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

Name of Center: Ankeny Christian Academy **Enrollment:** 107 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 27508

Street: 1604 W 1st St **City:** Ankeny Iowa **Zip** 50023 **County:** Polk

Mailing Address: 1604 W 1st St, Ankeny, IA, 50023

Director's Name: Teri Ellwanger **Phone Number:** 515-963-9933

On-Site Supervisor(s): NA **E-Mail:** teri.ellwanger@acaeagles.net

Date(s) of Visit: 01-29-2024

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

LICENSING VISITS

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

Signed Application (470-0722) Received X **Yes** **No** **NA** **Date Signed:** 01-01-2024

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

Date Inspected: 08-15-2022

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: X Year-round School-Year Summer Only

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

LICENSE CAPACITY	Infants	2 Years	Preschool	School-Age	Capacity
General			43	35	78
Summer					0

QRS Rating: N/A

RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE:	
X	**FULL** license from 02-01-2024 to 02-01-2026
	PROVISIONAL license from
	DENIAL of initial application
	SUSPENSION of license
	REVOCATION of license

Licensing Consultant: Maggie Gibson, SWIV **Date:** 02-20-2024

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

N/A.

II. IDENTIFY THE AREAS OBSERVED ON THE VISIT:

A full-licensing visit was completed 1-29-24 and the director was present for the entirety of the visit.

Ankeny Christian Academy (child care) was started in January 2001. They offer care to preschool age children and school age children; this site serves school-age children. They provide preschool, year round full day child care, and before and after school age care. The program is in operation from 6:45 am-5:45 pm. Teri Ellwanger is the director for the three programs. She has been with this program since 2004, and has been the director since 2006. She is a licensed preschool teacher and meets the requirements for the program director position.

All areas of the program were observed. These areas observed consisted of classroom observations and activities, nutritional practices, health and safety practices, playground observation, field trip and transportation practices, and administrative review.

Room observations/activities: The school age programs operates from 6:45-7:30 am, and after school from 3:20-5:45 pm. They use the childcare room in the mornings before school since only a few school age children use this service. The after school program uses the two rooms and the cafeteria. The kindergarten and first graders use the preschool room, and the 2nd-6th graders use the multi-purpose room and cafeteria. Recently, the preschool/childcare program was established at a separate site.

Nutritional practices: Healthy snacks are provided cafeteria style

Health and Safety: There is ready access to restrooms that were clean and had handwashing posters. Emergency exit plans are posted and drills are documented to have been completed monthly as required. HVAC is maintained by the school.

Transportation: NA

Playground: the playground area is somewhat obstructed by snow cover this year; there is play equipment, and this area is enclosed by chain link fencing. Safety surfacing in pour in place.

Administrative Review: Information on mandatory reporting; handbook accessibility, consultant contact, license, fire/tornado plans and non-smoking signs were posted. Two employee files were reviewed; and needed employee/volunteer/substitute statements and FBI Checks--that the director submitted following this visit. Child files were reviewed and found to contain all required information.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

The program has a strong working relationship and partnership with the school.

Teri has been with the school and the preschool for twenty-five years and is a strong resource for the program.

The program has a family atmosphere and the staff work well together. Teri states there is a good working environment at this program and the staff are invested in providing quality and nurturing care to the children. Staff are appreciated and Teri conducts staff activities.

The center has a secure entrance.

The staff are creative and take pride in their classrooms.

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

109.9(1)a: All files contain statement signed by staff indicating whether they have a criminal conviction or founded child/dependent adult abuse.
Number not in compliance: 2
This form was provided to the director and was completed shortly after this visit occurred.

109.9(1)b: All files contain:A signed copy of DHS criminal history record check or any other permission form approved by the Department of public Safety for conducting an Iowa or national criminal history check. A copy of Request for Child Abuse Information.Copies of the results of Iowa records checks conducted.Copies of national criminal history check results.Any Department-issued documents sent to the center related to records check.
Number not in compliance: 2
FBI/National criminal checks are required every four years; there was record of submission, unknown results; the director indicated resubmission to obtain valid results

V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:

The furnace is inspected annually by the school.

The center is no longer on the food program. Children can bring in their own lunch or buy a school lunch. The center provides snacks.

*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.