



Health and
Human Services

Iowa Department of Health And Human Services

CHILD CARE CENTER ANNUAL EVALUATION

Name of Center: Asbury United Methodist Preschool

Provider No.: 18096

Address: 723 Bank St, Webster City, IA, 50595

County: Hamilton

Director's Name: Brittney Clausen

On-Site Supervisor:

Phone Number: 5158325369

E-Mail: asburypreschool3@gmail.com

HHS Visit Date: 03/23/2026

Licensing Period: 05/01/2026 to 05/01/2028

Fire Inspection:

Date Inspected: 03/31/2025

Comments:

Report Visit Type:

- ☐ PTO
- ☒ Licensing Visit
- ☐ Drop In
- ☐ Administrative Change

License Type:

- ☒ Full
- ☐ Provisional

Quality initiative:

- ☐ Accrediation

Program Duration:

- ☐ Year-Round
- ☒ School Year
- ☐ Summer Only



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HOURS:	<u>Year-round</u>	<u>School-Year</u>	<u>Summer Only</u>
Sunday			
Monday		8:00 AM to 11:30 AM	
Tuesday			
Wednesday		8:00 AM to 11:30 AM	
Thursday			
Friday			
Saturday			

Program Population Served:

- ☐ Infant(0-<24 Months)
- ☐ Toddler
- ☒ PreSchool
- ☐ School Age
- ☐ All Ages

LICENSE CAPACITY	Infants	2 Years	Preschool	School-Aged	Capacity
General			48		48
Summer					0

1. Basic Overview

An unannounced annual visit was made to the Asbury United Methodist Preschool on 03-23-26 where I met with center director Brittney Clausen. Brittney took over as the director of this program in 2020. Brittney is well qualified for the position with a BA in general studies, and prior experience in early child care and education. The program is located in the lower level of the Asbury United Methodist Church and operated under a board of directors as a non-profit center. The program provides pre-school programming only in three sessions with two classes for 4 year old children, and one for 3 year old children though only the 3 year old program is operated under DHS licensing. The 4 year old program is operated in conjunction with the public school under the 4 Year Old Preschool Grant for which the school system provides the lead teacher, Sarah Orton . There are currently 18 children enrolled in the 3 year old program served by Brittney as the lead, and Sarah who serves as an assistant for the 3 year old class. All aspects of the program subject to licensing standards were reviewed during the visit.

The design and layout of the center, and general operation of the program remains the same as in prior visits. The program operates in a single classroom but also makes use of a large meeting room which is used as an indoor gym for large motor skill activities. The program did add another classroom in 2024 which is used for a second 4 year old class but Brittney is hoping to expand the 3 year old program to include a second class as well. That room was measured to have an overall useable floor space of 984 sq.ft. allowing for 28 children, but does have a curtain divider that if engaged would create two smaller spaces that would only allow for 26 children with 12 on one side, and 14 on the other. Restrooms are located down the hallway from the classroom and children are escorted to the restroom as needed. Windows along the exterior walls provide natural light, ventilation, a view of the outdoors, and one is also a designated emergency exit for both the existing, and expansion classroom. There is a small pass-through kitchenette that provides secondary egress from the classroom into the meeting room used for large motor skill activities. All exits were maintained so that they were clear of

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obstruction. The rooms and building were observed to be clean and free of any safety concerns due to construction or maintenance. Classrooms are divided into activity centers through the placement of furniture, shelving, and play structure which are arranged so as not to create any blind areas. Each center was well stocked with toys and materials that were in good repair and appropriate to the ages of the children present.

