Health and Human Services

Iowa Department of Health And Human Services

CHILD CARE CENTER ANNUAL EVALUATION

Name of Center: Eldridge Preschool and Childcare

Provider No.: 25244

Address: 2150 E LeClaire RD Suite B, Eldridge, IA, 52748

County: Scott

Director's Name: Natalie Kruse/Alisa Haedt

On-Site Supervisor:

Phone Number: 5632855060

E-Mail: natalie.kruse@northscott.org

HHS Visit Date: 02/09/2026

Licensing Period: 05/01/2025 to 05/01/2027

Fire Inspection:

Date Inspected: 09/06/2023

Comments:

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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HOURS:	*Year-round*	*School-Year*	*Summer Only*
Sunday			
Monday	6:00 AM to 5:30 PM		
Tuesday	6:00 AM to 5:30 PM		
Wednesday	6:00 AM to 5:30 PM		
Thursday	6:00 AM to 5:30 PM		
Friday	6:00 AM to 5:30 PM		
Saturday			

Program Population Served:

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

LICENSE CAPACITY	Infants	2 Years	Preschool	School-Aged	Capacity
General		5	115	30	150
Summer					0

1. Basic Overview

An unannounced off year visit was completed at this center on 2/9/26. This center is one of two for-profit centers that are family owned and operated by Natalie Kruse and Alisa Haedt. Both of the owners/directors have many years of experience operating child care centers. Both owners have Bachelor and/or Master level educational backgrounds including; early childhood and special education, and consulting. Both were present on the day of this visit along with other staff. The center does participate in the Iowa Voluntary Preschool Grant program. School age care is offered before and after school and on non school days. The center reports an enrollment of 194 children at the time of the visit.

The center consists of several smaller program rooms. Each room has a color name identification and also somewhat of an activity designation. During the preschool sessions, the children start in their designated "homeroom" and then rotate through the various rooms on a schedule. The children stay with their teachers throughout this rotation. Program rooms are organized and have an adequate supply of materials to support program needs. The banquet hall/traditions room is a very large room that is somewhat divided for activities and children rotate through the area in groups throughout the day as well as for some of the meals and snacks, nap, and large motor. A portion of the room also includes several tables with chairs for meals and snacks. The center includes hallway boys and girls restroom areas. There are also two separate restroom areas (boys/men and girls/women) off of the traditions banquet room with several toilets/sinks each. A fold down/wall diaper station is in one of the stalls of the traditions area restroom and another is located in the single restroom area that is mainly used by staff. All children must travel for diaper changes, to use the restroom, and to wash hands. All program space was observed.

The center does not participate in the CACFP. The center serves breakfast, snack, lunch, and snack. Breakfast and lunch are supplied by the center and prepared on site. Parents are required to bring snack on a rotating basis for preschool. Parents

of child care children also have to bring a supply of pre-packaged snacks for their child for the month as well as a gallon of juice monthly.

2. Identify Observed Strengths of the program

Both the owners/directors have many years of experience in child care. Both owners have Bachelor and/or Master level educational backgrounds including; early childhood and special education, and consulting. The staff appear to work well together. The center is bright with plenty of windows and is nicely painted and decorated to present a child friendly atmosphere. Children's crafts and projects are posted throughout the building. Staff compile binders for all children to include activities/projects they have completed over the year. The center loans out "book buddy" bags to children/families. The staff were once again observed to be engaged in activities with the children throughout the building. The center has a large supply of books for the children that are organized by topic so that the staff can easily access them for activity planning. Licensing documentation and staff and child files are highly organized.

3. Identify the aspects that fall below the standard

109.8(2): Ratio maintained in center as required:Brief absence of staff person permitted for 5 or less minutes when another staff person is presentAt least one staff is present in every room where children are resting.If ratio reduced to one staff per room during nap time, does not exceed one hour and ratio in center is still maintained.Ratio in infant rooms is always maintained.When more than eight children are present on the licensed premises, at least two staff members shall be present.For a period of two hours or less at the beginning and end of the center's hours of operation, one staff member may care for eight or fewer children, provided no more than four of the children are under two years of age and there are no more than eight children in the center.Ratio exceeded for school-age children when school classes unexpectedly start late, are dismissed early, or cancelled. For no more than four hours, care is limited to children already in the program and licensed capacity is not exceeded.
1. Staff left the orange art room to go to the room next door leaving the children unattended briefly.
2. A staff in ratio observed not engaged in activities with the children in the art room and the traditions area. This was discussed with the center director.
3. One group of children were observed to be out of ratio during lunch activities.

109.11(4)a: Center must have safe outdoor program area adjacent to the center, with sufficient square footage to accommodate at least 30 percent of the enrollment capacity at any one time at 75 spear feet per child. Outdoor space must:Be free from litter and unsafe materials and free from contamination by the drainage or ponding of sewage or storm water.Include safe play equipment and an area of shade.Include fencing to protect from bodies of water or vehicular traffic.
1. Fall surfacing is not adequate in all of the fall zone required areas. The center has been referred to work with the child care nurse consultant to remedy this concern either by adding adequate surfacing and fall zone or removing items that are not in compliance.

109.13(5)b: Sanitary and safe methods in food preparation, serving, and storage sufficient to prevent transmission of disease, infestation, and spoilage are followed.
1. Some lunch tables were not properly cleaned and sanitized immediately prior to/between groups of children during lunch service.

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

N/A

5. Special Notes/Recommendations

The center was reminded of allowable age combinations. Two year old children may not be combined with four year old children, and three year old children may not be combined with school age children unless under the very specific rule 109.8(2)h for the very beginning and/or end of the day with only the number of children and staff present at the center as defined by the rule. The center will need to ensure compliance.

1. Ensure dishes are completely air dried before they are stacked and put away.

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The center will continue with a full license. The center is directed to correct the items cited and the item(s) noted above in this section of the report and to submit a written summary to the licensing consultant as to how and when those corrections are/will be completed. The written summary shall be submitted within 30 days of receipt of this evaluation. Thank you.

Date: 03/18/2026

HHS Licensing Consultant: Heidi Hungate

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**.