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

Name of Center: Eldridge Preschool and Childcare **Enrollment:** 191 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 25244

Street: 2150 E LeClaire RD Suite B **City:** Eldridge Iowa **Zip** 52748 **County:** Scott

Mailing Address: 2150 E LeClaire RD Suite B, Eldridge, IA, 52748

Director's Name: Natalie Kruse/Alisa Haedt **Phone Number:** 563-343-6348

On-Site Supervisor(s): **E-Mail:** natalie.kruse@northscott.org

Date(s) of Visit: 02-01-2024

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

LICENSING VISITS

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

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

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

Date Inspected: 09-06-2023

Comments :

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: 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*

LICENSE CAPACITY	Infants	2 Years	Preschool	School-Age	Capacity
General		5	115	30	150
Summer					0

QRS Rating: N/A

RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE:	
X	**FULL** license from 05-01-2023 to 05-01-2025
	PROVISIONAL license from
	DENIAL of initial application
	SUSPENSION of license
	REVOCATION of license

Licensing Consultant: Heidi Hungate **Date:** 02-29-2024

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

N/A

II. IDENTIFY THE AREAS OBSERVED ON THE VISIT:

An unannounced off year visit was completed at this center on 2/1/24. This center is one of two for-profit centers that are family owned and operated by Natalie Kruse and Alisa Haedt. Both are qualified as center directors. Both were present on the day of this visit along with other staff. The center does participate in the Iowa Voluntary Preschool Grant program. School age care is offered before and after school and on non school days.

The center consists of several smaller program rooms. Each room has a color name identification and also somewhat of an activity designation. During the preschool sessions, the children start in their designated "homeroom" and then rotate through the various rooms on a schedule. The children stay with their teachers throughout this rotation. Program rooms are organized and have an adequate supply of materials to support program needs. The banquet hall/traditions room is a very large room that is somewhat divided for activities and children rotate through the area in groups throughout the day as well as for some of the meals and snacks, nap, and large motor. A portion of the room also includes several tables with chairs for meals and snacks. The center includes hallway boys and girls restroom areas. There are also two separate restroom areas (boys/men and girls/women) off of the traditions banquet room with several toilets/sinks each. A fold down/wall diaper station is in one of the stalls of the traditions area restroom and another is located in the single restroom area that is used by staff. All children must travel for diaper changes, to use the restroom, and to wash hands. All program space was observed.

The center does not participate in the CACFP. The center serves breakfast, snack, lunch, and snack. Breakfast and lunch are supplied by the center and prepared on site. Parents are required to bring snack on a rotating basis for preschool. Parents of child care children also have to bring a supply of pre-packaged snacks for their child for the month as well as a gallon of juice monthly.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

Both the owners/directors have many years of experience in child care. Both owners have Bachelor and/or Master level educational backgrounds including; early childhood and special education, and consulting. The center is bright with plenty of windows and is nicely painted and decorated to present a child friendly atmosphere. Children’s crafts and projects are posted throughout the building. Staff compile binders for all children to include activities/projects they have completed over the year. The center loans out "book buddy" bags to children/families. The staff were once again observed to be engaged in activities with the children throughout the building. The center has a large supply of books for the children that are organized by topic so that the staff can easily access them for activity planning. Licensing documentation and staff and child files are highly organized, and the center uses a tracking system to help ensure compliance for staff and child files.

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

STAFF FILES:
109.9(1)b: All files contain: A signed copy of DHS criminal history record check or any other permission form approved by

the Department of public Safety for conducting an Iowa or national criminal history check. A copy of Request for Child Abuse Information. Copies of the results of Iowa records checks conducted. Copies of national criminal history check results. Any Department-issued documents sent to the center related to records check.
1. _1_ staff file reviewed did not have the Iowa or national record checks completed as required. Subsequent the visit, the center director states this is in process of completion.

109.11(3)a: Center shall ensure that: Facility and premises are sanitary, safe, and hazard free. The outdoor area shall include safe play equipment and area of shade.
1. Fall zone requirements for free and clear spacing around equipment is not compliant (items too close to fencing or other items, tires set under the dome structure).
2. Surfacing requirements under aspects of play equipment in the outdoor play area that require it is not sufficient depth in the fall zone areas. This was cited previously.

V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Ensure posted menus show that all required components are served.
2. Improve cot spacing at rest time. At least two feet between cots is required.
3. Tables and chairs do not always meet the children's developmental level for sizes. Children shall first be able to sit in chairs with their feet on the floor and the table then above the waist level. This has been noted previously.
4. Ensure at least two hours but not more than three hours between the start times of meals and snacks and that this shows on all posted schedules.
5. No smoking posting is needed on the center van.

The center will continue with a full license. The center is directed to correct all items cited and the items noted above in this section of the report and to submit a written summary to the licensing consultant as to how and when those corrections are/will be completed. The written response shall be submitted within 30 days of the receipt of this report. Thank you.

*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.