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

Name of Center: St Patrick School Gingerbread Preschool **Enrollment:** 5 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 52605

Street: 1302 5th ST **City:** Perry Iowa **Zip** 50220 **County:** Dallas

Mailing Address: 1302 5th ST, Perry, IA, 50220

Director's Name: Kandice Pattillo **Phone Number:** 515-465-4186

On-Site Supervisor(s): N/A **E-Mail:** kpattillo@stpatricks-perry-ia.org

Date(s) of Visit: 09-18-2024

X **Licensing Visit** **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:** 08-16-2024

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

Date Inspected: 10-10-2022

Comments : State Fire Marshal. Inspections are due at least every three years.

LICENSE TYPE: **Child Care** X **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: Year-round X School-Year Summer Only

HOURS:	*Year-round*	*School-Year*	*Summer Only*

LICENSE CAPACITY	Infants	2 Years	Preschool	School-Age	Capacity
General	0	0	18	0	18
Summer					0

QRS Rating: N/A

RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE:	
X	**FULL** license from 10-01-2024 to 10-01-2026
	PROVISIONAL license from
	DENIAL of initial application
	SUSPENSION of license
	REVOCATION of license

Licensing Consultant: Nate Knepper **Date:** 09-26-2024

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

N/A.

II. IDENTIFY THE AREAS OBSERVED ON THE VISIT:

A licensing visit was conducted on 9/18/24. The director/principal was present throughout the visit.

All areas of the program were observed. These areas observed consisted of classroom observations and activities, ratios, nutritional practices, health and safety practices, playground observation, field trip and transportation practices, and administrative review.

St. Patrick School Gingerbread Preschool is a program that is now under HHS licensing. The program was given permission to open on 8/26/24. Prior to this, the program was under the Department of Education's oversight. The program is overseen by a Board. Kandice Pattillo is the principal of the school and also the current director of the program. Kandice holds several degrees and has past experience and training overseeing this program and other similar programs.

The program serves four and five year old children during the school year. The program is located in one classroom on the lower level of the school building. The program uses their own learning curriculum that is faith based as well as parts of the San Francisco Math Curriculum.

During the visit, children were observed all sitting at a child-size table with child-size chairs and doing art projects. The classroom teacher was assisting children as needed and conversing with children about their art projects.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

This is a new program that meets a need in the community. The program was open in the past, but now licensed by HHS.

The program uses the Bloomz app for added communication with parents. Weekly newsletters are also sent to parents.

Parents are highly encouraged to participate, visit, and volunteer unless restricted by a court order.

The program has a good relationship with other school personnel.

All staff take Alice training.

There are outdoor security cameras.

The director/principal is highlly organized and has a lot of experience/training/education.

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

109.4(2)h: Develop a policy to ensure that people do not have unauthorized access to children at the center. Include: Criteria for allowing people on the property when children are present. How people will be supervised or monitored. How responsibility will be delegated to staff. How the policy will be shared with parents.
The program was missing a written Access Policy. Another one was sent to the director after the visit concluded.

109.11(3)a: Center shall ensure that: Facility and premises are sanitary, safe, and hazard free. Adequate indoor and outdoor space is provided. The outdoor area shall include safe play equipment and area of shade.
The "S" hooks on one swing need to be tightened. There was also at least one bolt along one of the gates to the fence that needs to be cut/capped so that no more than two threads are showing.

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.
Donuts are not considered credible so shouldn't be served on their own. At least two credible food items would be needed for all snacks.

V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:

The program will have one year from their open date (8/16/24) to conduct radon testing in the classroom. The radon level must be below the 4.0 cutoff otherwise retesting will be needed. The the level is below 4.0, the program can move to testing every five years. If the radon levels comes back 4.0 or higher, retesting is needed to get below 4.0 and then the program will remain on a two year plan at least temporarily.

An annual boiler/furnace inspection will be needed. This is currently scheduled for October/November 2024.

For transportation for field trips, the program contacts with the Perry School District and takes a bus. The program may also take walking field trips to nearby places. Finally, the program will also bring in different agencies for presentations to children.

The CACFP phone app was shared during the visit.

I-Power and IQ4K were discussed at the visit. The program has had some conversations with their CCR&R consultant about this process. For I - Power, all staff will need to have I - Power profiles.

Hand washing signs should be posted in both restrooms. These were again emailed to the program after the visit concluded.

An Access Policy was again emailed to the program after the visit concluded.

This consultant's most current posting was emailed to the program after the visit concluded. It had changed since this consultant emailed his posting prior to the program opening.

It is recommended that naps for sleeping be at least two inches thick. The program should double up on the mats they are using.

Monthly playground inspections will be needed.

It was noted one child's immunization record will need to be transferred over to a State of Iowa approved form.

It was noted the program is awaiting fingerprint results on their staff. If they have not been received by the end of September, the director should contact DCI.

A NEW, FULL, TWO-YEAR LICENSE IS RECOMMENDED.

After this consultant had a chance to review the program's staff and parent handbook, he sent the following email to the director:

Hi Kandice.
I have had a chance to review your parent and staff handbooks. Overall, they are complete. Here are my notes that I will also include in my report under the notes/recommendations section (only an Access Policy for your staff handbook was missing and I'll resend that to you so you can add).

Parent handbooks:
1. For immunizations and religious exemptions, a notary is no longer needed as of July 1, 2024.
2. For your injuries section, I would recommend also adding that 911 will be contacted first if necessary for serious injuries and then the parents.
3. For supervision, any time there are eight or more children present, a second staff needs to be at least in the building.
4. Ratio, you have 1:10 which you certainly can do. However, if you wanted, our requirements say you can do ratio based on the majority age of children. So, if majority are four (1:12).
5. For time-outs, general rule of thumb is a minute for each year (age).
6. Volunteers will also need to be record checked if a) in ratio, and/or b) direct responsibility of children and/or c) alone with any child other than their own.

In your Staff handbook.
1. An Access Policy was missing. I'll resend this to you.

If any questions, let me know.

Thanks,

*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.