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

Name of Center: New Creations Child Care & Learning Ctr at Ankeny **Enrollment:** 57 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 52269

Street: 3004 NW 18th ST **City:** Ankeny Iowa **Zip** 50023 **County:** Polk

Mailing Address: 3424 EP True PKWY, West Des Moines, IA, 50265

Director's Name: Ashlee Sellers **Phone Number:** 515-800-0029

On-Site Supervisor(s): Amanda Henry **E-Mail:** ankeny@newcreationschildcare.com cambria.morris@newcreationschildcare.com

Date(s) of Visit: 07-03-2024

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

LICENSING VISITS

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

Signed Application (470-0722) Received X **Yes** **No** **NA** **Date Signed:** 08-08-2023

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

Date Inspected: 06-06-2024

Comments : Ankeny Fire Marshal.

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	66	30	70	24	190
Summer					0

QRS Rating: N/A

RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE:	
X	**FULL** license from 08-14-2023 to 08-01-2025
	PROVISIONAL license from
	DENIAL of initial application
	SUSPENSION of license
	REVOCATION of license

Licensing Consultant: Nate Knepper **Date:** 07-05-2024

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

N/A.

II. IDENTIFY THE AREAS OBSERVED ON THE VISIT:

An off-year visit was conducted on 7/3/24. The director was present throughout this visit as was the regional director.

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.

New Creations Child Care and Learning Center Ankeny is a newer center that was given permission to open on 8/14/23. The center serves children six weeks in age through school-age using the company New Creations Learning Curriculum. This is one of three New Creations programs located within the Des Moines Metro. The center is privately owned by a company based out of Minnesota. The regional director of all three Iowa programs is Cambria Morris. Cambria has a BA degree as well as past experience working in child care which includes being a director. Ashlee Sellers is the director of this program as of 2/2024. Ashlee has a BA degree as well as past experience working in child care. The on-site supervisor of this program is Amanda Henry. Amanda has a BA degree as well as past experience working in child care.

During the visit, children were observed napping in cribs and engaged in tummy time and free choice play at the different learning stations in classrooms. Staff were attentive to children's needs and were spaced out in classrooms and interacting with children.

There are a total of 10 classrooms, but currently only three classrooms are in use. Capacity of classroom are 15 (infant room), 15 (infant room), 17 (toddler room), 19 (toddler room), 15 (two year old room), 15 (two year old room), 24 (three year old room), 23 (three year old room), 24 (four/five year old room), and 23 (Pre - K room). Capacity however, is kept lower in several classrooms.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

This is a newer center that meets a need in a growing community. Enrollment has increased over the past year.

The regional director, director, and on-site supervisor all have many years of experience working in child care.

The directors of all three New Creations programs in the Des Moines metro meet regularly with each other as well as the regional director. Paperwork was well organized.

Monthly all-staff meetings are held.

The center was very clean and had good lighting throughout.

Field turf has been installed in a section of the playground.

Staff use walkie talkies between each other to increase communication.

Staff reportedly work well with each other at this location. There is a good mix of tenured and newer staff. Several staff have Bachelor degrees.

The center works regularly with AEA and CCR&R.

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

109.4(5): Child Care Centers and Preschool Licensing Standards and Procedures shall be available in the center and a notice stating a copy is available for review. Contact information of the child care consultant shall be included in the notice.
This consultant's posting was not posted on the day of the visit at the main parent board.

109.10(15)b: Emergency instructions, phone numbers, and diagrams for fire, tornado, and flood shall be visibly posted and documented at least once a month for fire and tornado. Records shall be maintained for current and previous year.
Several monthly fire and tornado drills were missed Oct 2023 - Jan 2024. Monthly drills are required even during the winter months for Iowa which might differ from Minnesota regulations.

109.12(4): Procedures are developed and implemented to maintain equipment and materials in a sanitary manner. Sanitary procedures are followed for use and storage of personal hygiene articles.
All infant bottles should be labeled with the children's names on them.

V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:

Radon testing was conducted 3/26/24 - 3/28/24. All classrooms came back with radon levels below the 4.0 cutoff. Because levels were below 4.0, the center can move to testing for radon at least every five years now. So long as radon levels remain below 4.0, they can remain on a five year plan. If at the next testing, levels in any classroom come 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.

The annual HVAC/boiler system was inspected in 4/2024 and expires in 4/2025.

The center does not transport children and they do not go on field trips. The center will bring in different agencies for presentations to children.

I-Power and IQ4K were discussed. It appears staff have I-Power profiles and are uploading training into I - Power. The center is working towards their IQ4K certification which is a voluntary program based on best practice.

The Iowa diapering procedures should be posted rather than the Minnesota diapering procedures.

A separate classroom board should be created for the three year old classroom. This classroom currently shares the same schedule and lesson planning posted outside the four year old classroom next door.

The handbooks still need to be updated/altered some as discussed and documented at the New Creations EP True visit that took place a week prior to this New Creations visit.

*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.