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

Name of Center: YSS Ballard Kids Club **Enrollment:** 53 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 17922

Street: 105 E Main ST **City:** Slater Iowa **Zip** 50244 **County:** Story

Mailing Address: 420 Kellogg AVE, Ames, IA, 50010

Director's Name: Katie Highland **Phone Number:** 515-291-9050

On-Site Supervisor(s): Tabitha Robles **E-Mail:** NSchroer@yss.org

Date(s) of Visit: 05-19-2025

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:** 04-19-2024

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

Date Inspected: 02-15-2024

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

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: Infants (0-23 mo.) 2 Years 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				75	75
Summer					0

QRS Rating: N/A

RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE:	
X	**FULL** license from 06-01-2024 to 06-01-2026
	PROVISIONAL license from
	DENIAL of initial application
	SUSPENSION of license
	REVOCATION of license

Licensing Consultant: Maggie Gibson, SWIV **Date:** 06-04-2025

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

N/A.

II. IDENTIFY THE AREAS OBSERVED ON THE VISIT:

An unannounced off year annual visit was completed 5/19-24 with the program director present through the visit.

This YSS-Ballard Kids Club is located in the elementary school building in Slater. This building is for K-2nd grade and is called Ballard West. The 3rd-5th graders attend Ballard East which is in Cambridge. A school bus transports the students between the two schools and this site provides programming for K-5th grade.

This site is used year round. During the school year morning care is offered from 6:30-8:00 am. After school care is from 3-6:00 pm. Summer hours are 6:30 am-6:00 pm. Programming is held in the cafeteria, the commons space and the gym is used at times as well.

Katie Highland is the program director. Katie has Bachelor's degree in Early Childhood Education and has several years of child care/services related experience. Tabitha Robles is the site supervisor for Ballard.

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.

The program uses both cafeterias/commons areas now; one has a capacity of 43 and the other has a capacity of 60. The gym has a capacity of 111.

This program, like YSS BASP/Summer programs in the area, has a variety of activities for independent play and for group activities. The staff were in ratio and were engaged in a group activity; maintaining good structure. The program area is clean and organized; there are handwashing posters as required along with ready access to restroom facilities. Tornado/Fire emergency diagrams were posted; and drills were documented to have been completed. Playground safety checks were also completed. Snacks are provided with milk. During the summer program, participants bring their own lunches, which are eaten cafeteria style. Medications are stored securely when needed; first aid kits are readily available.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

YSS staff partner well with the school and are able to speak with the teachers regarding a child's day at school or any behavioral concerns. The school is very supportive of this program.

The staff are professional and invested in providing quality care. Staff communicate well with families.

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

There were not aspects of operation identified that fall below standards reviewed.

V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:

Children bring in their own sack lunch during full day care and the program provides for snacks. The snack menu had creditable food items.

The staff work well together, maintaining good structure with group activities. The children were observed to be engaged with the stead lead activities or individual activities and content.

*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.