Health and Human Services

Iowa Department of Health And Human Services

CHILD CARE CENTER ANNUAL EVALUATION

Name of Center: Metro Kids - Howe

Provider No.: 36564

Address: 2900 Indianola Ave, Des Moines, IA, 50315

County: Polk

Director's Name: Linda Phillips

On-Site Supervisor: Amelia Jeanie Gomez

Phone Number: 5152427951

E-Mail: linda.phillips@dmschools.org

HHS Visit Date: 03/30/2026

Licensing Period: 01/01/2026 to 01/01/2028

Fire Inspection:

Date Inspected: 09/17/2024

Comments:

Report Visit Type:

- [ ] PTO
- [X] Licensing Visit
- [ ] Drop In
- [ ] Administrative Change

License Type:

- [X] Full
- [ ] Provisional

Quality initiative:

- [ ] Accrediation

Program Duration:

- [ ] Year-Round
- [X] School Year
- [ ] Summer Only

Health and Human Services

Iowa Department of Health And Human Services

CHILD CARE CENTER ANNUAL EVALUATION

HOURS:	*Year-round*	*School-Year*	*Summer Only*
Sunday			
Monday		2:30 PM to 5:30 PM	
Tuesday		2:30 PM to 5:30 PM	
Wednesday		2:30 PM to 5:30 PM	
Thursday		2:30 PM to 5:30 PM	
Friday		2:30 PM to 5:30 PM	
Saturday			

Program Population Served:

- [ ] Infant(0-<24 Months)
- [ ] Toddler
- [ ] PreSchool
- [X] School Age
- [ ] All Ages

LICENSE CAPACITY	Infants	2 Years	Preschool	School-Aged	Capacity
General				150	150
Summer					0

1. Basic Overview

Metro Kids - Howe has been in operation for many years, initially licensed under the Department of Education. The school has secured entrances. The center primarily uses the gym and a classroom for programming. They also have access to a few other classrooms. The school's playground is used for outdoor play. Linda Phillips is the director. Jeanie Gomez is the on site supervisor.

An unannounced visit was completed. All areas subject to HHS licensing rules were reviewed. Mandatory postings are in place. The center had their schedule posted. A lesson plan was also posted. The center keeps their supplies in a storage room in the gym. The center places games, toys, activities and interest areas out for children in the gym and/or the music room. Children's coats and back backs are generally placed in the gym.

Jeanie wasn't on work status on today's date. There were two staff working today. There were twenty two children present. Children were primarily observed on the playground. Children were observed doing large motor play activities. Staff were engaged with the children throughout the visit.

The center serves snack after school. Menus were posted and showed compliance with CACFP standards.

The center uses the school's playground. School staff maintain the playground. There is poured rubber for surfacing. There is blacktop and grass areas on the playground also. The center completed monthly playground checks.

Metro Kids programs use Des Moines Schools buses for off site field trips.

Health and Human Services

Iowa Department of Health And Human Services

CHILD CARE CENTER ANNUAL EVALUATION

2. Identify Observed Strengths of the program

The center's supervisor has been employed with Metro Kids for several years. The center has a nice amount of supplies and toys available for the number of children being served. Children are offered large motor play activities daily by using the gym and school's playground.

3. Identify the aspects that fall below the standard

There were no licensing violations cited today.

4. Any corrective action plans, provisional license, and safety plans-steps to get into compliance

NA

5. Special Notes/Recommendations

The center has a full license.

*Note: If you are the Child Care Center Director and you feel something is unclear or unjustly cited, please contact me (phone 515-362-7823; email melinda.larson@hhs.iowa.gov) 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.

****

An administrative change is being made to move the licenses for all Metro Kids locations to 1-1-2020 to 1-1-2022

Date: 04/20/2026

HHS Licensing Consultant: Melinda Larson, Child Care Licensing Consultant

Non-compliance with any of the mandated regulatory requirements listed above may lead to the cancellation or revocation of your Child Care License. Please take steps necessary to completely address each of the violations noted above.

Child Care Resource and Referral is an excellent resource for providers to access training options and support in your area. You can reach Child Care Resource and Referral at **https://iowaccrr.org**.