Health and Human Services

Iowa Department of Health And Human Services

CHILD CARE CENTER ANNUAL EVALUATION

Name of Center: Cadence Academy Preschool - West Des Moines

Provider No.: 26555

Address: 5859 Ashworth RD, West Des Moines, IA, 50266

County: Polk

Director's Name: Kaitlyn Sheelsey

On-Site Supervisor: Jadyn W

Phone Number: 5152269791

E-Mail: director.ashworth@cadence-academy.com

HHS Visit Date: 11/06/2025

Licensing Period: 12/01/2025 to 12/01/2027

Fire Inspection:

Date Inspected: 02/25/2025

Comments: noted to be complaint; fire inspections due at least every three years; completed by West Des Moines Fire Dept. Dep Chief Whitsell

Report Visit Type:

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

License Type:

- [X] Full
- [ ] Provisional

Quality initiative:

- [ ] Accrediation

Program Duration:

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

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Program Population Served:

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

LICENSE CAPACITY	Infants	2 Years	Preschool	School-Aged	Capacity
General	32	20	70		122
Summer					0

1. Basic Overview

An unannounced off year annual visit was completed 11-6-26. Director Kaitlyn Sheesley was present through the visit.

This center is part of the Cadence Academy organization, which has various centers located in the metro area. The director for this center is Kaitlyn Sheesley. Kaitlyn has been the director since December 2022; she has prior director experience and assistant director experience along with a Bachelor's degree in Child/Adult Family Services plus 10 years of child care experience. Ms. Jaydn is working to be designated Assistant Director/On-Site Supervisor.

Cadence Academy--West Des Moines (Ashworth) is the sole occupant of the building providing traditional childcare for infants up through school age; hours of operation are now 7:00 PM until 6:00 PM, Monday through Friday. The center participates in the UPK program in cooperation with the West Des Moines school district.

Cadence Academies utilize Ascend Curriculum which is similar to aspect of Creative Curriculum. Kaymbu is the application used to communicate with parents and offers ready access to the children's progress during the day. The center offers a good variety of age/developmentally appropriate learning centers and toys. The children were content and freely approached teachers. The teachers were engaged with meeting individual's needs. The classroom were nicely arranged and organized.

Cadence Academy Preschool-West Des Moines offers children morning snack, Lunch and afternoon snack. Menus are available in advance and appear in line with CACFP healthy guidelines for eating. The children eat meals and snacks family style in their classrooms with staff participating and supervising closely.

Health and safety: Medications are stored in a medication box in the directors office, administered by the director or assistant director to hel keep an accurate and organized med administration. Emergency medications are stored in the classroom that the child attends. The assistant director and director are certified medication passers. There are handwashing signs posted. Bleach, water and soapy water are used to clean and sanitize. All classrooms have a first aid kit and there is also one in the kitchen. Tornado/Fire plans were observed to be posted and drills were documented to have been completed with the exception of Oct/2024. Radon was tested 6/2023 and all levels tests below 4.0 safe cutoff. Professionals inspect the HVAC, and the center had not yet received a completion certificate. Carbon Monoxide detectors are in the main room and back classroom. This center experienced flooding in December of 2022 and as a result was remodeled. This center is clean and very organized.

Playground: The outdoor play area is enclosed with chain link fencing; safety surfacing was sufficient and is comprised of rubber chips. The center has refreshed the safety surfacing and added shade structures. There are play ground structures and other activities available to the children. The playground checks were documented to have been completed monthly with the

exception of OCT/2024.

Transportation/Field Trips: Transportation is not provided by the center.

Administrative Review: Information for mandatory reporter; handbook accessibility; consultant contact, License, Fire/Tornado plans and non-smoking signs were posted. Eight child files were reviewed and contained all the required information; Five staff files were reviewed and contained all the necessary information; however staff physicals were documented to have been completed post-employment and it is required for staff to have a physical prior to employment. The center has well-established policy.

2. Identify Observed Strengths of the program

This is a NAEYC accredited center.

The staff work well together and have strong relationships with the families they serve. The center has good communication with parents.

Conferences are held twice a year for all ages, in November and May; along with monthly staff meetings and weekly emails to parents.

Cadence Academy hosts several family events, monthly.

The center participates in the T.E.A.C.H program--T.E.A.C.H. (Teacher Education and Compensation Helps) is a comprehensive scholarship program that provides the early childhood workforce access to educational opportunities and is helping establish a well-qualified, fairly compensated and stable workforce for our children.

This center staff has recently completed PBIS Training ((Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports) training provides educators with the skills to implement a school-wide framework for improving student behavior and well-being) This is a training that furthers the center goal of applying for IQ4K certification (Iowa Quality for Kids (IQ4K®) is Iowa's Quality Rating and Improvement System (QRIS) for Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) licensed Child Care Centers and preschools, registered Child Development Homes and programs operating under the authority of an accredited school district or nonpublic school. IQ4K® provides five levels of quality (building blocks) that programs can achieve and continue to improve on)

3. Identify the aspects that fall below the standard

109.9(1)c: All files contain documentation to indicate that ongoing staff training requirements are met, including current certifications in first aid/CPR and mandatory child abuse training.

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

A staff file reviewed had expired CPR/First Aid Certification and expired Mandatory Reporter Training. The director indicated that CPR/First Aid training is set to be updated within the month and the director will ensure the staff updates mandatory reporter training; placing completion certificates in the staff files.

5. Special Notes/Recommendations

Radon was tested 7/25/25 with all test values below the safety level of 4.0. This will be due again in five years.

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Date: 11/09/2025

HHS Licensing Consultant: Maggie Gibson

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**.