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

Name of Center: Hope Grimes Preschool **Enrollment:** 73 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 51166

Street: 1335 NE Beaverbrooke Blvd **City:** Grimes Iowa **Zip** 50111 **County:** Polk

Mailing Address: 1335 NE Beaverbrooke Blvd, Grimes, IA, 50111

Director's Name: Erin Miller **Phone Number:** 515-259-9495

On-Site Supervisor(s): N/A **E-Mail:** jody.hufford@hopewdm.org, erin.miller@hopegrimes.org

Date(s) of Visit: 01-07-2025

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:** 01-03-2025

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

Date Inspected: 02-09-2024

Comments : Johnston - Grimes Fire Marshal. 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: Profit X Non-Profit NA

Accredition: Accredited NAEYC NSACA Other X NA

Program Serves: Infants (0-23 mo.) X 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	6	53	0	59
Summer					0

QRS Rating: N/A

RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE:	
X	**FULL** license from 02-01-2025 to 02-01-2027
	PROVISIONAL license from
	DENIAL of initial application
	SUSPENSION of license
	REVOCATION of license

Licensing Consultant: Nate Knepper **Date:** 01-07-2025

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

N/A.

II. IDENTIFY THE AREAS OBSERVED ON THE VISIT:

A licensing visit was conducted on 1/7/25. The director was present throughout the 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.

Hope Grimes Preschool is a program located within the Hope Grimes Church. The center was given permission to open on 9/8/20. The center serves children ages two through five years in age. The center uses a combination of different learning curriculums. There are a total of three classrooms in use with five different options of class times (five rooms have been approved for use). Capacity of the classrooms are 19 (upstairs), 6, 14, and 12 (downstairs), and 8 (extra room also downstairs). There are AM (9:00 - 11:30) and PM (12:00 - 3:00) classes. There is also an all day transitional Kindergarten class that meets four times a week. The center is only open during the school year.

All of the Hope programs are overseen by a Board. All of these programs also have a Hope Preschool Head Director, Jody Hufford, who oversees the daily operations of all of the Hope programs. The director of this specific program is as of 1/2023 is Erin Miller. Erin has a BA degree and a Master's degree in child related fields. Erin also has past experience working in child care.

During the visit, children were observed in a variety of activities which included large motor play in the downstairs fellowship hall/indoor gym area, group story activity facilitated by staff, self-reading activities during transition from snack, and free-choice play at the different learning stations within classrooms. Staff were engaged with children and their activities.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

This is a center that meets a need in the community. Enrollment has again increased within the past year.

The center has as lot of support from the church.

All Hope programs share the same handbooks, same curriculums, trainings, etc. There is continuity.

There are monthly staff meetings held between all of the directors of the different Hope programs. There are monthly staff meetings held at this location with all staff. The director also sends out a Sunday weekly email to her staff to better prepare them for the week ahead.

The director is organized and has past experience working in child care.

Good child/staff activities were observed throughout the visit.

The center looked and smelled clean.

There is a secure entrance into the center.

The director believes her staff work well together.

The center is now using the the online app, Brightwheel for further communication with parents.

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

No below standards were identified at this year's visit.

V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:

Radon testing was last conducted 8/19/22 - 8/22/22. Radon levels came back below the 4.0 cutoff. Because levels were below 4.0, the center can move to testing for radon at least every five years now. So long as radon levels remain below 4.0, they can remain on a five year plan. If at the next testing, levels in any classroom come back 4.0 or higher, the center will have to have a mitigation plan, retest, and at least temporarily move back to testing every two years.

The boilers were last inspected on 10/24/24.

The center does not transport and they do not go on field trips. The do bring different businesses and agencies into the center for presentations to children throughout the year.

I-Power and IQ4K were discussed at the visit. Several staff still need to create I - Power profiles and be linked to this program. Currently, only two staff have profiles linked to this program.

The CACFP smartphone application was again shared with the director.

The center needs to update this consultant's new phone number and email in their Emergency Preparedness Plan template.

A new, full, two-year license is recommended. The center mailed in their application and payment on 1/3/25.

*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.