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

Name of Center: Yellow Brick Road ECDC - White Birch **Enrollment:** 85 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 51996

Street: 1620 SW White Birch CIR **City:** Ankeny Iowa **Zip** 50023 **County:** Polk

Mailing Address: 756 9th ST, Des Moines, IA, 50309

Director's Name: Janet Ira **Phone Number:** 515-964-1098

On-Site Supervisor(s): Kelsey Cole **E-Mail:** kylie.schrader@ybrecdc.org
Lori.Griffith@ybrecdc.org

Date(s) of Visit: 11-20-2024

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

LICENSING VISITS

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

Signed Application (470-0722) Received X **Yes** **No** **NA** **Date Signed:** 10-16-2023

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

Date Inspected: 03-12-2024

Comments : Fire inspections are due at least every three years. 3/12/24 required follow up "fixes" that were verified 12/2024 by Tyson Hood, Ankeny FD.

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: X 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	29	16	78	29	152
Summer					0

QRS Rating: N/A

RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE:	
X	**FULL** license from 12-01-2023 to 12-01-2025
	PROVISIONAL license from
	DENIAL of initial application
	SUSPENSION of license
	REVOCATION of license

Licensing Consultant: Maggie Gibson, SWIV **Date:** 12-10-2024

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

N/A

II. IDENTIFY THE AREAS OBSERVED ON THE VISIT:

An unannounced off year licensing visit was completed 11/20/24. Kelsey Cole, assistant director was present through the visit.

Yellow Brick Road ECDC White Birch has been at this location since 2005. The new owners are Jessica Johnsen and Kylie Schrader. Jessica and Kylie own centers in Iowa, Nebraska and Minnesota. They are not a corporation. Janet Ira is this center director, beginning 2023. Kelsey Cole became the On-Site Supervisor in November of 2022. Kelsey has two prior years of experience in childcare and several hours of childcare related training. Kelsey meets the qualifications for assistant director/on site supervisor.

Care is offered to children from the age of infants to age twelve. Hours of operation are 6:30 AM to 5:30 PM, Monday through Friday. The center has sole occupancy of the building.

Room observations: Funny Daffer (which is the curriculum used) is designed by Yellow Brick Road and assists in lesson planning and ideas. The Kangaroo Application is used to communicate with parents regarding the child's daily goings on and is live. There is variety of play centers/activities in each classroom. Staff are in ratio. Good Structure is maintained in the rooms on this day. The staff were observed to be responsive and nurturing. Good Handwashing was modeled by staff. Discussion took place with regard to clean under the mat in infant room (south) and the changing table in the infant room (north) needing replaced due to degraded hard surfacing that compromising cleaning/sensitization. There was visible debris on the south side infant changing room. Other areas of the classrooms were orderly. There was also discussion with regard to rest time; that cots not be placed by toilet or sink area, nor in areas that would obstruct emergency exiting.

Nutrition Practices: There is an on-site kitchen and dedicated kitchen staff . The center menus are in-line with CACFP guidelines. Meals and snacks are served cafeteria style with staff also present. Menus rotate every 4 weeks. The kitchen was clean and storage was orderly.

Health and Safety: Medications are stored securing in the assistant director's desk. First aid kits are placed in all classrooms and in the kitchen. Fire/Tornado plans were posted and drills documented to have been completed monthly as required. Radon was updated July 2023 as reported by the Assistant Director. There is a carbon monoxide detector on the premises. The assistant director stated the center has a new water heater. The heating and cooling inspection certificate would need to be sent to this consultant.

Playground: Playground checks were documented as having been completed. There is a play structure available on the playground, which is enclosed by chain link fencing. Shade is provided by building placement. The assistant director indicated the center is planning to replace the safety surfacing soon.

Transportation/Field Trips: the center has transportation via 15-20 passenger vans that are maintained by Hooligan Speed.

Administrative Review: Required filers for mandatory reporter; license, consultant contact and handbook were posted. Non-smoking signs were posted. Five child files were reviewed with 3 needing an annual review/update, two missing phone contact information for doctor. Five staff files were reviewed and all necessary information was found. This center has a well-established handbook/policy.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

The center conducts assessments and conferences twice a year. They feel the children are ready for kindergarten.

The center has a website, and the older three rooms send out a monthly newsletter.

The center works closely with parents, communicates well with the parents and strives to have a positive relationship with the parents.

The center has a secure entrance.

The staff have shown resiliency during the pandemic and have been willing to work overtime and have flexible hours.

The center has an IQ4K rating of 2 stars, based on a 1-5 star rating.

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

109.9(2): All files are updated at least annually and when a change occurs.

109.9(2)b: All files contain sufficient information and authorization to allow the center to secure emergency medical and dental services at any time child is in center's care.
Information lacking: ensure that doctor and dentist contact information is name, phone and address along with the same for hospital of choice.

109.11(3)a: Center shall ensure that: Facility and premises are sanitary, safe, and hazard free. Adequate indoor and outdoor space is provided. The outdoor area shall include safe play equipment and area of shade. Sufficient space provided for dining. Sufficient lighting shall be provided. Sufficient ventilation. Sufficient heating. sufficient cooling. Sufficient bathroom and diapering facilities. Equipment, including kitchen appliances, are maintained so as not to result in burns, shock, or injury to children. Sanitation and safety procedures for the center are developed and implemented to reduce risk or injury or harm to children and reduce transmission of disease.

One changing table in the infant room (north) has visible breakdown on the hard surface that compromises cleaning, sanitization and disease prevention; it needs replacement. The other infant room changing table (south) needed to have the hard surface underneath the mat clean/sanitized.

Discussion took place regarding the placement of cots for the child during resting periods, that children resting on cots not be in the the area of the toilet or sink and not obscure emergency exits.

V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:

The menu's reflect the center is following CACFP guidelines.

The staff were consistently observed to be engaged with the children; to be nurturing and to maintain good structure in the rooms.

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*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.