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

Name of Center: YSS United Kids Club **Enrollment:** 30 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 51476

Street: 1284 U Ave **City:** Boone Iowa **Zip** 50036 **County:** Boone

Mailing Address: 420 Kellogg Ave, Ames, IA, 50010

Director's Name: Katie Highland **Phone Number:** 515-291-0374

On-Site Supervisor(s): Janaya Battles **E-Mail:** khighland@yss.org

Date(s) of Visit: 08-12-2025

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

LICENSING VISITS

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

Signed Application (470-0722) Received X **Yes** **No** **NA** **Date Signed:** 07-10-2025

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

Date Inspected: 08-07-2025

Comments : Boone Fire Marshal. For licensing, inspections are due at least every three years. The Boone Fire Marshal typically does more frequent inspections.

LICENSE TYPE: X **Child Care** **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 X School-Age

Get-Well Evening Care 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	0	0	20	180	200
Summer					0

QRS Rating: N/A

RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE:	
X	**FULL** license from 09-01-2025 to 09-01-2027
	PROVISIONAL license from
	DENIAL of initial application
	SUSPENSION of license
	REVOCATION of license

Licensing Consultant: Nate Knepper **Date:** 08-13-2025

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

N/A.

II. IDENTIFY THE AREAS OBSERVED ON THE VISIT:

A licensing inspection was completed on 8/121/25. The on-site supervisor was present throughout this visit as well as YSS manager, Tori McKay.

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

YSS United Kids Club is a center located within the United Community School that was given permission to open on 6/3/21. YSS took over the previous child care program that was located in this school. The center serves Pre-K children and school-age children and is open year-round. During the school-year, the center is open 6:30am - 8:00am and 3:00pm - 6:00pm. There is one early out per week where children attend earlier. During the summer months and no school days, the center is open 6:30am - 6:00pm. The center uses four areas of the school (Large gym capacity 206 but not a main area used, small gym capacity 59, K1 room capacity 23, Pre-K room capacity 37. However, capacity as a whole has been capped at 200 children. The center uses a YSS based learning curriculum.

The director of this center and the other YSS programs licensed by this consultant is Katie Highland. The on-site supervisor at this location is Janaya Battles. Both individuals meet the qualifications for their positions.

During the visit, children were initially observed in the smaller gym and engaged in free-choice play at the different learning stations made available to them. Later in the visit, children were observed in the large gym and were listening to the rules staff were giving to them before playing large motor games (kickball, etc.). Children gave specific answers as to where they relocate to for monthly fire and tornado drills.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

The center meets a need of the community. Enrollment remains steady.

This is one of several YSS programs. They all function in similar way, have the same handbooks, can share staff as needed, and are overseen by the same management.

The on-site supervisor at this location is organized.

Monthly staff meetings are held. On-site supervisors of all YSS locations also have weekly staff meetings. Finally, one-on-one meetings are held with staff.

The center has a good working relationship with the school principal and other school personnel. The center also has good family relationships.

The center is using the on-line apps Class Dojo and Pro-Care.

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

109.10(1): Medications: The center shall have written procedures for dispensing, storage, and authorization, and recording of all prescription and non-prescription medications. Staff must be over 18 to administer medication. All medications shall be stored in original containers with physician or pharmacist directions. Labels should be intact and stored so they are inaccessible to children and public. Nonprescription medications shall be labeled with the child's name. For every day an authorization for medication is in effect and child is in attendance, there shall be a notation of administration including the name of medicine, date, time, dosage, given or applied, and the initials of the person administering the medication or the reason the medication was not given. For ongoing, long term medications, authorization shall be obtained for a period not to exceed the duration of prescription. Staff shall not provide medications to a child if pre-service/orientation training for medication management has not been completed.

There was medication stored in a first-aid backpack that was sitting on the floor right next to a child. The first-aid backpack, per staff, shouldn't have been on the floor where it was observed. THIS ISSUE WAS CORRECTED DURING THE INSPECTION.

V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:

Radon testing was last conducted 1/13/25 - 1/17/25. The preschool classroom came back with radon levels below the 4.0 cutoff. Because levels were below 4.0, the center can move to testing for radon at least every five years now. So long as radon levels remain below 4.0, they can remain on a five year plan. If at the next testing, levels in any classroom come back 4.0 or higher, the center will have to have a mitigation plan, retest, and at least temporarily move back to testing every two years.

The annual HVAC inspection was completed on 8/8/25.

The center takes field trips in the summer months. They contract with the school district for bussing.

I - Power and IQ4K were again discussed at the visit. It appears all staff have I - Power profiles. However, training needs to be uploaded into profiles for many staff. If certain staff are no longer with YSS and/or this program, they should be unlinked from YSS/program.

As previously mentioned, It is recommended that the director be granted access to staff physicals and record check information as making sure staff have these items and they are always current are part of the director responsibilities.

It was noted that when school starts for 2025 - 2026, the two gyms and only one preschool classroom will be used. There will be one room not in use this year.

It was noted that the big, main playground is under construction and not in use. New equipment and surfacing is being installed.

A new, full, two-year license is recommended.

*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.