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

Name of Center: Kids Kampus **Enrollment:** 85 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 52396

Street: 5150 Blairs Forest Way **City:** Cedar Rapids Iowa **Zip** 52402 **County:** Linn

Mailing Address: 5150 Blairs Forest Way, Cedar Rapids, IA, 52402

Director's Name: Celia Smith **Phone Number:** 319-393-2898

On-Site Supervisor(s): Celia Smith **E-Mail:** stephanie@kidskampuscr.com
celia@kidskampuscr.com

Date(s) of Visit: 03-07-2024

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

LICENSING VISITS

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

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

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

Date Inspected: 10-31-2023

Comments :

LICENSE TYPE: X **Child Care** **Preschool (ages 3-5 meets three hours or less per day)**

Financial Type: X Profit Non-Profit NA

Accredition: Accredited NAEYC NSACA Other X NA

Program Serves: X Infants (0-23 mo.) X 2 Years X Preschool-Age X School-Age
Get-Well Evening Care X 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	28	24	52	27	131
Summer					0

QRS Rating: N/A

RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE:	
X	**FULL** license from 04-01-2024 to 04-01-2026
	PROVISIONAL license from
	DENIAL of initial application
	SUSPENSION of license
	REVOCATION of license

Licensing Consultant: Amy Lyons **Date:** 03-22-2024

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

Not applicable.

II. IDENTIFY THE AREAS OBSERVED ON THE VISIT:

Kids Kampus (#52396) commenced operations under new ownership on 12/23/2023. This site had been operating as Kids Kampus (#51671) from 1/1/2022-12/23/2023, and prior to this, Kids Kampus Learning Inc. (#23676) from August 1996 to 1/1/2022. The program operates year-round, Monday through Friday 6:30am to 6:00pm. Current enrollment is 85.

New owner Stephanie Jemtrud assumed ownership on 12/23/2023. Ms. Jemtrud has a BA degree in elementary education, several years of experience working with children, and continues to participate in child development related training. Director of Kids Kampus is Celia Smith. Ms. Smith has been the qualified director since February 2024. Ms. Smith has over 9 years of experience working with children and continues to participate in much child development related training.

On 3/7/2024, program space was observed.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

Kids Kampus is a well established program offering many different early learning opportunities to help meet the needs of families and children throughout the community. The program is located in a residential neighborhood in a predominantly urban community. The program accepts a variety of funding sources.

During 2024, Kids Kampus will be celebrating their 28th year of business (with currently over 2 months under new management). Congratulations! Kids Kampus underwent 3 ownership changes between January 2022 to December 20023.

According to the family handbook, Kids Kampus has "...a long history in this community of providing quality care....Our staff have years of experience from professional development classes and workshops. We are proud of that we put all children’s needs first. Our love for children is what drives our long-term experienced staff. Our teachers set the stage for an environment that challenges children every day..."

Management (e.g. Ms. Jemtrud, Ms. Smith) is working to establish new systems of organization to help ensure administrative items are completed and maintained as required. Management is knowledgeable of licensing guidelines as well as their own policies and procedures. Management discussed future goals including an updated social media prescence.

Staff are seasoned and reported celebrating 27 years, 25 years, 4 years, 2 years, and 3 weeks employment with Kids Kampus. Staff longevity is impressive! Management talked about having "...a good team..." Management discussed how staff appreciation and professional growth opportunities will be part of the operations. Management also talked about supports that have been put in place to help acclimate seasoned and new staff to the ownership changes.

Kids Kampus has emergency plans, policies, and procedures in place which are annually reviewed and updated as needed. Kids Kampus has successfully navigated through the 2008 Linn County flood, 2019 winter Polar Vortex, 2019 health (covid-19) pandemic, 8/10/20 Derecho Storm, 2021 food supply issues, 2022 infant formula shortages and 2023 air quality alerts.

Kids Kampus continues efforts at optimal communication between the program/staff and families. The program has an organized parent-staff/program information center, offers regular program newsletters, utilizes technological communication resources, and supports family programming activities. Family programming activities have included open houses, parent/program conferences, holiday parties, off-site field experiences, and on-site guest speakers.

