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

Name of Center: First Steps Learning Center Inc. **Enrollment:** 101 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 48848

Street: 200 Holiday RD **City:** Coralville Iowa **Zip** 52241 **County:** Johnson

Mailing Address: 200 Holiday RD, Coralville, IA, 52241

Director's Name: Emily Meineke **Phone Number:** 319-351-1695

On-Site Supervisor(s): Natalia Woody **E-Mail:** firststepslearningcenter200@gmail.com

Date(s) of Visit: 02-18-2025

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:** 05-02-2023

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

Date Inspected: 09-29-2023

Comments : Does Comply.

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 Special Needs

SCHEDULE: X Year-round School-Year Summer Only

HOURS:	*Year-round*	*School-Year*	*Summer Only*
Sunday			
Monday	6:30 AM to 6:00 PM		
Tuesday	6:30 AM to 6:00 PM		
Wednesday	6:30 AM to 6:00 PM		
Thursday	6:30 AM to 6:00 PM		
Friday	6:30 AM to 6:00 PM		
Saturday			

LICENSE CAPACITY	Infants	2 Years	Preschool	School-Age	Capacity
General	28	20	54	39	141
Summer					0

QRS Rating: N/A

RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE:	
X	**FULL** license from 07-01-2025 to 07-01-2027
	PROVISIONAL license from
	DENIAL of initial application
	SUSPENSION of license
	REVOCATION of license

Licensing Consultant: Heidi Brown **Date:** 03-30-2025

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

II. IDENTIFY THE AREAS OBSERVED ON THE VISIT:

This worker arrived at First Steps Learning Center Inc. - 48848 for an annual visit on 2/18/2025. The fire inspection was completed on 9/29/2023. The center is for profit and owned by Nicole Aman. The center is in a commercial building. The center has seven classrooms, a kitchen, and office. The center is open year around. The hours of operation are 6:30am to 6:00pm. The center provides care for infants-school aged children. The center's current enrollment is 101.

The director is Emily Meineke. Emily started in 2017. The onsite supervisor is Natalia Woody. Natalia started in 2017.

This worker observed all programming space in the center and outdoor area to ensure that the environment was safe, sanitary and hazard free. This worker observed the infant room staff feeding the infants bottles, another classroom enjoying lunch, children washing their hands/getting diaper changes preparing for nap time, another room engaged in listening to a book prior to nap, and another classroom sleeping.

Health and safety practices were also reviewed including handwashing, medication management, appropriate cleaning/sanitizing/disinfecting, excluding ill children/staff, incident reports, and first aid kits. Infant safe sleep practices were observed during my visit.

Nutritional practices and food safety were observed. The center offers breakfast, lunch and afternoon snack.

This worker reviewed required postings. This worker checked staff files and child files. The licensing notebook including emergency drills, first aid supplies, playground checklist, radon testing, HVAC testing and policies were reviewed.

The center does communicate with parents via: the Remind Me App, phone calls, in-person conversations Facebook (Public) and emails.

The center's curriculum is teacher created utilizing the following curriculum: Pocket of Preschool.

The center offers transportation to and from school. They also offer field trips.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

-The center does a great job of maintaining staff.
-The director and on-site supervisor have been with the center since 2017.
-Classrooms are clean, well-organized and nicely decorated.
-Staff files, child files and licensing notebook were in full compliance.
-The center has video cameras in each classroom and outside.

-The center is secure with a security pin or door bell ring for those who don't have a pin.

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

The center was in full compliance on the date of my visit.

V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:

Based upon this review, it is recommended that this center remain in Full licensing status. It is important to note, all DHS licensing standards and procedures must be maintained during the renewal period.

This worker encourages you to develop a working relationship with your Child Care Resource and Referral Child Care Consultant: https://iowaccrr.org/staff/region_5/ and you Healthy Child Care Iowa Nurse Consultant: https://hhs.iowa.gov/programs/programs-and-services/child-care/hcci. These two agencies are a wonderful resource to help centers be successful.

Please do not hesitate to contact the licensing consultant, Heidi Brown, if you have any questions or concerns. I can be reached at 515-631-8846 or heidi.brown@hhs.iowa.gov

*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.