2. Identify Observed Strengths of the program

A copy of the daily schedule and curriculum were posted, and a parent newsletter is also provided which identifies the planned curriculum. The curriculum identifies a general learning theme and specific learning concepts such as numbers and letters. The materials and items present in the classroom did support the planned curriculum both for commercially produced items, and repurposed items such as a large cardboard box that the children could sit in where they could practice fine motor skills of cutting paper. Good interactions were observed with the teachers being actively engaged with the children and implementing the planned schedule and curriculum. Each of the teachers presented a very positive and enthusiastic energy. The teachers also knew each child individually and tailored their interactions to support the children being very outgoing with some, and more subdued and quiet with others. This helped each child successfully transition to joining the group upon arrival. Good behavior management practices were observed with the teachers using routines, transition activities, praise, simple redirection, and guided problem solving. Ratio and supervision were maintained with two teachers in the classroom, and a teacher escorting children to the restroom as needed. When leaving the classroom to escort children the teacher doing so would inform the other of which children were accompanying them.

Good health and safety practices were observed during the time of my visit. The teachers do have the children wash their hands upon arrival, after restroom use, and before snacks. Hand sanitizer is also available in the classrooms as a supplemental practice for situations such as when children blow their nose. Chemical cleaners, staff personal items, and other items that could be a safety risk to children were stored in areas where they are not accessible to children. A first aid kit is maintained in the classroom and contained materials necessary to address most common first aid needs are present.

Due to the limited hours of operation meals are not served but snacks are provided. The parents take it in turn to provide snacks and a list of appropriate snack options is provided. The center also maintains a list/menu of snacks that were provided. Snacks generally included options such as crackers, fresh fruit, cheese, yogurt, milk, and juice. Holiday and birthday celebrations were also documented for those days that non-credible items were provided as part of a celebration. A limited supply of snack items is maintained in the center to supplement as needed when this occurs. The snacks that were present were all prepackaged single serving items. The teachers do not eat with the children but do provide supervision at the tables.

The center does make use of a court yard area for outdoor play which remains the same as in prior visits. The outdoor area is a grassy play space that has a sandbox and a shed where additional materials are stored. A preschool age climbing structure is present and makes of unitary foam tiles for fall surfacing. All equipment was observed to be in good repair. The playground is located next to an ally and privacy fencing has been installed to enclose the playground. The center also has a large indoor area which can be used for large motor skill activities when weather conditions do not allow for outdoor play. A variety of toys and non-climbing structures such as tricycles, stepping blocks, tumbling mats, and other options were present for the children to play with in that area.

All required notices for No Smoking, Consultant Contact, License Certificate, and Mandatory Abuse Reporting were posted in an area that was readily accessible and visible to all parents and visitors. Other required postings for emergency evacuation, emergency numbers, handwashing, daily schedule, curriculum, and menu were also present. All child files were reviewed and found to contain all required information. Both staff files were reviewed and a renewed SING check, FBI background check is needed for Brittney. Sarah's file did contain copies of training certificates but information regarding her background checks, and physical are maintained by the school district administration office. It is recommended that the program maintain copies of that information as well given that there are differences in the renewal periods for programs operated under DHHS and DE oversight. Inspection logs and certificates were available and current for all required elements. The center did complete a renewed long term exposure Radon test in January 2025 which showed an average level of 1.6 pCi/L which is well below the cutoff limit of 4.0. The center does not have a radon mitigation system and it was reviewed that retesting is not required for a 5 year period. The center uses a parent handbook that has been developed for all of the licensed preschool programs in the community and that handbook has been reviewed and contains the required written policies.



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3. Identify the aspects that fall below the standard

109.6(4)c: Center repeats Iowa record checks at a minimum of every two years or when aware of additional child abuse or criminal history that occurs.

-- 1 record was expired. -- CORRECTED

109.6(4)d: Center repeats national criminal history checks at a minimum of every four years or when aware of additional history that occurs.

-- 1 record was expired. -- CORRECTED

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

Confirmation was received on 03-28-26 from Brittany that she had updated the expired Iowa SING, and National background checks.

5. Special Notes/Recommendations

A full license is recommended at this time. Please provide a written response to the licensing consultant identifying a plan of action to correct and maintain those aspects cited as not meeting licensing standards and identifying an anticipated date of compliance. At least one visit will be made to the center during the next year.

Date: 04/09/2026

HHS Licensing Consultant: Ray Salisbury

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>.