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

Name of Center: Theodore's Academy Preschool and Childcare **Enrollment:** 48 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 50989

Street: 3680 Glen Ellen Rd **City:** Sioux City Iowa **Zip** 51106 **County:** Woodbury

Mailing Address: 3680 Glen Ellen Rd, Sioux City, IA, 51106

Director's Name: Paxi Cutler **Phone Number:** 712-560-4056

On-Site Supervisor(s): **E-Mail:** theodoresacademy@gmail.com

Date(s) of Visit: 06-17-2024

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

LICENSING VISITS

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

Signed Application (470-0722) Received X **Yes** **No** **NA** **Date Signed:** 05-03-2024

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

Date Inspected: 03-11-2024

Comments :

LICENSE TYPE: **Child Care** X **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 School-Age

Get-Well Evening Care Special Needs

SCHEDULE: X Year-round School-Year Summer Only

HOURS:	*Year-round*	*School-Year*	*Summary Only*

LICENSE CAPACITY	Infants	2 Years	Preschool	School-Age	Capacity
General	14	9	39		62
Summer					0

QRS Rating: 3

RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE:	
X	**FULL** license from 07-01-2024 to 07-01-2026
	PROVISIONAL license from
	DENIAL of initial application
	SUSPENSION of license
	REVOCATION of license

Licensing Consultant: Jana Drew **Date:** 06-20-2024

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

II. IDENTIFY THE AREAS OBSERVED ON THE VISIT:

A visit was made to center on 06-17-24 and spoke with center Director Paxi Cutler. Paxi has a elementary degree and has worked in the early childcare field for the last several years. The program is a center built in 2020 specifically for childcare. The program provides childcare from 6 weeks to age 6. Once a child completes kindergarten then they have graduated from the center. Center added onto their building which was completed on 10-05-21. Due to the addition theircapacity had increased from 42 to 62. Hours of the center is 7:00am to 5:30pm Monday thru Friday. The center has 5 classrooms. Infant room; 1 year old room; two 2 year old rooms; 3 year old room and 3-6 year PK room.

There are 48 children enrolled in the program. At the time of the visit there were 38 children present. All areas of the program were observed. These areas observed consisted of classroom observations and activities, nutritional practices, health and safety practices, playground observation, field trip and transportation practices, and administrative review. The center continues in cleaning toys daily that children use.

The program currently makes use of 5 rooms. Each room was observed to be clean with no issues due to maintenance. Each room has large windows along the exterior walls that provide ample natural light. Sinks are located in the classrooms to facilitate hand washing. Each room is arranged so that there are no blind areas and the children have ample room to move and play in activity centers. The toys and materials present were appropriate to the ages of the children present in the classrooms and are new. Each room has a daily schedule and curriculum posted. The playground is a large grassy area for the children to run and play. Center has added more shade on the playground. The center added a toddler playground separate from the older children which has turf/sod for surfacing. They have added various umbrellas for this area for shade. They are also adding shade onto the toddler fence.

All required postings were present and in an area readily accessible to parents and visitors. Radon has been completed and in normal range. All appliances, water heater and furnace are all electric. Emergency fire and tornado drills were logged. The center handbooks contain all required policies. The center does not qualify for the food program, however, follow the food program requirements. Meals are provided by the Sioux City Schools, however, the center will substitute meals if needed. Good food storage.

The preschool program will use High Scope Curriculum.

Goals of the center are to hire more staff and have them complete the CDA and PBIS.

Strengths of the program is that the program recently go on the IQ4K level 3 program. Center is very organized. Good core staff. Center tries to do lower numbers in the rooms with more staff. Staff have completed passport trainings, and both the Director and Onsite have completed the Director Administrative training with Hawkeye Community College. Lead teachers have completed Iders and Eccers training. Staff seem interested in obtaining more education to enhance the center.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

The program has a very strong curriculum focus that works with the younger children to help them develop strong school readiness skills in behavioral, developmental, and academic performance.

Center has a IQ4K rating of a level 3 out of 5.

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

109.9(1)e: 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.
Number not in compliance: 1

V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:

The center needs to email consultant confirming that all aspects that fall below standards have been corrected by 07-30-24.

A full license is recommended.

At least one visit will be made to the center during the next year.

*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.