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

Name of Center: Yellow Brick Road ECDC - White Birch **Enrollment:** 80 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 51996

Street: 1620 SW White Birch CIR **City:** Ankeny Iowa **Zip** 50023 **County:** Polk

Mailing Address: 1620 SW White Birch CIR, Ankeny, IA, 50023

Director's Name: Lori Griffith **Phone Number:** 515-981-0089

On-Site Supervisor(s): Kelsey Cole **E-Mail:** kylie.schrader@ybrecdc.org
Lori.Griffith@ybrecdc.org

Date(s) of Visit: 11-08-2023

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

LICENSING VISITS

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

Signed Application (470-0722) Received X **Yes** **No** **NA** **Date Signed:** 10-16-2023

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

Date Inspected: 07-27-2022

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: X Profit 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	29	16	78	29	152
Summer					0

QRS Rating: N/A

RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE:	
X	**FULL** license from 12-01-2023 to 12-01-2025
	PROVISIONAL license from
	DENIAL of initial application
	SUSPENSION of license
	REVOCATION of license

Licensing Consultant: Maggie Gibson, SWIV **Date:** 12-04-2023

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

N/A

II. IDENTIFY THE AREAS OBSERVED ON THE VISIT:

An unannounced full-licensing visit was completed 11-8-23. The OSS was present through the visit.

Yellow Brick Road ECDC White Birch has been at this location since 2005. The new owners are Jessica Johnsen and Kylie Schrader. Jessica and Kylie own centers in Iowa, Nebraska and Minnesota. They are not a corporation. Lori Griffith has been the director since 2016, and has been with Tender Years since 2004. She meets the qualifications to be director. Kelsey Cole became the On-Site Supervisor in November of 2022. Kelsey has two prior years of experience in childcare and several hours of childcare related training. Kelsey meets qualifications to be the on-site supervisor.

Care is offered to children from the age of infants to age twelve. Hours of operation are 6:30 AM to 5:30 PM, Monday through Friday. The center has sole occupancy of the building.

All areas of the center were observed-

Room observations: Funny Daffer (which is the curriculum used) is designed by Yellow Brick Road and assists in lesson planning and ideas. The Kangaroo Application is used to communicate with parents. Children are separated into six classrooms according to their ages, with the infant room being divided into two separate areas. There is variety of good centers/activities in each room. Staff are in ratio. Good Structure is maintained in the rooms on this day. The staff were observed to be responsive and nurturing. Good Handwashing was modeled by staff. Discussion took place with regard to the need for a deep, thorough cleaning of changing tables and a changing mat to be replaced (infant room). There was visible debris on the changing tables. Other areas of the classrooms were orderly.

Nutrition Practices: There is an on-site kitchen and dedicated kitchen staff (Ms. Katelyn). The center menus are in-line with CACFP guidelines. Meals and snacks are served cafeteria style with staff also present. Menus rotate every 4 weeks. The kitchen was clean and storage was orderly.

Health and Safety: Medications are stored securing in the assistant director's desk. Handwashing signs were posted. First aid kits are placed in all classrooms and in the kitchen. Fire/Tornado plans were posted and drills documented to have been completed monthly as required. Radon was updated July 2023 as reported by the Assistant Director. There is a carbon monoxide detector on the premises. The center is operating while under-going construction and has kept areas clean and safe. The only concern noted is the cleanliness of the changing tables and mats.

Playground: Playground checks were documented as having been completed. There is a play structure available on the playground, which is enclosed by chain link fencing. Shade is provided by building placement. The surfacing is a combination of rubber mats and cement. There is a basketball hoop available mostly for older children. There were some rubber mats that had begun to come up and creating a tripping hazard, replacement is recommended.

Transportation/Field Trips NA

Administrative Review: Due to new painting some parent board items were missing such as information for mandatory reporter, handbook accessibility; consultant contact, license, fire/tornado plans. Non-smoking signs were posted. Eight child files reviewed; one noted to be missing updated emergency information which the assistant director took note of and will inquire with parents. Five staff files were reviewed and all necessary information was found. This center has a well-established procedure.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

There is longevity of staff at this center, with a staff who has worked at the center for 20+ years.

The center conducts assessments and conferences twice a year. They feel the children are ready for kindergarten.

The center has a website, and the older three rooms send out a monthly newsletter.

The center works closely with parents.

The center communicates well with the parents and strives to have a positive relationship with the parents.

The center has a secure entrance.

The center works with their CCR&R consultant.

The staff have shown resiliency during the pandemic and have been willing to work overtime and have flexible hours.

The center has an IQ4K rating of 2 stars, based on a 1-5 star rating.

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

109.9(2): All files are updated at least annually and when a change occurs. One child file reviewed was in need of updated emergency contact information.

109.11(3)a: Center shall ensure that: Facility and premises are sanitary, safe, and hazard free. Adequate indoor and outdoor space is provided. The outdoor area shall include safe play equipment and area of shade. Sufficient space provided for dining. Sufficient lighting shall be provided. Sufficient ventilation. Sufficient heating. sufficient cooling. Sufficient bathroom and diapering facilities. Equipment, including kitchen appliances, are maintained so as not to result in burns, shock, or injury to children. Sanitation and safety procedures for the center are developed and implemented to reduce risk or injury or harm to children and reduce transmission of disease.

>The changing tables did have visible debris and were in need of a deep, thorough cleaning, along with replacement of a changing mat in the infant room. This is necessary to help prevent the spread of bacteria/viral illness.
>Rubber mats on the playground are uneven and in need of replacement.

V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:

The menu's reflect the center is following CACFP guidelines.

Discussion took place with regard for the need to maintain clean changing tables/mats with thorough, frequently cleaning/sanitizing.

The staff were consistently observed to be engaged with the children; to be nurturing and to maintain good structure in the rooms.

*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.