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

Name of Center: Kidsville Early Learning Center **Enrollment:** 99 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 19197

Street: 1009 First St W **City:** Independence Iowa **Zip** 50644 **County:** Buchanan

Mailing Address: 1009 First St W, Independence, IA, 50644

Director's Name: Kelly Walton **Phone Number:** 319-334-4286

On-Site Supervisor(s): Ashley Hocken & Cyndi Jensen **E-Mail:** director.kidsville@indytel.com

Date(s) of Visit: 10-06-2023

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

LICENSING VISITS

New Application **Re-Application** X **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: 12-08-2021

Comments : Compliance on 12/22/21

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	36	18	55	36	145
Summer					0

QRS Rating: N/A

RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE:	
X	**FULL** license from 11-01-2022 to 11-01-2024
	PROVISIONAL license from
	DENIAL of initial application
	SUSPENSION of license
	REVOCATION of license

Licensing Consultant: Becky Frost **Date:** 10-06-2023

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

N/A

II. IDENTIFY THE AREAS OBSERVED ON THE VISIT:

On 10/06/23 I made an unannounced off year licensing visit to Kidsville Early Learning Center in Independence. I met with Kelly Walton, the director. Ms. Walton has a BA in marketing and advertising and a minor in communications/public relations. Ms. Walton has the National Administrator Credential (NAC). She has been with the program since February 2016. Ashley Hocken is the on-site supervisor and assistant director. Cyndi Jensen is an additional on-site supervisor. She is the lead teacher in the infant room and has been with the program since January 2007. The center has 44 employees.

Kidsville Early Learning Center is a non-profit program. It has been in operation since 1977 and in the current location since 1996. The center is located inside the Independence Community Schools Early Childhood Education Center and it is located on the Independence Community School grounds next to East Elementary School. The program operates Monday through Friday from 6:00 am until 6:00 pm. It serves infants through school-aged children. There are currently 99 children enrolled.

The center operates out of the following rooms: infant room (two weeks through 12-14 months), toddler room (12-14 months until 24 months), two-year-old room, three-year-old childcare room, three-year-old preschool room, four and five-year-old room and a school-age space. The center also has a four-year-old state voluntary preschool room, but this room is regulated through the Department of Education and not licensed through the Department of Health and Human Services. The three-year-old preschool program operates Monday through Thursday and offers a morning class from 8:15-11:15 am and an afternoon class from 12:00-3:00 pm. Ashley Conklin is the teacher of the three-year-old class. She has an AA in early childhood education. An inspection of each room was completed. All rooms were within ratio.

Windows provide natural lighting. The rooms are decorated with the children's art projects, and posters to assist the children with the learning process, such as the alphabet, shapes, colors and numbers. The children's birthdays were posted. The rooms are decorated with pictures of the children and some had pictures of the families. There is an area for circle time in the rooms.

The centers observed on the day of the licensing visit include library, Lego/blocks, table toys, games, puzzles, transportation, computers, art, dramatic play, puppets, writing, math, science/discovery, Play-Doh, woodworking, sensory table and music. Centers were arranged in a manner that allowed easy movement between activities, but it also allowed for clear supervision by staff members. Materials were in good condition. The materials are located at child level so they were easily accessible to the children.

There was a phone in each of the classrooms. Emergency numbers and the center's address and phone number were posted in all rooms. Emergency fire and tornado procedures and evacuation diagrams were posted by the main program doors and outdoor exits throughout the center. A daily schedule was posted in each room.

The three-year-old preschool class primarily uses the Creative Curriculum to develop lesson plans. Ms. Conklin completes the Brigance assessments on the children. The other rooms use the Creative Curriculum and a variety of other resources to develop lesson plans. A lesson plan was available for review in each room.

Daily sheets are being maintained in the infant and toddler rooms. The infant room uses paper copies of the forms and the toddler room uses the ProCare app to communicate with families and document the mandated areas.

I reviewed documentation of monthly fire and tornado drills. I reviewed documentation of monthly playground inspections. A radon test was completed in September 2023 and is good for two years. Results were within EPA guidelines. The fuel burning inspection was completed and no concerns were noted. A carbon monoxide detector was on site and located in the laundry area off the kitchen. Outlets were protected. The fire marshal inspection occurred on 12/08/21 with compliance on 12/22/22.

The program participates in the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP). The center provides the children with breakfast, lunch and a morning and afternoon snack. It uses a six-week rotation of menus. Menus and allergies were posted. Chasity Block is the cook. Ms. Block has completed the Serv Safe training. The children eat in their classrooms.

