed files both sets were found to be in substantial compliance with only those elements those documents that had expired within the past month needing to be updated and for which the center had documented when renewal appointments had been scheduled. Daily infant reports were being completed in electronic format using a communication app with staff making use of photos to show the daily activities and disposition of the children. All inspection logs and certificates were available and current. The center does have a van for providing transportation services to and from school for the children. The van was observed to be in good repair and maintenance records are maintained.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

The center is participating in the QRS program which seeks to implement best practice recommendations and is currently rated a 4 STAR program out of a 5 STAR scale.

The center does have a strong group of core staff who have been with the center for a number of years making for a stable program. This was also reflected in the interactions of the staff with the children which were observed to be very positive with a strong focus on learning.

The center has been working to update the facilities with new equipment such as tables, and upgrading the camera system to allow for the ability to record.

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

None Cited

V. 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.

*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.