Health and Human Services

Iowa Department of Health And Human Services

CHILD CARE CENTER ANNUAL EVALUATION

Name of Center: Bergman Academy

Provider No.: 44805

Address: 100 45th St, Des Moines, IA, 50312

County: Polk

Director's Name: Bethany Shrestha

On-Site Supervisor:

Phone Number: 5152740453

E-Mail: office@bergmanacademy.org

HHS Visit Date: 05/19/2026

Licensing Period: 04/01/2025 to 04/01/2027

Fire Inspection:

Date Inspected: 09/11/2025

Comments:

Report Visit Type:

- [ ] PTO
- [X] Licensing Visit
- [ ] Drop In
- [ ] Administrative Change

License Type:

- [X] Full
- [ ] Provisional

Quality initiative:

- [ ] Accrediation

Program Duration:

- [ ] Year-Round
- [X] School Year
- [ ] Summer Only

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HOURS:	*Year-round*	*School-Year*	*Summer Only*
Sunday			
Monday		8:30 AM to 3:30 PM	
Tuesday		8:30 AM to 3:30 PM	
Wednesday		8:30 AM to 3:30 PM	
Thursday		8:30 AM to 3:30 PM	
Friday		8:30 AM to 3:30 PM	
Saturday			

Program Population Served:

- [ ] Infant(0-<24 Months)
- [ ] Toddler
- [X] PreSchool
- [ ] School Age
- [ ] All Ages

LICENSE CAPACITY	Infants	2 Years	Preschool	School-Aged	Capacity
General			60		60
Summer					0

1. Basic Overview

This preschool has been open for many years. The preschool is located within Bergman Academy. The school has a secured entrance. The preschool serves children ages three to five years of age. The preschool uses four classrooms for programming. Room 109 has a capacity of 15, room 107 has a capacity of 21, room 108 has a capacity of 17. The art studio has a capacity of 10. The preschool also uses the school's gym and outdoor space, as well as a city park that is located right beside the school's property. Bethany Shrestra is the listed director of the center. Bethany is the lead teacher in the Explorers class. She has been a teacher at the school since 2021.

An unannounced visit was completed on today's date. All areas subject to HHS licensing rules were reviewed. Mandatory postings are in place by the preschool classrooms. Schedules are posted in the classrooms. Weekly classroom lesson plans and updates are sent to parents weekly. Classrooms are well supplied with age appropriate furnishings, learning and play materials. The preschool uses bathrooms located beside the preschool classrooms. Children's belongings are kept in cubbies in the hallways outside the classrooms.

Staci Shabino, the office manager, assisted with today's visit. Staci manages the administrative records. There are three preschool classrooms. There is a fourth classroom that is used by the preschool, which is an art studio. Each classroom has two teachers. There is a teacher associate that rotates within these classrooms. The Adventurers are children that are 3/4's. The Explorers and Pathfinders are children that are 4/5's. The Adventurers had fifteen children in attendance. There were sixteen children in attendance in the Pathfinders class. There were seventeen children present in the Explorers class. Children were observed in the classrooms during today's visit. Children were observed during snack, during child directed activities and during transition times.

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Children bring their own lunches. The center provide the parents a list with CACFP information for credible food for the lunches. Snacks are provided by the center. Snacks provided meet CACFP requirements. Food storage is sufficient. Snack served today was pretzels, oranges and water in the Pathfinders. Snack served in the Explorers was apple sauce, water and cupcakes, as today was a student's birthday so this is allowed per CACFP guidelines.

The school uses the city park located right beside the school for a playground. They also use the school's property and parking lot for outdoor play. The center completes monthly playground checks for the city park.

The preschool takes some off site field trips. Parents take their own children to the field trips and remain with their children during the field trips. The preschool also walks to some off site field trips.

2. Identify Observed Strengths of the program

The classrooms are well furnished with age appropriate supplies, toys and learning materials. Some teachers and staff have been employed at the school for many years. The center has a garden that children are able to assist with.

3. Identify the aspects that fall below the standard

NA

4. Any corrective action plans, provisional license, and safety plans-steps to get into compliance

NA

5. Special Notes/Recommendations

The center has a full license.

The capacity of each classroom was discussed today, including the art studio classroom. The preschool has been meeting in the mornings as one large group, which exceeds capacity for any of the preschool classrooms. The center is going to change this practice and will meet in another area of the school to be in compliance with HHS Rules.

Targeted Assessment: Behavior Management
The preschool has an appropriate positive guidance policy. The preschool has one additional staff that is available to go to any of the preschool classrooms for additional support. The principal is very supportive of the preschool and provides support also. The teachers have Bachelors degrees in early childhood education. There are video cameras in all classrooms and outdoors at the school.

*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.iowa.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 DHS Licensing Consultant to inquire.

Date: 06/01/2026

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HHS Licensing Consultant: Melinda Larson, Child Care Licensing Consultant

Non-compliance with any of the mandated regulatory requirements listed above may lead to the cancellation or revocation of your Child Care License. Please take steps necessary to completely address each of the violations noted above.

Child Care Resource and Referral is an excellent resource for providers to access training options and support in your area. You can reach Child Care Resource and Referral at **https://iowaccrr.org**.