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

Name of Center: 100 Acre Woods Child Care Center **Enrollment:** 58 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 25854

Street: 805 Guthrie ST **City:** De Soto Iowa **Zip** 50069 **County:** Dallas

Mailing Address: 2808 Ashwood DR, Urbandale, IA, 50322

Director's Name: Amanda Grems (formerly Sharp) **Phone Number:** 515-834-9214

On-Site Supervisor(s): Kristin Montes - Deoca **E-Mail:** 100awkids@gmail.com

Date(s) of Visit: 07-15-2024

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:** 07-11-2023

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

Date Inspected: 07-15-2022

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

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	14	13	20	15	62
Summer					0

QRS Rating: N/A

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

Licensing Consultant: Nate Knepper **Date:** 07-16-2024

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 7/15/24. The director, Amanda Grems, was present throughout the 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.

100 Acre Woods in located along a main highway in De Soto, IA. The center's owners are Todd and Traci Vorpahl. Amanda Grems is the center director as of 6/17/19. Amanda has worked in child care for several years and has taken enough training to be a director. The on-site supervisor as of 4/2017 is Kristin Montes - Deoca. Kristin has worked at this center for several years and meets the requirements for on-site supervisor.

The center serves children ages six weeks to 12 years in age and they utilize the Kaplin Learn Every Day Learning Curriculum as well as the Creative Learning Curriculum in their teachings. There are six classrooms total between the main and lower levels of the center.

During the visit, children were observed having tummy time, napping in cribs, engaged in free-choice play at the different learning stations available to them in classrooms, and participating in a large group activity being facilitated by staff.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

There is a secure entrance into the center. Parents are given a code. All other visitors have to ring a doorbell for entrance.

There is an intercom system throughout the center. The center also has a security camera system in place in classrooms and the outdoor playground areas.

The center has a lot of extra storage space.

The center works regularly with AEA, CCR&R, and their nurse consultant.

Monthly staff meetings are held.

Enrollment remains steady.

Within the past year, the center has added new flooring, a new HVAC unit, and a new playground structure.

The center will be hiring a new preschool teacher who has a teaching degree for their preschool program in the Fall.

The center participates in Smile Squad where a dentist comes to the center for teeth cleaning and screening.

The director continues to feel that she had a good mix of tenured and new staff. Staff reportedly work well with each other.

The center uses the smart phone app, Playground for many of their forms and another way to communicate with parents.

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

109.11(3)a: Center shall ensure that: Facility and premises are sanitary, safe, and hazard free. Adequate indoor and outdoor space is provided. The outdoor area shall include safe play equipment and area of shade. Equipment, including kitchen appliances, are maintained so as not to result in burns, shock, or injury to children.
1. There were some dangling cords that need to be more securely fastened to the wall and/or tucked behind shelving in the three year old classroom.
2. Fall zone spacing (six feet minimum needed) was insufficient by a yellow slide on the new playground structure. There were also some other portable climbing structures that did not have six feet fall zone space.
3. There was at least one bolt on a gate that needs to be cut/capped so that no more than two threads are showing.

V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:

Radon testing was last conducted 8/9/22 - 8/12/22. 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 HVAC unit is newly installed as of 5/2024. Annual inspections will still be required.

It was previously noted that he center does walking only field trips for younger children. Children four and older can go on field trips away from the center. The center has a van that they use for field trips. The van has regular maintenance performed.

I-Power and IQ4K were discussed at the visit. Staff will need to upload their annual professional development training hours to their I-Power profiles. The center is currently starting the IQ4K process with their CCR&R consultant.

A current license was emailed to the center after the visit concluded.

In the one year old classroom, a thermometer is needed in the refrigerator.

It was noted that a door to the four/five year old classroom sticks. It most likely needs a new hinge.

It was noted that one newer staff member has a couple of days yet to complete the remaining Essentials modules within the first 90 days of employment.

*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.