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

Name of Center: The King's Kids Preschool **Enrollment:** 13 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 18086

Street: 905 13th St SW **City:** Humboldt Iowa **Zip** 50548 **County:** Humboldt

Mailing Address: PO Box 506, Humboldt, IA, 50548

Director's Name: Kelsey Wigans **Phone Number:** 515-890-0492

On-Site Supervisor(s): **E-Mail:** kingskidsiowa@gmail.com

Date(s) of Visit: 10-04-2023

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

LICENSING VISITS

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

Signed Application (470-0722) Received X **Yes** **No** **NA** **Date Signed:** 06-26-2023

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

Date Inspected: 06-08-2023

Comments :

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

Financial Type: Profit X Non-Profit NA

Accredition: 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:	*Year-round*	*School-Year*	*Summer Only*

LICENSE CAPACITY	Infants	2 Years	Preschool	School-Age	Capacity
General			67		67
Summer					0

QRS Rating: N/A

RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE:	
X	**FULL** license from 10-01-2023 to 10-01-2025
	PROVISIONAL license from
	DENIAL of initial application
	SUSPENSION of license
	REVOCATION of license

Licensing Consultant: Raymond Salsbury **Date:** 10-10-2023

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

NA

II. IDENTIFY THE AREAS OBSERVED ON THE VISIT:

An unannounced visit was made to the Kings Kids Preschool on 10-04-23 where I met with the center director Kelsey Wigans. This is a program that had been in operation previously but discontinued services for a couple years due to the prior director retiring and reduced enrollment. The program resumed operation at the start of the 2023 school year. Kelsey is well qualified for the director position based on her experience and on-going training in early childhood education. There are two additional teachers, Jessica Howey, and Emily Jensen. The program is located in a wing of the Oak Hill Church in Humboldt and is overseen by a board of directors from the church. The program provides preschool programming only serving children 3 and 4 years of age. The program is currently providing one session of combined age groups due to limited enrollment but does plan to offer programming in two sessions with one for 3 year old children 2 days a week, and 4 year old children 4 days a week. There are currently 13 children enrolled in the program. All aspects of the program subject to licensing standards were reviewed during the visit.

The program has access to three classrooms with two that are smaller and used for more traditional programming with group learning and activity centers, and a larger classroom that is used for snack service, craft activities, and media. The program also has access to a large indoor gymnasium. Each classroom was observed to be clean with no issues related to maintenance or design. Each room has windows along the exterior walls that provide natural light, a view of the outdoors, ventilation, and secondary emergency egress. Each room has sinks in the classroom that provide for handwashing, and all but one of the classrooms have restroom facilities directly accessible from the room. For the classroom that does not have restroom facilities the children are escorted to a restroom in one of the other classrooms, or to the restrooms located off the main corridor space.

Each classroom has activity centers created through the placement of furniture and play structures. Most of the activity centers are located around the edges of the room leaving the central part of the room as a more open space. This provides the children with ample room to move and play and avoids creating any blind areas. Activity centers include options such media, art/crafts, large/small manipulatives, dramatic play, math, science, experience tables, and group learning. The toys and materials were observed to be in good repair and appropriate to the ages of the children present. The center did have schedules posted, and while it was obvious that a planned curriculum was in place a copy of the planned curriculum was not posted. Kelsey identified that a newsletter is provided to parents which identifies the planned learning themes which for the current month included "Fall-a-palooza" with a focus on leaves,, the letter D, number 3, and triangle learning concepts, and a bible focus of Noah's Ark. Good interactions were observed with the teachers being engaged with the children providing supervision and playing with the children. Positive behavior management techniques of using praise, reminders, redirection, guided problem solving, and limited time out which provided an environment where the children had very few behavioral issues and those that did arise were quickly addressed.

Good health and safety practices were observed during the visit. The teacher did ensure that the children washed their hands as needed and that they did so in an effective manner. Purses, chemical cleaners, and other items that could be a safety risk to children were stored in areas where they were not accessible to children. First aid kits were present but do need to be reviewed to ensure that they they contain items necessary to address most common first aid needs. Examples of missing elements included a first aid manual, large bone splint, sling, and water. The center does not routinely administer

medications but has policies in place should it become necessary. The center did have a child with an identified allergy and the parents do provide alternative snacks, and an allergy plan was present for the child.