Building and grounds are maintained. In late 2020, an updating and/or replacement of classroom flooring (e.g. carpets, rugs), center lighting, roof and ceiling with acoustic features, kitchen cabinets, many furnishings (e.g. diaper stations, some appliances, areas of counter tops), much classroom materials, outdoor fencing, and security features occurred. The kitchen is sanitary and organized. The center cook has been with the program for over 2 years and has additional culinary experience. Management discussed future goals related to outdoor playground improvements and various building refreshes including updated paint.

Classrooms have been re-arranged in a thoughtful manner with learning at the forefront. Materials are accessible to children. Kids Kampus continues to use the Creative Curriculum, Handwriting without Tears, Jolly Phonics, HighScope and teacher inspired ideas. Past learning experiences have included theme days, enrichment experiences, obstacle courses, balloon animal artist, princesses, trips to the nature center, sports camps, visits from Kona ice, bike day, and restaurant tours.

Kids Kampus collaborates well with community agencies including the local school district, CCR&R, health professionals, and local businesses.

The infant room has a “no shoe” policy and was observed supporting safe sleep practices.

Each child is engaged in a daily health check upon arrival for early detection of apparent illness, communicable disease, or unusual condition or behavior which may adversely affect the child or the group. The program has supplies as well as policies and procedures in place for diapering, hand washing, cleaning, disinfecting, and sanitizing.

On the day of the monitoring visit, staff were nurturing and attentive to the children's needs. Themes in the classrooms included Dr. Seuss, favorite fruits and veggies, weather and rainbows. Activities observed included infant cares, center play experiences (e.g. sensory, building, crafting), and outdoor large gross motor play. Routine transitions (e.g. clean-up activities, food service rituals) worked smoothly into the program's welcoming and cooperative environment. Staff were overheard providing children with many words of encouragement and offering positive redirection when needed. Children responded well to staff and appeared to be truly enjoying their childcare experiences.

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

109.9(1)d: 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.
- Three staff files (SH, TB, TW) reviewed lacked documentation of required physical exam with TB screening/testing.

109.9(2)c: All files contain information regarding the specific health and medical needs of a child including information regarding any prescribed treatment. For school-age programs in the child’s school, all files include a statement signed by the parent that the immunization information is available in the school file.
- Six child files (ND, OD, BE, LF, MF, HF) reviewed lacked documentation of a current physical exam.

109.9(3): Signed and dated Iowa immunization certificates are on file for each child enrolled.
- Four child files (ND, OD, BE, LF) reviewed lacked this documentation.

109.9(2)f: All files contain parent authorization for attendance at center-sponsored field trips and non-center activities. If an inclusive authorization form for activities is used, a copy is kept on file at the center.
- Seven child files (ND, OD, BE, LF, MF, AF, HF) reviewed lacked authorization of center to provide transportation.

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.
- Documentation of a monthly fire drill was not found.
- Documentation of a monthly tornado drill was not found.

109.11(7)b: Centers at ground level that use basement area as program space, or have a basement beneath program space: Testing and plan for remedy of radon is conducted.
- Documentation of radon testing of each classroom was not found.

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.
- Documentation of current annual fuel burning appliance inspection was not found.

V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:

Replenish first-aid supplies to ensure there is at least one complete kit on-site and one complete first-aid kit in each vehicle used to transport children.

Discontinue the use of infant pacifier clips that include strings and/or beads that could result in choking hazards.

Ensure all cleaners, sanitizers and disinfectants are used according to manufacturer instructions (e.g. dwell time). Instructions of use for each shall be clearly visible. Ensure products selected have instructions for what the product was purchased to do (example - a disinfect needs to have instructions for disinfecting or it shall not be considered a disinfectant).

Ensure soiled diapers are disposed of in fully enclosed receptacles separate from other refuse.

If restroom areas are used to store items, ensure those items are fully enclosed to help prevent a soiling and/or sanitation hazard.

As menus and food items served are updated, ensure all foods served are credible. Here is a link to Iowa CACFP "Handy Guide to Creditable Foods" https://educate.iowa.gov/media/4566/download?inline=.

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Within 60 days of receipt of this report, please provide a written note (e.g. email) to licensing as to how the above items have been or are in the process of being corrected.

A full license is issued. Thank you for the visit.

*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.