

RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE:	
X	FULL license from 10-01-2019 to 10-01-2021
	PROVISIONAL license from
	DENIAL of initial application
	SUSPENSION of license
	REVOICATION of license

Licensing Consultant: Amy Lyons

Date: 04-22-2019

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

Not applicable.

II. IDENTIFY THE AREAS OBSERVED ON THE VISIT:

Kids Inc. operates several sites throughout the community and has been in business since 1989. Specifically, Longfellow Elementary - Kids Inc. has been in operation since 9/27/17. This program offers full-time and part-time child care to preschool and school-age children. Current enrollment is 34.

Multi-site owners are Kory and Becky McNeal. Multi-site Kids Inc director is Becky McNeal. Ms. McNeal has a BA degree in elementary education and a MA degree in reading. Ms. McNeal has over 30 years of experience teaching in a school. On-Site supervisor is Elizabeth "Ellie" Heck. Ms. Heck has been the Kids Inc. - Longfellow Elementary on-site supervisor since fall, 2017. Ms. Heck has an AA degree in education, over 1 year of experience working with children, and continues to participate in much child development related training.

On 4/17/2019, all program space was observed.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

Kids Inc operates several sites throughout the community. Kids Inc provides a variety of full-time and part-time childcare options to help meet the needs of families and children throughout the community. Kids Inc has been in operation since 1989 and is currently celebrating their 30th year of business.

Kids Inc has the following updated website for families and the community to seek information about the programs offered <http://kidsincia.com/>. The program's website has been updated since the last monitoring visit.

According to the Kids Inc website, the program's mission "... is committed to providing affordable and educational childcare in a safe, positive, and interactive environment. Our staff works to develop a caring and respectful relationship with children from infancy through school-age while cooperating with families to support each child's growth and development in order to create a meaningful and productive experience..."

Kids Inc. - Longfellow Elementary collaborates well with school personnel (administration, custodial staff, school nurse, and kitchen personnel) to help ensure the childcare space is sanitary and hazard free each day. This program is located inside Longfellow Elementary School which opened with the start of the 2017-2018 school-year. School building and grounds are well maintained. The school kitchen is inspected regularly by the health department. There is an AED on-site.

Kids Inc. - Longfellow Elementary works well with community partners including local businesses, CCR&R, local nurse consultant, early access, CART, and local school district.

Ms. Heck discussed Kids Inc. - Longfellow Elementary curriculum which includes teacher created ideas, crafts, group large gross motor games, and self-selected activities. Ms. Heck talked about the creation of small groups with names associated with the houses of "Harry Potter". Ms. Heck reported the small groups have created a sense of closeness and togetherness among the children. Ms. Heck also talked about establishing more leadership roles for older children as well as increasing

science activities. Enrollment for Kids Inc 2019 summer camp has commenced. Several Kids Inc school-age sites have a history of combining for summer camp at the Kids Inc. - Longfellow Elementary site. Summer camp includes weekly themes, large projects, on-site guest speaker events, and off-site field trip experiences.

On the day of the monitoring visit, staff were nurturing and attentive to the children. The week's area of study included included spring and Easter. Self-selected play experiences were many and included group physical games, puzzles, free-crafting (paper, markers, crayons, colored pencils, etc.), and board/card games. Routine transitions (including snack rituals and rest-rooming with hand-washing) went smoothly. Staff were observed to be actively engaged in programming with the children and encouraged the sharing of program materials. Staff utilized positive redirection when needed. Children appeared comfortable at the program and responded well to staff.

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

109.6(6): Record checks

- One staff file (DF) reviewed lacked a complete record check. On 4/22/2019, an email was received from Kids Inc management indicating they are in the process of submitting additional information for a complete record check to be obtained.

109.11(7)b: Centers at ground level that use basement area as program space, or have a basement beneath program space: Testing and plan for remedy of radon is conducted.

- Current radon test results were not found on the day of the monitoring visit. On 4/19/2019, an email was received from Kids Inc management indicating radon testing will occur over the weekend of 5/10/2019 and results will be forwarded to licensing upon receipt.

109.11(7)c: All centers: Annual inspection prior to heating season of all fuel-burning appliances to reduce risk of carbon monoxide poisoning and shall install one carbon monoxide detector on each floor that conforms to UL Standard 2034.

- A current annual fuel burning appliance inspection was not found on the day of the monitoring visit. On 4/19/2019, an email was received from Kids Inc management indicating they are working with the school custodian to get a copy of this inspection which will be forwarded to licensing upon receipt.

- A UL standard 2034 carbon monoxide detector was not in use on the day of the monitoring visit. On 4/19/2019, an email was received from Kids Inc management reporting this had been corrected and one is now in use on-site.

V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:

Please continue to ensure staff accompany each childcare child and/or position themselves in a manner to be able to see and hear each childcare children when they are accessing the school hallways, school restrooms, and so on. To do otherwise, creates ratio and supervision concerns.

A full license is issued. Thank you for the visit.

*Note: If you are the Child Care Center Director and you feel something is unclear or unjustly cited, please contact me (phone 319-892-6827; email alyons@dhs.state.ia.us) 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 DHS 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.