The kitchen was observed to be clean and organized. The kitchen is inspected by the health department every six months. The center uses an industrial dishwasher for the dishes. The dishwasher is inspected and sanitized by Martin Brothers every month. There are also sinks to wash the dishes. There is an upright freezer, an industrial refrigerator and an industrial freezer. Thermometers were present. There is one handwashing sink and handwashing procedures were posted. Food items were stored according to NHSPS guidelines.

In the infant room, the program provides one brand of formula, cereal and baby food for the infants. If the parents want a different brand, they must provide it. Ms. Jensen states most parents choose to bring their own formula and baby food. There is a kitchenette off the infant room. There is a refrigerator and thermometers were present. There is a food prep sink. Bottles are sent to the kitchen to be washed and sanitized at the end of the day.

Most of the rooms in the center use bleach and water to sanitize food tables. In the two-year-old room the staff members use GE Fight Bac RTU to sanitize food tables. Clorox Healthcare Hydrogen Peroxide Cleaner Disinfectant is used to disinfect diaper changing tables. Handwashing and diaper changing procedures are posted in most of the mandated areas. Post handwashing procedures near the sink in the infant room.

Cribs are used for naps in the infant room and cots are used in the other rooms.

I observed diaper changes with staff members. Proper procedures are followed.

Children have access to one of four outdoor playgrounds depending on the child's age. There is an infant/toddler area, a two-year-old area, a preschool area and school-age area.

The infant/toddler area has a concrete path and a grassy area. There is a tarp for shade and a shade shelter over the sandbox. There are riding toys, pushing toys, dramatic play equipment, small slides and a basketball hoop.

In the two-year-old area rubber tiles are used for fall surface under a piece of climbing equipment that has slides. There is a sandbox covered by a shade shelter and a tree for shade. There is dramatic play equipment, playhouses and bench for the children to rest.

The preschool area has rubber tiles are used for fall surface under a piece of climbing equipment that has a slide, monkey bars and other activities. There are tires for the children to crawl on or walk across. There is a concrete path, a sensory table, a playhouse, a music center and a pergola shade structure over a sandbox. There is also a tunnel for the children to crawl through. There is a bench and picnic table for the children to rest.

The school-age area has rubber tiles are used for fall surface under a piece of climbing equipment that has slides and other activities. There are tires for the children to crawl on or walk across. There is a concrete path and a playhouse. There is a sandbox covered by a shade shelter. Trees also provide shade. There is a picnic table for the children to rest.

The parent information is located on a bulletin board inside the entrance. The mandatory reporter, childcare consultant and the handbook availability were posted. The license was conspicuously hung. A no-smoking sign was posted at the entrance.

Staff members were observed to have great routines and great teamwork in the classrooms. Staff members were flexible with their schedules and maintained positive conversation with the children. I observed staff members on the floor introducing the children to activities. Staff members moved around the rooms to interact with the children. Positive redirection was used when necessary. I observed staff members to be nurturing. They held children on their laps and were observed rocking children to sooth them. The three-year-old room is decorated with a large painting of wildlife that was actually painted by a staff member in the room. Rooms were decorated for their themes, the season or Halloween. The children appeared have fun in the center.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

Ms. Walton has joined a community steering committee for childcare. A childcare survey was sent out to the community.

The center has changed their billing to a weekly tuition.

The center has purchased lockdown doors. They have not been installed yet.

The center has installed new playground doors.

The center had new windows installed.

A pergola shade shelter has been added to the preschool playground.

Dividers and cubbies were purchased for the toddler room.

The center has maintained a full workforce and full capacity center.

The center is in the process of completing steps to apply for an IQ4K level 1.

The program is in a secured building and there are cameras in each room. The school has cameras on the outside of the building.

Ms. Walton states they have a good group of teachers who work at the center. She reports they really do care about the center and the children. Many lead teachers have longevity at the center. Staff members are dedicated and are a great resource for the center.

The program partners with Central Rivers AEA to meet the needs of children with identified needs.

Ms. Walton states they serve great families who are supportive and are all in when they have fundraisers.

The center has a waiting list for all rooms. They are considering moving to a larger building in the future.

Owlets are being used in the infant room.

The center has the following goals for 2024: They want to assess community needs based on the community survey; continue the steering committee to determine how they can help with the childcare crisis; order new cubbies for the two-year-old room; add outdoor cameras; add a new entrance system with a camera; be a level 1 or 2 for IQ4K.

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

N/A

V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:

A full license is issued for the remainder of the licensing period. All DHS licensing standards and procedures must be maintained during the renewal period.

*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.