Health and Human Services

Iowa Department of Health And Human Services

CHILD CARE CENTER ANNUAL EVALUATION

Name of Center: Inspired Kids Academy

Provider No.: 52116

Address: 5255 Ella Ivy LN, Van Meter, IA, 50261

County: Dallas

Director's Name: Stephanie Chase

On-Site Supervisor: Lauren Bishop and Heidi Conner

Phone Number: 5153365152

E-Mail: stephanie@inspiredkidsacademy.com

HHS Visit Date: 04/30/2026

Licensing Period: 06/01/2025 to 06/01/2027

Fire Inspection:

Date Inspected: 03/30/2026

Comments: State Fire Marshal inspections are due at least every three years for licensing requirements.

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

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	7:00 AM to 6:00 PM		
Tuesday	7:00 AM to 6:00 PM		
Wednesday	7:00 AM to 6:00 PM		
Thursday	7:00 AM to 6:00 PM		
Friday	7:00 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	24	28	88	45	185
Summer					0

1. Basic Overview

An off-year inspection was conducted on 4/30/26. The director was present throughout the inspection.

All areas of the program were observed. These areas observed consisted of classroom observations and activities, ratios, nutritional practices, health and safety practices, playground observation, field trip and transportation practices, and administrative review.

Inspired Kids Academy is a center in Van Meter, IA that was given permission to open on 3/20/23. The center is privately owned. The executive director of the program is Stephanie Chase. Stephanie has a BA degree in Early Childhood Education and has past experience working in child care, which also includes being a director at another program in the past. Lauren Bishop is one of the on-site supervisors of this program. Lauren has an AA degree in Early Childhood Education and also has past experience working in child care, which also includes being an on-site supervisor at another program in the past. Heidi Conner is the other on-site supervisor. Heidi also has past experience working in child care.

The center serves children six weeks to 12 years in age using the Learning Beyond Papers Learning Curriculum. There are a total of nine classrooms. The two infant classrooms have capacities of 12 children each. The two two-year old classrooms have capacities of 14 children each. The two three-year old classrooms have capacities of 20 children each. The two four/five year old classrooms have capacities of 24 children each. The school-age classroom has a capacity of 45 children.

During the inspection, the school-age children were not present as they were in school. In other classrooms for children two and older, children were observed washing their hands and eating lunch and then getting ready for naps. In the infant

classrooms, children were finishing up eating lunch, engaged in free-choice play, and/or napping in cribs. Toys, tables, cribs, cots, etc. are being sanitized daily in all classrooms. Staff were observed interacting with children who were eating and who were engaged in free-choice play. Children and staff questioned gave specific answers as to where they relocate to for monthly fire and tornado drills.

NUTRITION: The center serves children an AM snack, lunch, and a PM snack. Menus are posted for the month and all food items met CACFP requirements. The center employs a full-time cook and has a full kitchen. All food storage was sufficient. Children eat in their classrooms at the child-size tables and chairs.

TRANSPORTATION/FIELD TRIPS: The center contracts with the school district. Only school-age children are allowed to go on field trips at this time. For all field trips, children's emergency contacts and a full first-aid kit are taken along. The center will also bring in different agencies for presentations at times throughout the year.

PLAYGROUND: The center has two playground areas, one for younger children and one for older children. Monthly playground checks are being conducted.

2. Identify Observed Strengths of the program

Enrollment has increased again over the past year.

Both the director and the on-site supervisors are organized and pay attention to detail.

The center was clean and very nicely decorated in classrooms. There is a lot of natural lighting within the center.

The director and the on-site supervisors have extensive past experience in their roles at other programs. In addition, many of the staff working at this center have a lot of knowledge and past experience working in child care.

The center uses the Pro-Care electronic app for many of their procedural duties as well as for additional communication with parents.

The center uses Trello which is essentially an intranet for the company and used to train new employees, review handbooks, etc.

The center utilizes CCR&R and their CCNC as needed.

For field trips, children were center shirts.

Monthly staff meetings are held.

The center has a full-time cook.

The director and one of the on-site supervisors have their NAC certifications. The other on-site supervisor is working on her NAC.

3. Identify the aspects that fall below the standard

109.9(1)a: All files contain: Copy of a department criminal history record check form or any other permission form approved by Department of Public Safety for conducting an Iowa or national criminal history record check. Copy of a request for child abuse information form, when applicable. Copies of results of Iowa record checks conducted through the SING for review by the department upon request. Copies of national criminal history check results. Any department issued documents sent to the center related to a record check, regardless of findings.
An HHS record check evaluation was needed for one staff file.

CHILD CARE CENTER ANNUAL EVALUATION

109.11(2)b: Program space must meet the following conditions: Room must be arranged so as not to obstruct the direct observation of children by staff. Individual covered mats, bed, or cots and appropriate bedding will be provided for all children who nap. Equipment and materials are maintained in a sanitary manner. Sufficient spacing must be maintained. The center will have sufficient toilet articles for each child for hand washing.
Nothing shoudl be kept or stored on the diapering tables except items needed for diapering. THIS ISSUE WAS CORRECTED DURING THE INSPECTION.

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

N/A.

5. Special Notes/Recommendations

Radon testing was completed 4/19/24 - 4/22/24. All classrooms came back with radon levels below the 4.0 cutoff. Because levels were below 4.0, the center can move to testing for radon at least every five years now. So long as radon levels remain below 4.0, they can remain on a five year plan. If at the next testing, levels in any classroom come back 4.0 or higher, the center will have to have a mitigation plan, retest, and at least temporarily move back to testing every two years.

The last annual inspection/service was completed on 3/31/26.

I-Power was discussed at the visit. From looking in I - Power, it appears staff are still creating profiles and having their training uploaded. CPR/First-Aid and Mandatory Reporter should also be uploaded as these two certifications are not automatically uploaded.

Information on record check evaluation instructions was again provided to the center after the inspection concluded.

Date: 05/01/2026

HHS Licensing Consultant: Nate Knepper

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**.