Health and Human Services

Iowa Department of Health And Human Services

CHILD CARE CENTER ANNUAL EVALUATION

Name of Center: E.L.M. Street Preschool

Provider No.: 28423

Address: 319 W Elm St, Ogden, IA, 50212

County: Boone

Director's Name: Amanda Stephens

On-Site Supervisor: N/A

Phone Number: 5152753249

E-Mail: ZionELMStreetPreschool@gmail.com

HHS Visit Date: 03/24/2026

Licensing Period: 05/01/2025 to 05/01/2027

Fire Inspection:

Date Inspected: 09/12/2024

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

Report Visit Type:

- [ ] PTO
- [X] Licensing Visit
- [ ] Drop In
- [ ] Administrative Change

License Type:

- [X] Full
- [ ] Provisional

Quality initiative:

Quality Rating: 4

- [ ] Accrediation

Program Duration:

- [ ] Year-Round
- [X] School Year
- [ ] Summer Only

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HOURS:	*Year-round*	*School-Year*	*Summer Only*
Sunday			
Monday		8:30 AM to 2:50 PM	
Tuesday		8:30 AM to 2:50 PM	
Wednesday			
Thursday		8:30 AM to 2:50 PM	
Friday		8:30 AM to 2:50 PM	
Saturday			

Program Population Served:

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

LICENSE CAPACITY	Infants	2 Years	Preschool	School-Aged	Capacity
General	0	0	32	0	32
Summer					0

1. Basic Overview

An off-year inspection was conducted on 3/24/26. The director was present for the duration of this visit as was the assistant staff member.

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.

ELM St. Preschool opened in 2000 and is primarily located in a classroom in the upper level of the Zion Lutheran Church in Ogden, IA. The preschool is overseen by a Board. The director of the preschool as of 5/2021 is Amanda Stephens. Amanda has a BS degree and a Master's degree in child related fields. Amanda also has past experience working with children in a school setting.

The preschool uses the Creative Learning Curriculum and Science of Reading Curriculum for their three, four, and five year old children. Children attend Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays from either 8:30am-11:05am or 12:20pm - 2:50pm. There are not any classes on Wednesdays. Total enrollment at the time of the inspection was 39 children.

During the inspection, children were observed in free-choice play. A short while later, they were cleaning up their areas while a "clean up" song was playing. Children were seen and heard singing along while they cleaned up. After this, the children transitioned to group time and they were seen and observed reviewing letters, sounds, and pronunciation of certain letters/sounds. Toys and other equipment are being cleaned and sanitized daily. Children gave specific answers as to where they relocate to for monthly fire and tornado drills.

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NUTRITION: The center serves children a snack. Snack items on the calendar met CACFP requirements. Children eat snacks at the child-size tables and chairs. All food storage was sufficient.

TRANSPORTATION/FIELD TRIPS: The center takes walking field trips to the surrounding area and will also invite agencies into the center for presentations.

PLAYGROUND: The center has a fenced in playground area that consists mostly of grass. There is a playhouse and a child-size picnic table on the playground as well. Trees and the building provide shade. The center will bring out balls and other outdoor toys for children to play.

2. Identify Observed Strengths of the program

The preschool has a good working relationship with the church overall.

The program has good partnerships with other community businesses.

There is a secure entrance to get into the upstairs preschool area.

The preschool participates in QPPS and IQ4K. IQ4K is a voluntary program based on best practice.

The preschool uses an electronic app to communicate with parents during the day (Brightwheel).

A weekly newsletter is sent out to parents which also includes the food menu for the week.

Enrollment remains steady.

Classroom pictures and art work are posted.

Good child-staff interactions were observed. There were lots of activities to keep children's interested.

The director of this program is organized and detailed.

Home visits are done before the start of every school year as well as an open house visit to the program.

The Board is very involved with the program and supportive.

Within the past year, the center has purchased some new child-size furniture.

3. Identify the aspects that fall below the standard

109.9(2)i: Preschool (for children five years and younger not enrolled in school): Physical exam report submitted within 30 days of admission, was obtained no more than 12 months prior to admission, is signed by a licensed MD, DO, Chiropractor, PA, or ARNP, and contains health history; present health status including allergies, medications, and acute/chronic conditions; and recommendations for continued care if necessary.
One child had an outdate physical in their file. THIS IS A REPEAT ISSUE FROM LAST YEAR.

109.10(1): Medications: The center shall have written procedures for dispensing, storage, and authorization, and recording of all prescription and non-prescription medications. Staff must be over 18 to administer medication. All medications shall be stored in original containers with physician or pharmacist directions. Labels should be intact and stored so they are inaccessible to children and public. Nonprescription medications shall be labeled with the child’s name. For every day an

authorization for medication is in effect and child is in attendance, there shall be a notation of administration including the name of medicine, date, time, dosage, given or applied, and the initials of the person administering the medication or the reason the medication was not given. For ongoing, long term medications, authorization shall be obtained for a period not to exceed the duration of prescription. Staff shall not provide medications to a child if pre-service/orientation training for medication management has not been completed.
There was one expired epipen in the center.

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

The parent of one child should bring in a new, non-expired epipen as soon as possible.

The director is going to reach out to the family for the expired physical and request a new physical for the child's file.

5. Special Notes/Recommendations

Radon testing was last conducted 3/11/24 - 3/14/24. Radon levels came back below the 4.0 cutoff. Because radon levels were below 4.0, the center doesn't have to test again until five years from the 3/2024 testing. If testing in 3/2029 comes back 4.0 or higher, the center will have to do a long-term test and go back to testing every two years at least temporarily.

The annual boiler inspection on file expires 2/28/2027.

I-Power was discussed at the visit. It appears staff are uploading their training certificates.

Hand washing signs should also be posted in the two lower level restrooms.

For child behaviors, staff stated they have good communication with each other and know when to ask for assistance. They have a specific "calm down" area that children also have the option to use if needed.

Date: 03/24/2026

HHS Licensing Consultant: Nate Knepper

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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**.