

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

Name of Center: St Matthew Preschool **Enrollment:** 90 **License ID No. (Reapplications):** 47708

Street: 2244 1st Ave NE **City:** Cedar Rapids **Iowa Zip:** 52402 **County:** Linn

Mailing Address: 2244 1st Ave NE, Cedar Rapids, IA, 52402

Director's Name: Amy Ball **Phone Number:** 319-362-3021

On-Site Supervisor(s): Amy Ball **E-Mail:** kreinwart@stmatthewcr.org

Date(s) of Visit: 01-24-2018

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

LICENSING VISITS

New Application **Re-Application** X 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: 02-10-2016

Comments :

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

Financial Type: Profit X Non-Profit NA

Accreditation: 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:	<u>Year-round</u>	<u>School-Year</u>	<u>Summer Only</u>		
LICENSE CAPACITY	Infants	2 Years	Preschool	School-Age	Capacity
General			80		80
Summer					0

QRS Rating: N/A

RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE:	
X	FULL license from 12-01-2016 to 02-01-2019
	PROVISIONAL license from
	DENIAL of initial application
	SUSPENSION of license
	REVOCACTION of license

Licensing Consultant: Amy Lyons

Date: 01-25-2018

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

Not applicable.

II. IDENTIFY THE AREAS OBSERVED ON THE VISIT:

St. Matthew Preschool is a non-profit preschool program located inside St. Matthew Catholic Elementary School. St. Matthew Preschool functions under the jurisdiction of the St. Matthew Board of Education which consists of several elected members of the parish and the pastor. The St. Matthew Preschool is a non-profit program that has been in operation since 1984. This program offers a 3-year-old preschool program and a 4-year-old preschool program. The program operates school-year only Monday through Friday 8:30am to 11:30am. Current enrollment is 90 children.

St. Matthew Preschool's director/on-site supervisor is Amy Ball. Ms. Ball has a BS degree in elementary education as well as over 20 years of experience working with children.

On 1/24/2018, all program space was observed.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

St. Matthew's mission is to "...provide a Christian environment in which each child can grow spiritually, emotionally, physically, and intellectually through age-appropriate activities. We are committed, in collaboration with families, to enhance each child's character development and nurture the individual strengths and talents that allow each child to reach their potential..."

St. Matthew Preschool has the following website for families and the community to access information about the program: <http://www.stmatthewcr.org/school>.

Communication between St. Matthew Preschool and families continues to flourish. The program completes regular newsletters that contain a variety of information including program reminders, curriculum updates, and community resource information. St. Matthew Preschool also has access to an updated phone system.

St. Matthew Preschool offers family events throughout the year including an annual Christmas program, Halloween trick or treat event, fall open house, ice cream social, and spring graduation ceremony. Family/child/program conferences are part of the curriculum.

Preschool staff are professional - experienced, educated, and organized. Several staff have advanced teaching degrees and/or CDAs. The program continues to retain many staff including director Ms. Ball. School principal Joe Wolf is celebrating 27 years with St. Matthew Catholic School!

The classrooms are well-organized, spacious, and sanitary. The preschool has access to electronic materials to help enhance the curriculum. These materials include iPads and a SMART board.

St. Matthew Preschool has a solid relationship with the school administration, St. Matthew ECC, school custodial staff, school nurse, and school kitchen person in order to help maintain sanitary and hazard free program space. The program has

an active PTO (parent teacher organization) and board. The PTO holds regular meetings, sponsors fundraising events, holds annual back to school events, and sponsors family activities.

St. Matthew Preschool operates under an active board of directors.

Staff were observed helping prevent the spread of illness by reminding children to hand wash at necessary times. Separate cubbies/storage areas for each child to store his/her personal items separate from every other child's personal items are well established.

Enrollment continues to increase.

On the day of the monitoring visit, staff were nurturing and attentive to the children's needs. The areas of study throughout the preschool included snow, hibernation, and winter. Throughout each classroom, children had access to an array of activities (including books, imaginative play options, crafts, and building materials). Staff engaged well with the children (particularly when children were practicing writing their names in room #108, when children were engaged in crafting a snowman, when children were participating in a classroom ice skating experience, and during teacher lead large group discussion). Staff presented materials in an enthusiastic manner. Staff encouraged each child to try different activities and share classroom materials. Staff utilized the teaching of PBIS when needed (including room #104's nice friends' stickers). The daily routine transitions (including program cleanup procedures and snack time routines) went smoothly. Many words of encouragement and meaningful discussion could be heard throughout the monitoring visit. Children responded well to staff and appeared comfortable at the program.

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

None noted.

V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:

A plumbed hand washing sink continues to be highly recommended for classroom #108. This will help improve sanitation and daily routines that require hand washing.

The child restroom floors (particularly in room #104) are showing much wear/staining. At this point, it is difficult to determine if the floor tiles are simply worn from age or if the floor tiles are not getting properly clean/disinfected each day. If it's determined the restroom floor tiles are worn from age, please replace so that the program can be ensured that area is properly cleaned/disinfected as required each day. If it's determined the flooring tiles are not being cleaned and disinfected as required each day, please ensure this is remedied.

Ensure the dorm-sized refrigerator/freezer thermometer in room #104 is not damaged and/or broken.

A child enrolled in room #104 has a noted special medical need. Ensure any noted emergency plan medication is on-site when the child is in attendance and not expired.

The program's license remains in full status.

*Note: If you are the Child Care Center Director and you feel something is unclear or unjustly cited, please contact me (phone 319-892-6827; email alyons@dhs.state.ia.us) so that we may discuss the issue. If necessary, I can make a notation in your record. You may also send a letter that will be included in your licensing file noting any disagreement you may have with this report. If you have the need for any additional information discussed during my visit, please contact me and I will forward the information to you. Thank you.

*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.

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