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

Name of Center: University Kids LLC **Enrollment:** 42 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 48205

Street: 111 DeSoto RD **City:** Van Meter Iowa **Zip** 50261 **County:** Dallas

Mailing Address: 111 DeSoto RD, Van Meter, IA, 50261

Director's Name: Tayler Sorensen **Phone Number:** 515-996-9141

On-Site Supervisor(s): Ariel Masker **E-Mail:** Directoruniversitykids@gmail.com

Date(s) of Visit: 04-09-2024

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:** 04-04-2023

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

Date Inspected: 02-13-2023

Comments : State Fire Marshal inspections are due at least 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	12	11	16	23	62
Summer					0

QRS Rating: N/A

RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE:	
X	**FULL** license from 05-01-2023 to 05-01-2025
	PROVISIONAL license from
	DENIAL of initial application
	SUSPENSION of license
	REVOCATION of license

Licensing Consultant: Nate Knepper **Date:** 04-10-2024

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 4/9/24. The director and owner were present for the majority of the visit. The on-site supervisor was also present for a portion of this 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.

University Kids is a center in Van Meter that was given permission to open on 1/3/17 under new ownership and a new name. The center was previously known as Country Kids Club. Hayley Carlson purchased the center from the previous owner. The center serves children ages six weeks in age through mostly five years in age although a few school-age children also attend because they have younger siblings who attend. The center utilizes their own learning curriculum in their teachings. There are two levels to the center and a total of five classrooms.

Tayler Sorensen is the director as of 10/2021. Tayler has an AA in Early Childhood Education and has past experience working in child care. Ariel Masker is the on-site supervisor. Ariel has an AA degree and past experience working in child care.

During the visit, children were observed engaged in free-choice play at the different learning stations in their classrooms, being held by staff while being bottle fed, sitting in high chairs eating lunch, sitting at the child- size tables and chairs eating lunch, and washing their hands.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

The director felt she has a good group of staff. Staff work well together.

The director is very organized.

The center was clean and smelled clean.

The center has a good mix of new and tenured staff.

The center has a Facebook page. The center also uses an electronic app to communicate with parents of all children enrolled throughout the day. Parent teacher conferences are also held. Parents are highly encouraged to participate in their children's activities.

Good staff and child interactions were again observed in all areas.

The center has a full-time cook.

The director attends meetings regularly with other area directors.

The center has good community partnerships in the Van Meter area. The center has several volunteer opportunities they participate in throughout the year (staff and children).

Within the past year, the center painted several classrooms.

Enrollment remains steady.

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

109.9(2)c: All files contain information regarding the specific health and medical needs of a child including information regarding any prescribed treatment.
For school-age programs in the child's school, all files include a statement signed by the parent that the immunization information is available in the school file.
Number not in compliance: 2 children were past due for updated annual physicals.

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.
1. The Christmas lights in the three year old classroom need to be more securely fastened to the wall.
2. The pulley holding one of the playground gates shut should be removed and not used as it creates a potential safety hazard.

109.15(5)b: Sanitary and safe methods in food preparation, serving, and storage sufficient to prevent transmission of disease, infestation, and spoilage are followed.
here was one issue with dry food storage not being sealed sufficiently after opening.

V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:

Radon testing was last completed 3/16/23 - 3/24/23. Because radon levels came back below 4.0, the center doesn't have to test again for radon until at least 3/2028. If radon levels remain below the 4.0 cutoff, radon testing can remain every five years. If 4.0 or higher, they will need retest and then go back to testing every two years.

The annual furnace inspection on file was from 8/28/23.

The center has a van to transport preschool children to school and to also use for field trips.

I-Power and IQ4K were discussed at the visit. It appears several staff need to have their training uploaded into I-Power and their profiles.

It was noted one of the three sinks in the infant room was not in use as a plumber most likely has to come out and look at it.

Combination of children of different ages was discussed at the 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.