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

Name of Center: Little Dutch Academy **Enrollment:** 165 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 52567

Street: 1050 E University ST **City:** Pella Iowa **Zip** 50219 **County:** Marion

Mailing Address: 210 E University ST, Pella, IA, 50219

Director's Name: Sarah Kuennen **Phone Number:** 641-628-1944

On-Site Supervisor(s): **E-Mail:** sarah.kuennen@pellaschools.org

Date(s) of Visit: 10-23-2024

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

LICENSING VISITS

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

Signed Application (470-0722) Received X **Yes** **No** **NA** **Date Signed:** 06-10-2024

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

Date Inspected: 04-12-2024

Comments : conducted by DIA, due 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.) 2 Years X Preschool-Age 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			165		165
Summer					0

QRS Rating: N/A

RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE:	
X	**FULL** license from 09-01-2024 to 09-01-2026
	PROVISIONAL license from
	DENIAL of initial application
	SUSPENSION of license
	REVOCATION of license

Licensing Consultant: Jill Seibert **Date:** 11-04-2024

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

II. IDENTIFY THE AREAS OBSERVED ON THE VISIT:

Little Dutch Academy is a new program (2024) serving preschool age children. It is administered in a public school on the edge of Pella. The program Director is Sarah Kuennen. She is typically present throughout the day. Director Kuennen also serves as the Preschool Principal. She possesses a BA in Elementary Education an MSE in Teacher Effectiveness and PD and a PK-12 Principal endorsement. Three and four year old preschool children are served in this program. The Director is always present during the program day. Kristiana Hesseltine is the administrative assistant in the building and assists the Director. As On Site Supervisor should be appointed to a program this size.

A Permission To Open visit was conducted in August 2024. All program areas were observed on an unannounced licensing visit on 10/23/24. The visits consisted of classroom observations and activities, ratios, nutritional practices, health and safety practices, playground observation, field trip and transportation practices, and administrative review.

Center Nutrition:

The program does not participate in Iowa Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP). Food was stored appropriately and refrigerator/freezer units contained thermometers. Waste containers were covered. Menus for all meals were not present. Children with food allergies should have allergy action plans and diet modification forms on file.

Center Health and Safety:

The center's radon test was completed in 2024 and results are below 4 pci/L. Updated testing is due every five years. Fuel burning appliances inspection were not available the date of the visit but are now (11/4/24). Carbon monoxide detectors are present. First aid kits should be labeled, fully stocked an in each room. Cabinetry they are kept in should be labeled. Staff must have medication administration training to administer medication of any sort. The building was constructed after 1978 so a lead based paint assessment is not required. Ventilation and lighting are adequate.

The building has a secure entry.

The center has access to a full size gymnasium. Each child has at least 75 square feet each for gross motor play. Each classroom provides at least 35 square feet per child. This ensures capacity is met. The program meets restroom requirements of 1:15.

The Director accessed IDPH regarding sanitizing/disinfecting and safe products in the summer and has information on the products they are currently utilizing.

Ratio was in compliance the date of the visit.

Center Outdoor Play Area:

The center has access to multiple outdoor spaces immediately connected to the building. The areas contain age appropriate climbing equipment with adequate surfacing and fencing. The Child Care Weather Watch is consulted if outdoor play is questionable due to varying weather conditions. A first aid kit and emergency contacts and emergency medication are taken outdoors with the children. Outdoor play inspections will be completed monthly.

Center Administration:

The center has a full handbook containing all required policies as are mandatory postings.

Age appropriate curriculum and lesson plans are present and utilized daily.

Child files are reviewed annually by HHS. A Child Care Nurse Consultant can complete child record reviews annually upon request.. Child files include dental and medical provider information, emergency contacts, pick up authorizations, an updated physical (annually), immunization records and field trip authorizations. Some child physicals are outdated.

Staff files are reviewed annually including SING checks (2 years) and fingerprints (4 years), CPR/1st Aid training (2 years), Mandatory Reporter Training (3 years), staff physicals (3 years), and professional development training. If staff are under 18 years of age they always work with an adult staff.

Incident reports should be completed and given to parents the date of the incident.

An emergency preparedness plan is present. Staff have been trained annually on the plan and sign and date acknowledgement of such. New workers should be trained on the plan as they are hired.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

The program is in a new building with all new equipment.

The program meets a need in the community.

The Director and staff are friendly and helpful.

Violations are quickly corrected.

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

1. 109.10(1)a: Preschool (for children five years and younger not enrolled in school): Physical exam report submitted within 30 days of admission, was obtained no more than 12 months prior to admission, is signed by a licensed MD, DO, PA, Chiropractor or ARNP, and contains health history; present health status including allergies, medications, and acute/chronic conditions; and recommendations for continued care if necessary. The Director is working with parents to get updated physicals on all students. IN Process of Correction

2. 109.10(3): The center shall have written procedures for dispensing, storage, and authorization, and recording of all prescription and non-prescription medications. Emergency medications shall be taken with the child to the lunch room, gym, outdoors, etc.. Children went outdoors. A child's epi pen was left indoors.

3. 109.10(9): First aid kit: The center shall ensure that a clearly labeled first aid kit that is sufficient to address minor injury or trauma is available and accessible to staff at all times when children are: In the center. In the outdoor play area. On field trips. All kits and cabinets they are stored in should be labeled.