Due to the limited hours of operation meals are not served but snacks are provided. The children take it in turn to provide snacks and a list of recommended snack items is provided to parents. The children did have snack during the visit and were provided with pre-packed individual servings of cheddar popcorn and water. It was reviewed that this is not sufficient as centers are required to follow the Child and Adult Care Food Program guidelines which require that two credible snack items be provided. While water should always be available it is not considered a credible option. In addition it was observed that some of the snack items that were present in storage were not credible consisting of options such as sweetened cereal bars, and cookies. Information on the CACFP guidelines was provided to Kelsey. A copy of a menu of served items also needs to be maintained.

The center does not have a traditional outdoor playground but does have access to an indoor gymnasium with equipment that can be used for large motor skill activities. The program also has options for using grassy areas, sectioned off areas of the parking lot, or going for walks to community venues for outdoor programming.

In reviewing administrative information several required postings were missing. The center did have a No Smoking posting but did not have a copy of the Mandatory Child Abuse reporting notice, or the Consultant Contact notice. Copies of these were sent to the center following the visit. Emergency evacuation notices were present but only included diagram instructions and written instructions for both fire and tornado evacuation need to be included. All child files were reviewed and found to contain all required information. All staff files were reviewed and Kelsey reported that while she had copies of the fingerprints for all staff she had not submitted them. It was reviewed that these should have been submitted prior to hire and Kelsey stated she would put them in the mail that day. In addition copies of the Iowa SING background checks were not present in the files. It is noted that verification of those checks was provided prior to the program being granted permission to open but it was reviewed that these should be maintained either in electronic or hardcopy format going forward. The center handbooks were previously reviewed and found to contain all required written policies. The center has begun maintaining drill logs, and will be obtaining inspection certificates for fuel burning appliances, and radon.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

This is a program that resumed operation after requests were received from the community. The program is in the process of re-establishing itself and has excellent potential for expansion.

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

109.4(3)b: Postings are required for:Mandatory reporter requirements.Notice of availability of handbook.Program activities.These shall be posted in area frequented by parents or public.
-- The posting was not present on the day of the visit.

109.4(5): Child Care Centers and Preschool Licensing Standards and Procedures shall be available in the center and a notice stating a copy is available for review. Contact information of the child care consultant shall be included in the notice.
-- The posting was not present on the day of the visit.

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.
-- Number not in compliance: 3 While fingerprints had been obtained they had not been submitted prior to hire as required. Also documentation of Iowa SING background checks need to be maintained either in electronic or hard copy format.

109.10(9): First aid kit: The center shall ensure that a clearly labeled first aid kit that is sufficient to address minor injury or trauma is available and accessible to staff at all times when children are:In the center.In the outdoor play area.On field trips.
-- Not all required items were present with specific examples of a first aid manual, large bone splints, sling, and water. Please review the required items list in Licensing Standards Comm. 204 for all required elements. (https://hhs.iowa.gov/sites/default/files/Comm204.pdf?022320221524)

109.11(7)c: All centers: Annual inspection prior to heating season of all fuel-burning appliances to reduce risk of carbon monoxide poisoning and shall install one carbon monoxide detector on each floor that conforms to UL Standard 2034.
-- The batteries of the carbon monoxide detector were dead and need to be replaced so that the unit is functional.

109.15(2): Center shall follow minimum CACFP menu patterns for meals and snacks.Menus planned one week in advance, made available to parents, and kept on file with substitutions noted.Avoid foods with high incident rate of causing choking.

-- Children were not provided with 2 credible snack options as required. A menu of served snacks also needs to be maintained.

V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:

A full license is recommended at this time. Please provide a written response to the licensing consultant identifying a plan of action to correct and maintain those aspects cited as not meeting licensing standards and identifying an anticipated date of compliance. At least one visit will be made to the center during the next year.

*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.