Health and Human Services

Iowa Department of Health And Human Services

CHILD CARE CENTER ANNUAL EVALUATION

Name of Center: Principal Child Development Center

Provider No.: 28289

Address: 801 Park St, Des Moines, IA, 50309

County: Polk

Director's Name: Ashley Jenkins

On-Site Supervisor: Rachael Mielke

Phone Number: 5152355555

E-Mail: pcdc@brighthorizons.com

HHS Visit Date: 09/04/2025

Licensing Period: 09/01/2024 to 09/01/2026

Fire Inspection:

Date Inspected: 02/13/2025

Comments: Des Moines Fire Dept FF-Eric Jacobson. Fire inspections are due at least every three years.

Report Visit Type:

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

License Type:

- [X] Full
- [ ] Provisional

Quality initiative:

- [X] Accrediation — Comments: NAEYC--National Association for the Education of Young Children.

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
- [ ] School Age
- [ ] All Ages

LICENSE CAPACITY	Infants	2 Years	Preschool	School-Aged	Capacity
General	64	36	80	0	180
Summer					0

1. Basic Overview

An unannounced full licensing visit was completed 9/4/25. The director and assistant director were present for this visit. Principal Child Development Center has been in operation at this sight since August of 2008.

This center is designed for Principal Financial Group Employees and their children, ages six weeks to about six years old. The Center is the sole occupant of this two-story building.

The center is operated by Bright Horizons. Ashley Jenkins the director of the center. Ashley came to this center in March of 2018 from another Bright Horizons center in the metro area. Ashley has been a director with the Bright Horizons corporation since 2014 and meets director qualifications. Rachael Mielke is the assistant director. Rachael has a Bachelor's degree in Early
Childhood education and has worked for Bright Horizons since 2016. Rachael meets the qualifications to be this position.

Principal Child Dev Center by Bright Horizon uses the World at your finger tips curriculum and provides an application for teachers and parents to communicate. Classrooms offer a variety of toys and play centers. Teachers were observed to be engaged with the children's activities or assisting with meeting personal needs. The classrooms did have good structure with content children. Principal maintains this building and has camera surveillance of the entry and vestibule of the center.

Nutrition: There is an on-site kitchen with dedicated staff that prepare meals in the kitchen which are then served by staff family-style in the classrooms. Menus follow CACFP Healthy guidelines for eating. There is a variety of fresh fruit and "from scratch" style meals in the menu that rotates.

Playground: Most ground-level classrooms have ready access to the center's outside playground that is enclosed by fencing and offers medium and small play equipment along with a play around with water, that is used in summer for "water days".

2. Identify Observed Strengths of the program

The center has maintained their NAEYC accreditation.

Bright Horizons offers teachers the opportunity to further their education with a financial stipend for classes.

The staff work well together as a team and there is a strong support system in place for staff. The teachers are proud of their classrooms and keep them clean/organized.

The director and assistant director work very well together.

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There is a strong partnership between the Principal company and the center.

The center has a secure entrance and the building is monitored by Principal security as well.

The center is able to share staff from other Bright Horizons centers.

3. Identify the aspects that fall below the standard

109.9(1)b: All files contain a pre-employment physical exam report completed within six months prior to hire and at least every three years. Physical exams shall be documented on form 470-5152, Child Care Provider Physical Examination Report.
*one employee physical was provided outside the recognized parameters, those being six months prior to hire or six month post-hire.

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

N/A.

5. Special Notes/Recommendations

The company does have a night cleaning crew come in to the center to help maintain the sanitization and cleanliness. There was one changing table that had debris, but all others were clean and had recently been sanitized. Staff and children were consistently observed practicing good handwashing technique (for all ages).

Noted were some areas that needed painting updated due to bare wall (no choking hazards) or warn paint. The director stated that the center is scheduled to have fresh paint in the first quarter of next year (2026).

Radon testing is due every two years. The center's last radon testing results available had been completed in Sept of 2023 and all rooms tested fell below the 4.0 cutoff.

Date: 09/06/2025

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**.