Health and Human Services

Iowa Department of Health And Human Services

CHILD CARE CENTER ANNUAL EVALUATION

Name of Center: Kids West-Clive Learning Academy

Provider No.: 41570

Address: 1600 73rd St, Windsor Heights, IA, 50324

County: Polk

Director's Name: Ashley Kunz

On-Site Supervisor: Amy Onstot

Phone Number: 5156335018

E-Mail: kunza@wdmcs.org

HHS Visit Date: 08/27/2026

Licensing Period: 10/01/2026 to 10/01/2028

Fire Inspection:

Date Inspected: 12/17/2025

Comments: Windsor Heights Fire Marshal. Inspections are required per state regulations at least every three years.

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	6:30 AM to 6:00 PM		
Tuesday	6:30 AM to 6:00 PM		
Wednesday	6:30 AM to 6:00 PM		
Thursday	6:30 AM to 6:00 PM		
Friday	6:30 AM to 6:00 PM		
Saturday			

Program Population Served:

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

LICENSE CAPACITY	Infants	2 Years	Preschool	School-Aged	Capacity
General	0	0	22	190	212
Summer					0

1. Basic Overview

A licensing inspection was conducted on 8/27/26. The director and on-site supervisor were both present for this visit.

All areas of the program were observed. These areas observed consisted of classroom observations and activities, ratios, nutritional practices, health and safety practices, playground observation, field trip and transportation practices, and administrative review.

Kids West Clive Learning Academy is a school-age program located within the Clive Elementary School. The center predominately uses the gym, cafeteria, and outdoor playground area for the school-age component. This year, 2026, there is a new wrap around component located within a classroom on the upper level of the school. The program was given permission to open under HHS (formerly DHS) supervision on 8/22/14. Previous to this date, the center was under the Department of Education's supervision. There is a before and after school component as well as a full-day component during the summer and no school days. As mentioned, there is also now a wrap around component during the school year for four and five year old children. Wrap around hours are 7:00am - 5:30pm.

The center is overseen by a Board and owned by the West Des Moines School District. Ashley Kunz is the director of this program as well as the seven other Kids West programs. Ashley has a BA degree as well as past experience working in child care. Her past experience includes being an area director for another child care program with multiple sites in the Des Moines metro. The on-site supervisor of this location is Amy Onstot. Amy has her AA degree in Applied Sciences and has also worked in child care for a number of years.

The capacity of the gym is 105 children. The capacity of the cafeteria is 85 children. The capacity of the wrap around

classroom is 22 children. Total child enrollment on the day of the inspection was 80 children.

NUTRITION: The center serves breakfast, lunch, and a PM snack to children. All food is delivered by the West Des Moines School District Nutrition Department. The food menu was posted for the week, but will change to the month. All food items met CACFP requirements. Food storage was sufficient.

TRANSPORTATION/FIELD TRIPS: The center continues to contract with the school district for field trips and takes a school bus. For all field trips, a first-aid kit and children's emergency contacts are taken along. School-age children are eligible to go on field trips.

PLAYGROUND: The playground is large and consists of climbing structures, blacktop, and a large grassy area. The playground was renovated over the past year with new climbing structures as well as field turf for surfacing. The entire playground is fenced in. Bolts along the fence and gates should be cut so that no more than two threads are showing. Monthly playground inspections are being recorded.

For more difficult child behaviors, communication and teamwork is stressed. This includes between staff, parents, and children. All of the Kids West programs have a behavioral specialist who works between all eight schools to address any issues.

2. Identify Observed Strengths of the program

The center has several nights throughout the year where parents are invited to activities. These include, but are not limited to a family orientation night, a Halloween celebration night, other holiday celebrations, etc.

A focal point is for staff to get to know parents of children they serve on a more personal level. Staff believe they have good relationships with the families they serve.

The center has access to the school dishwasher for sanitizing toys (in addition to spraying toys daily).

A nutritionist reviews all meal items.

The Kids West programs have a behavioral specialist on -site who rotates throughout their eight programs.

Staff use walkie-talkies to communicate throughout different areas used by the center.

There is a good mix of tenured and new staff. Staff reportedly work well together. The on-site supervisor has been with the program for 30 years.

There is a secure entrance into the program.

Staff pictures are posted.

The director attends meetings with other directors of school-age programs in the western suburbs throughout the year.

The on-site supervisor has weekly staff meetings with other Kids West on-site supervisors.

The on-site supervisor has monthly all staff meetings with her staff.

The center has a good working relationship with other school personnel.

The center has a lot more storage space and room to move around since the new addition (cafeteria) was added.

Enrollment remains steady.

The playground has been renovated over the past year.

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3. Identify the aspects that fall below the standard

109.9(1)b: All files contain a pre-employment physical exam report completed within six months prior to hire and at least every three years. Physical exams shall be documented on form 470-5152, Child Care Provider Physical Examination Report.
One staff member is past due for another physical.

109.9(1)c: All files contain documentation to indicate that ongoing staff training requirements are met, including current certifications in first aid/CPR and mandatory child abuse training.
One staff member was past due for first-aid/CPR re-certification. This has been scheduled for the near future.

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

N/A.

5. Special Notes/Recommendations

Because the center now has a wrap around program for four/five year old children, they will need to have a copy of the annual HVAC/boiler inspection on file, install a carbon monoxide detector in the classroom, and do radon testing in this classroom. Radon testing will be due no later than 8/2027. It is recommended that this be done Labor Day Weekend or Thanksgiving Weekend. If the test comes back below the 4.0 cutoff, the center can move to testing for radon every five years. If the level comes back 4.0 or higher, the center will have to have a mitigation plan, retest, and at least temporarily move back to testing every two years. .

I - Power was again discussed at this year's inspection. All staff should continue to upload all of their training certificates into their I - Power profiles.

On the playground, it was noted that the bolts along the new fence are longer than two threads showing. These should be cut/capped.

A new, full, two-year license is recommended. The application and payment was sent in 8/26/26 per the director.

Date: 08/28/2026

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HHS Licensing Consultant: Nate Knepper

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**.