Health and Human Services

Iowa Department of Health And Human Services

CHILD CARE CENTER ANNUAL EVALUATION

Name of Center: La Petite Academy

Provider No.: 27521

Address: 929 E 1St St, Ankeny, IA, 50021

County: Polk

Director's Name: Interim Samantha Kirby

On-Site Supervisor: Diane K

Phone Number: 5159649491

E-Mail: 7262@lapetite.com

HHS Visit Date: 07/24/2026

Licensing Period: 08/01/2025 to 08/01/2027

Fire Inspection:

Date Inspected: 03/09/2026

Comments: Fire inspections are due at least every three years. Completed by Tyson Hood, Lieutenant of Community Risk Reduction, Ankeny Fire Dept.

Report Visit Type:

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

License Type:

- [X] Full
- [ ] Provisional

Quality initiative:

- [ ] Accrediation

Program Duration:

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

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CHILD CARE CENTER ANNUAL EVALUATION

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			

Program Population Served:

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

LICENSE CAPACITY	Infants	2 Years	Preschool	School-Aged	Capacity
General	20	13	47	32	112
Summer					0

1. Basic Overview

An unannounced full licensing visit was completed on 7/24/26. The acting director Samantha Kirby was present through out the visit along with the future interim Director Reylynn Leon Guerro.

This is one of two La Petite centers in the metro area. Learning Care Group is the parent company for La Petite. This center provides traditional child care for children age newborn to 12 year, Monday through Friday 6:30 AM to 6:00 PM. There is full-day care and a before/after school program.

The center director Samantha Kirby, who had been the assistant director along with several years of child are experience. Reylynn Leon Guerro has several years experience in child care and is working to attain interim director status.

Room observation/activities: La Petite is currently using "Learn as we Grow" curriculum. Sprout about application is used to communicate with parents. Rooms are separated by ages. The rooms are in ratio and children are content; the children were between rest time and playing outdoors during the visit.

Nutritional Practices: This center has an on-site kitchen with a dedicated cook. La Petite offers breakfast, lunch and afternoon snack. The center is enrolled in the CACFP food program.

Playground: The center's outdoor play area is fenced and separated by ages. The outdoor play areas offer a variety of structures and activities. The structures were in good repair. . There are shade structures. Some structures have wood chips surfacing and additional wood chips need to be added to maintain the integrity of this as a "safety surface" to help prevent serious injuries.. Discussion took place with regard to the need to increase the depth of the wood chips for safety reasons.

CHILD CARE CENTER ANNUAL EVALUATION

Transportation/field trips: this center offers some before/after school transportation for children enrolled in Ankeny schools

2. Identify Observed Strengths of the program

This center is able to offer part-time care.

This center has a few long-term staff members and staff were noted to work together to maintain the safety of the children attending the center.

The staff wear company shirts or solid colors to make them easily identifiable.

The center has a secure entrance and cameras.

The center, though the Learning Care Group, has a behavior support team that they can access to assist with children presenting with challenging or difficult behaviors.

3. Identify the aspects that fall below the standard

109.6(4)c: Center repeats Iowa record checks at a minimum of every two years or when aware of additional child abuse or criminal history that occurs.

109.9(1)b: 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.

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

109.6(4)c: Center repeats Iowa record checks at a minimum of every two years or when aware of additional child abuse or criminal history that occurs.
-One staff filed reviewed did contain an expired SING (Iowa check) which the director completed at the time of the visit and placed in the staff's file.

109.9(1)b: All files contain a pre-employment physical exam report
--Several staff files were found to not have a physical exam report on file
--Administrative staff will require staff to obtain physical exam/report and place in the staff's file

5. Special Notes/Recommendations

The center participates in the food program (CACFP) and is following the guidelines.

Radon testing was completed 3/3026 and levels appeared under 4.0, the acceptable level. Radon testing is due again in five years.

The center director stated that the center has had an HVAC inspection, with documentation on file with corporate office; which will provide licensing with the receipt.

The center has an electronic file to keep track of tornado/fire drills that is completed and headed by the safety captain.

The staff were consistently observed to be engaged with leading group activities or actively supervising the children. There was good structure in the classrooms and children were content.

Health and Human Services

Iowa Department of Health And Human Services

CHILD CARE CENTER ANNUAL EVALUATION

Date: 08/09/2026

HHS Licensing Consultant: Maggie Gibson, SWIV

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**.