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

**Name of Center:** Metro Kids - River Woods **Enrollment:** 69 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 36575

**Street:** 2929 SE 22nd St **City:** Des Moines Iowa **Zip** 50320 **County:** Polk

**Mailing Address:** 2100 Fleur Dr, Des Moines, IA, 50321

**Director's Name:** Linda Phillips **Phone Number:** 515-242-7951

**On-Site Supervisor(s):** Anie Woods **E-Mail:** linda.phillips@dmschools.org

**Date(s) of Visit:** 07-28-2025

X **Licensing Visit** X **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:** 09-08-2023

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

**Date Inspected:** 08-13-2024

**Comments :**

**LICENSE TYPE:** X **Child Care** **Preschool (ages 3-5 meets three hours or less per day)**

**Financial Type:** Profit X Non-Profit NA

**Accredition:** Accredited NAEYC NSACA Other X NA

**Program Serves:** Infants (0-23 mo.) 2 Years Preschool-Age X School-Age

Get-Well Evening Care Special Needs

**SCHEDULE:** Year-round X School-Year Summer Only

| **HOURS:** | *Year-round* | *School-Year* | *Summer Only* |
|---|---|---|---|

| LICENSE CAPACITY | Infants | 2 Years | Preschool | School-Age | Capacity |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| General | | | | 150 | 150 |
| Summer | | | | | 0 |

**QRS Rating:** N/A

| RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE: | |
|---|---|
| X | **FULL** license from 01-01-2026 to 01-01-2028 |
| | **PROVISIONAL** license from |
| | **DENIAL** of initial application |
| | **SUSPENSION** of license |
| | **REVOCATION** of license |

**Licensing Consultant:** Melinda Larson, Child Care Licensing Consultant **Date:** 08-01-2025

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

**II. IDENTIFY THE AREAS OBSERVED ON THE VISIT:**

Metro Kids - River Woods has been in operation for several years. This center offers child care for children who attend River Woods during the school year. During the summer, the center also offers child care for children who attend other Des Moines schools. The school has secured entrances. The child care uses it's own secured entrance. The center primarily uses the school's cafeteria and gym for programming space. The center also uses the playground for outdoor play. Linda Phillips is the director of the center. The on site supervisor is Anie Woods

An unannounced visit was completed on today's date. All areas subject to HHS rules were reviewed today. Mandatory postings are in place in the cafeteria. The schedule/lesson plan was also posted. The center has age appropriate supplies and toys in place.

Anie assisted with today's visit. Today was all day programming. The center uses the cafeteria, gym and one classroom for program space. There were five staff working. Thirty nine children were present. Children were observed in the cafeteria, gym and the classroom today. Children were involved in large motor play games, doing a craft project, playing in the interest centers and playing table activities. Staff were playing alongside children and assisting them as needed.

The school's playground has basketball courts, has two large climbing structures. There are some concrete areas and some grassy fields. The school maintains the playground. The center completes monthly playground checks.

The center provides snack during programming during the school year. This school is a summer free meal site so children can eat breakfast and lunch as part of the program. The center provides snacks.

Metro Kids use Des Moines school buses for transportation for off site field trips.

**III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:**

The center has a nice amount of play and learning materials for the children. Children are offered large motor play on a daily basis through the use of the playground and gym.

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

There were no licensing violations cited during the visit.

**V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:**

This center has a full license.

*Note: If you are the Child Care Center Director and you feel something is unclear or unjustly cited, please contact me (phone 515-362-7823; email melinda.larson@hhs.gov.) so that we may discuss the issue. If necessary, I can make a notation in your record. You may also send a letter that will be included in your licensing file noting any disagreement you may have with this report. If you have the need for any additional information discussed during my visit, please contact me and I will forward the information to you. Thank you.

*Note: If you are a member of the general public, there may be additional information contained in the public file. You may contact the HHS Licensing Consultant to inquire.

*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.