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: 01-28-2025

Licensing Visit **Unannounced Visit** X **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:** 01-28-2025

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

N/A.

II. IDENTIFY THE AREAS OBSERVED ON THE VISIT:

An off year annual visit was completed 1-28-25 with Director Terri Ellwanger present for the entire 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. The before/after school program uses 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. The program spaces were observed during the school day while children were attending school. There are restrooms available and were clean as well.

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 maintained by the school; enclosed by wooden privacy fence, offering cement basket ball play or the like; along with play equipment with new pour and play safety surfacing; the playground is in good repair.

Administrative Review: Information on mandatory reporting; handbook accessibility, consultant contact, license, fire/tornado plans and non-smoking signs were posted. Employee files were reviewed with all required information and up to date trainings.. 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.

The director has been with the school and the preschool for more than twenty-five years and is a strong resource for the program.

The program has a family atmosphere and the staff work well together. The director indicated 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:

There were not aspects of operation identified to fall below the standards reviewed.

V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:

The furnace is inspected annually by the school.

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.