Health and Human Services

Iowa Department of Health And Human Services

CHILD CARE CENTER ANNUAL EVALUATION

Name of Center: Noah's Ark Daycare Inc

Provider No.: 39730

Address: 121 W 2nd St, Sutherland, IA, 51058

County: Obrien

Director's Name: Beth Ortman

On-Site Supervisor:

Phone Number: 7124462406

E-Mail: Orthmann5@hotmail.com

HHS Visit Date: 08/24/2026

Licensing Period: 09/01/2026 to 09/01/2028

Fire Inspection:

Date Inspected: 11/16/2023

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 6:00 PM		
Tuesday	6:00 AM to 6:00 PM		
Wednesday	6:00 AM to 6:00 PM		
Thursday	6:00 AM to 6:00 PM		
Friday	6:00 AM to 6:00 PM		
Saturday			

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	16	16	8	8	48
Summer					0

1. Basic Overview

I completed an unannounced visit at this center on 08/24/2026. I was able to speak with the director, Beth Orthmann. Ms. Orthmann holds an associate's degree in early childhood and has many years of experience working in childcare settings. The on-site supervisor, Paige Ginger, is a licensed teacher who provides knowledgeable and supportive oversight within the program.

Noah's Ark Daycare Center is a non-profit childcare program located in a renovated building in Sutherland designed specifically for childcare use. The center has four classrooms: two infant rooms (non-mobile and mobile), a 2–4-year-old room, and a school-age room. The center operates Monday through Friday from 6:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. and serves children from infancy through 10 years of age. There are 27 children enrolled in the program, and at the time of the visit, 15 children were present.

All areas of the program were observed. Observations included classrooms and daily activities, nutritional practices, health and safety procedures, playground operations, field trip and transportation practices, and an administrative review of staff and child files.

The center is exceptionally clean and well maintained. The classrooms have ample windows that provide natural light. All rooms include visual supports such as the alphabet, numbers, sight words, and children's artwork, which promote both learning and comfort. Many visual aids include both pictures and printed words to support early literacy. The center utilizes an eclectic, play-based curriculum. For example, during the weekly theme "Pets," children engaged in a variety of activities focused on animals. These included bringing pictures of pets from home, playing "I Spy" using pet-related items, and participating in art, science, small motor, and large motor activities connected to the theme.

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I observed the transition from each classroom to lunch. This transition was smooth and well-organized, indicating that the children are familiar with the daily routine and schedule. Both children and staff demonstrated good handwashing practices during this time. Staff were actively engaged with the children at their level while supporting activities throughout the rooms. Schedules of activities were posted in each classroom. I observed an appropriate diaper change that followed required procedures. The center uses the Bright Wheel app to communicate with parents. Written daily records are maintained in the infant room, including information on feeding, diaper changes, naps, and tummy time.

Nutrition practices were observed. The refrigerator was clean and maintained at the appropriate temperature. Food storage practices were appropriate, with items properly stored and dated. Although the center is not participating in the CACFP food program, it follows CACFP nutritional guidelines. Meals are prepared onsite, and menus were posted. Radon and furnace inspections were completed and current. Playground inspections were also completed, along with monthly tornado and fire drills. The center does not transport children; field trips consist of walking to the park.

The first aid kit was adequately stocked to address minor injuries. The fenced-in playground contains climbing equipment with rubber mulch surfacing. The playground was clean, well maintained, and free of observable hazards, and adequate shade was available.

The overall environment is clean, organized, and supportive of children's well-being and safety.

Their goal is to obtain IQ4K licensing.

2. Identify Observed Strengths of the program

The center enjoys a warm, supportive relationship with its board, and they work closely together throughout the year on a variety of fundraising efforts that help strengthen and enrich the program.

I spoke with several employees who expressed that they genuinely enjoy their work and feel valued in their roles. They shared examples of positive interactions with children, supportive teamwork, and a sense of pride in contributing to the center's mission. Their enthusiasm and commitment clearly contribute to the positive, welcoming environment observed throughout the program.

The center is clean and very well organized, creating an environment that supports children's safety, comfort, and independence. The orderly layout and well-maintained materials help children easily navigate their spaces, engage meaningfully in activities, and feel secure in their surroundings.

3. Identify the aspects that fall below the standard

109.9(2)d: All files contain sufficient information and authorization to allow the center to secure emergency medical and dental services at any time child is in center's care.

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

5. Special Notes/Recommendations

Targeted Assessment: Behavior Management
I discussed with Beth regarding her oversight of behavior management related to helping childcare staff: 1) Understand expectations, 2) managing frustrations, 3) monitor performance.

Beth shared that, because this is a small center, she is able to hear and observe when staff may be feeling frustrated. She readily steps in to provide support, offer guidance, and model appropriate redirection for both staff and children. There is strong communication among all staff members. As I visited each room, staff reported that they feel comfortable asking for

assistance from one another or from Beth whenever needed. This collaborative approach contributes to a positive, supportive environment for both children and staff.

Please provide consultant with an email confirming that those items that fall blow standards have been completed by 10-01-26

A full license is recommended at this time at this time.

At least one visit will be made to the center during the next year.

6. ADDENDUMS:

- Addendum1: The hours for this daycare center are currently listed incorrectly. They should be Monday–Friday, 7:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Additionally, Paige Ginger is the correct on-site supervisor, and the director's name should be spelled Beth Orthmann. These details were accurate in the narrative and will be updated during the next evaluation.

This Addendum is approved by supervisor on 9/29/2026 4:04:27 PM

Date: 08/31/2026

HHS Licensing Consultant: Leann Steinhauer

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**.