4. 109.10(15)a: The center shall have written emergency plans and diagrams for responding to fire, tornado, flood, and plans responding to intoxicated parents, and lost or abducted children. Shall have guidelines for responding or evacuating in case of blizzards, power failures, bomb threats, chemical spills, or other disasters that could create structural damage to the center or pose health hazards. If center is within 10 miles of nuclear power plant, center shall have evacuation plan. Emergency plans shall include written procedures including plans for- Evacuation to safely leave the facility- Relocation to a common, safe location after evacuation- Shelter in place to take immediate shelter when the current location is unsafe to leave due to the emergency issue- Lock down to protect children and providers from an external situation- Communication and reunification with parents or other adults Responsible for the children which includes emergency telephone numbers- Continuity of operations- To address the individual children, including those with functional or access needs. CORRECTED 11/4/24

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. Drills should be conducted and documented monthly. IN PROCESS OF CORRECTION

109.10(15)c: Center shall develop procedures for annual staff and volunteer training on emergency plans. The EPP is missing some information. The template was given to the Director the date of the visit. The plan was created and given to all staff to sign and date acknowledgement of training. CORRECTED 11/4/24

5. 109.10(16)a: The center and supervisor shall ensure that staff knows names and number of children assigned. Staff shall provide careful supervision. Each staff should have assigned children to their care. They should know the name and number of children assigned. The Director reported on 10/26/24, "I also have had great conversations with caregivers about the ratio/direct supervision list and they all were in favor of getting this started right away." In Process of Correction

6. 109.11(3)d: Record of monthly inspections of outdoor recreation area and equipment shall be kept. This will begin in November.

7. 109.11(7)c: All centers: Annual inspection prior to heating season of all fuel-burning appliances to reduce risk of carbon monoxide poisoning and shall install one carbon monoxide detector on each floor that conforms to UL Standard 2034. The Director agreed to secure the boiler inspection for the school. CORRECTED as of 11/4/24

8. 109.9(2)g: Any child with allergies, a written emergency plan. Copy shall accompany child if they leave the premises. The Director agreed to secure allergy action plans for all students with allergies and ensure that the plan accompanies the child. The plan should be available to staff so that they might reference it in an emergency.

9. 109.15(1) Center shall serve each child a full, nutritionally balanced meal as defined by CACFP guidelines. Staff shall provide supervision at table during snacks and meals.
Children at center two hours or longer shall be offered food of not less than two hours and no more than three hours apart unless child is asleep.

109.15(2) Center shall follow minimum CACFP menu patterns for meals and snacks. Menus planned one week in advance, made available to parents, and kept on file with substitutions noted. Avoid foods with high incident rate of causing choking. Menus were not available the date of the visit. Corrected 11/4/24, however, some foods served do not meet CACFP guidelines for preschool age children.

V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:

The center is aware they may access Iowa Department of Public Health Child Care Nurse Consultant Mandi Lauderman or CCNC Tammy Merrill and Child Care Resource & Referral Consultant Brenda O'Holloran on a consistent basis. They have been proactive in reaching out to HHS and CCR&R and IDPH. This is duly noted.

HHS encourages you to contact your local nurse consultant. Child Care Nurse Consultants work with child care and early education businesses. Businesses may call or send questions to a child care nurse consultant about health and safety policies, health programs, health of personnel, and specific child health or safety issues. Please visit the following website for more information. http://idph.iowa.gov/hcci/consultants

CCNC Tammy Merrill provided consultation to the program in summer months regarding cleaners. CCNC Merrill stated, "I told her that I thought the J-512 was ok for sanitizing. I passed on the information from Heidi to Little Dutch Academy and she agreed not to use it on products that go in the mouth and here is what Heidi Hotvedt said about the Alph HP: (I forwarded this message to Sarah when we were talking about it)
Here are my thoughts: (this comes from Heidi Hotvedt our state consultant)
• I like that it has a 0 health hazard rating
• It is a hydrogen peroxide and alcohol based product -not an asthmagen
• The dwell time is long 5-10 minutes for disinfecting – looking at the list of bacteria dwell times I think they should be going the full 10 minutes (i.e.: staph is 10 minutes).
• In the classroom only the diluted form of this product should be used for disinfecting.
• Staff who are mixing the product need to know the SDS information regarding precautions to take when mixing the concentrate. Or they may be using a dispensing system which adds safety for staff.
• This product should not be used for sanitizing in child care because it is for non-food contact surfaces.
So it looks like this product can be used for disinfecting but not on anything the children are going to eat on or play with due to the possibility of them putting the object in their mouth. So this product is not recommended for sanitizing in child care."

She also visited the program 8/15/24. She provided guidance on radon testing and observed the outdoor play area.

HHS encourages you to contact Child Care Resource and Referral consultant. They offer centers assistance with meeting the DHS regulations, QRS, infant/toddler concerns, room arrangement and environment, developmental concerns, Best Practice information, CDA assistance, or any questions or concerns you may have. Please visit the following website for more information: http://www.iowaccrr.org Consultant O'Holloran reported the following:

Consultant O'Holloran sent emails to the program in February and June 2024 assisting them with opening questions. Consultant met with program administration eight times in times in August 2024, six in September and two in October helping them to prepare for the licensing visit. She further reached out to the center on 10/24/24 providing the EPP template.

Based upon this review, it is recommended that this center begin in Full licensing status. The center is directed to continue to monitor day to day practice and adjust accordingly to continue to ensure licensing rule is met consistently. Violations will be corrected by report of the Director. It is important to note, all HHS licensing standards and procedures must be maintained during the renewal period. HHS reached out to Consultant O'Holloran on 10/25/24 asking CCR&R to assist the facility in correction of the violations. The Director agreed to ensure staff have IPOWER accounts.

*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.