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

Name of Center: Immaculate Conception Preschool **Enrollment:** 26 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 45025

Street: 1203 Clark St **City:** Charles City Iowa **Zip** 50616 **County:** Floyd

Mailing Address: 1203 Clark St, Charles City, IA, 50616

Director's Name: Jody Osier **Phone Number:** 641-228-1225

On-Site Supervisor(s): Laurie Field (school principal) **E-Mail:** dbqe14@dbqarch.org, Jody.osier@iccharlescity.org, laurie.field@iccharlescity.org

Date(s) of Visit: 03-07-2024

Licensing Visit X **Unannounced Visit** X **Off Year Visit** **Administrative Change**

LICENSING VISITS

New Application **Re-Application** X **NA**

Signed Application (470-0722) Received **Yes** **No** X **NA** **Date Signed:**

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

Date Inspected: 03-21-2021

Comments : The fire inspection is due to expire soon and the center was notified they will need to request a renewed inspection.

LICENSE TYPE: **Child Care** X **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 X Preschool-Age 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	0	0	43	0	43
Summer					0

QRS Rating: N/A

RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE:	
X	**FULL** license from 04-01-2023 to 04-01-2025
	PROVISIONAL license from
	DENIAL of initial application
	SUSPENSION of license
	REVOCATION of license

Licensing Consultant: Raymond Salsbury **Date:** 03-18-2024

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

N/A

II. IDENTIFY THE AREAS OBSERVED ON THE VISIT:

An unannounced annual visit was made to Immaculate Conception Preschool in Charles City on 03-07-24 where I met with Jody Osier, the director and lead teacher in the 3 year old preschool classroom, Carrie Shaver the lead teacher in the 4 year old preschool classroom, and Laurie Field who is the school principal. Ms. Osier started with program in August 2017 and has a BA in social work and was previously the assistant in the preschool class. Angel Boucher is the associate teacher in the classroom. The program operates out of two classrooms of Immaculate Conception Elementary School and is overseen by the board for the diocese. The program offers 2 sessions of 3 year old preschool with one 3 day and one 5 day option, an all day 4 year old preschool, and an afternoon "wrap around" daycare program. There are currently 26 children enrolled between the various sessions. All aspects of the program subject to Licensing Standards were reviewed.

The general layout and operation of the program and classrooms remains the same as in prior visits. The program operates out of two rooms with one room for the 3 year old preschool and afternoon child care, and the room for the 4 year preschool class. The 3 year old classroom has windows along the exterior walls prove ample natural lighting, a view of the outdoors, and ventilation. The 4 year old classroom does not have windows. Both rooms have a secondary exit that provides direct egress to the outdoors. Evacuation notices that include diagram and written instructions for both fire and tornado evacuation were not present by exits from 4 year old classroom. This was cited in the prior visit and as a reminder these are required even if the classroom has lighted emergency exit signs. There is a bathroom located just off the programming space of both rooms, with additional sinks in the classrooms so that the children do not need to leave the room. Additional restrooms are located outside the classrooms off the main corridors. A divider wall separates an area with cubbies where the children can store coats and bags of both rooms and does create a blind area where supervision would be needed when the children are in this area. Both rooms are divided into activity centers through the placement of furniture, shelving, and play structures which were arranged so as not to create any blind areas.

The centers observed on the day of the licensing visit include library, blocks/Legos, table toys, games, puzzles, transportation, art, dramatic play, listening, Ipads, writing, math, science/discovery, play dough, sensory tables. and music. The centers are arranged to provide the children with ample room to move and play. Each center was supplied with materials that were observed to be in good repair and appropriate to the ages of the children present. The materials had also been rotated to complement the planned curriculum. A copy of the daily schedule and curriculum was posted for both classes. Good interactions were observed in both classrooms with the teachers being engaged with the children following the daily schedule and presenting the planned curriculum. This included the classes moving through planned teacher lead group presentations, small group activities, outdoor play, and lunch service. The program uses a positive behavior support approach to encourage appropriate behaviors in the classroom. This includes recognizing and praising positive behavior, use of transition activities, and redirection. These techniques were very effective with no behavioral issues occuring on the day of my visit. Ratio was maintained in the center as required by age. One issue that was noted when visiting the 4 year old classroom is that foam tile mats had been placed in part of the classroom to provide a stofter play area and it was reported that some children do nap there. It was reviewed that if children nap they do need to be provided with a cot or sleeping mat and appropriate bedding consisting of at least a cover sheet which can be removed and laundered. If sleeping mats are to be used they should be of a minimum 2 inch thickness.

Good health and safety practices were observed with good hand washing practices observed. Chemical cleaners, staff personal items, and other things that could pose a safety risk to children were stored where they were not accessible. Staff waited for children to be out of the immediate area before using chemical cleaners. There were no children taking any medications on the day of my visit but the center does have policies in place should it become necessary in the future. Limited first aid kits are maintained in the classrooms, and additional supplies in the school office.

The program did complete a new playground space for use by the preschool children. The space is fully enclosed by fencing. The space includes both climbing and ground play structures. The equipment appeared to be properly installed and in good condition. Foam tiles are used for fall surfacing.

For those children that do not attend the full day programming, snacks are provided. The children take it in turn to provide the snacks and a list of credible food items is provided to parents at the beginning of the year. A limited supply of snack items is maintained at the center to supplement if needed. A small refrigerator is present for those items that need to be kept cold. A menu of snack items that are served is maintained for each session. For those children that remain the full day lunch is prepared by the school cafeteria and a copy of the menu is posted. I was able to observe the snack service for the full day 4 year old class and good food handling and service practices were followed. The teacher did not eat with the children but did provide supervision at the tables as needed.

In reviewing administrative records all required notices were posted in an area readily accessible and visible to all parents and visitors. All staff and child files were reviewed and found to contain all required documentation. The center is now using the same electronic system, Power School, as the regular school classes to maintain documentation. All inspection logs and certificates were current and available though as noted the fire inspection certificate is due to expire and Jodie was notified that she will need to contact the fire marshal to request a renewed inspection.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

The program has continued to expand the services provided with adding a 5 day 3 year old preschool option, and the new playground space.

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

109.10(15)b: Emergency instructions, phone numbers, and diagrams for fire, tornado, and flood shall be visibly posted and documented at least once a month for fire and tornado. Records shall be maintained for current and previous year.
-- Evacuation notices with both written and diagram instructions were needed by all exits of the 4 year old preschool classroom. NOTE: 2ND YEAR CITED.

109.12(4): Sufficient toilet articles are provided for handwashing.Sufficient and safe indoor play equipment, materials, and furniture that conforms with CPSC or ASTM.Play equipment, materials, and furniture meet the developmental, activity, and special needs of the children.Room's arrangement does not obstruct the direct observation of children.Individual covered mats, beds, or cots, and appropriate bedding is provided for all children who nap.Procedures are developed and implemented to maintain equipment and materials in a sanitary manner.Sufficient spacing is maintained between equipment to reduce transmission of disease and allow ease of movement by children and staff to respond to activities and care needs.Sanitary procedures are followed for use and storage of personal hygiene articles.
-- Cots or mats, and appropriate bedding is needed for all children who nap.

V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:

A full license will remain in effect at this time. Please provide a written response to the licensing consultant identifying a plan of action to correct and maintain those aspects cited as not meeting licensing standards and identifying an anticipated date of compliance. At least one visit will be made to the center during the next year.

*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.