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

Name of Center: Vine Street Child Care Inc **Enrollment:** 211 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 33501

Street: 2501 Vine St **City:** West Des Moines Iowa **Zip** 50265 **County:** Polk

Mailing Address: 2501 Vine St, West Des Moines, IA, 50265

Director's Name: Mandy Lechtenberg **Phone Number:** 515-327-0101

On-Site Supervisor(s): Hollie Allen and Jessica Cozad **E-Mail:** vinestreetchildcare@gmail.com

Date(s) of Visit: 08-16-2024

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:** 08-16-2024

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

Date Inspected: 02-07-2024

Comments : West Des Moines Fire Marshal.

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 School-Age

Get-Well Evening Care Special Needs

SCHEDULE: X Year-round School-Year Summer Only

HOURS:	*Year-round*	*School-Year*	*Summary Only*

LICENSE CAPACITY	Infants	2 Years	Preschool	School-Age	Capacity
General	58	40	144	0	242
Summer					0

QRS Rating: 3

RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE:	
X	**FULL** license from 09-01-2024 to 09-01-2026
	PROVISIONAL license from
	DENIAL of initial application
	SUSPENSION of license
	REVOCATION of license

Licensing Consultant: Nate Knepper **Date:** 08-19-2024

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

N/A.

II. IDENTIFY THE AREAS OBSERVED ON THE VISIT:

A licensing visit was conducted on 8/16/24. The director was present throughout the visit and the on-site supervisor for a portion of this visit.

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.

Vine Street Child Care opened for business on 10/4/2010. In October 2019, the center moved into a renovated building/former school across the street from the current location. The center serves children six weeks in age up to five years in age using the Learning Beyond Paper Curriculum (switching to this curriculum this Fall). There are a total of 15 classrooms.

Mandy Lechtenberg is the owner/director of this center. Hollie Allen is the owner/on-site supervisor. Both individuals meet the qualifications for their positions. Jessica Cozad is another on-site supervisor who meets the qualifications for her position.

During the visit, children were observed engaged in a number of activities that included, but not limited to tummy time on the floor in infant classrooms, washing their hands, sitting down for lunch in classrooms and the cafeteria, and engaged in a large group story activity being facilitated by staff. Staff and children gave sufficient answers as to how they practice monthly fire and tornado drills.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

Enrollment has increased over the past year.

There is a secure entrance into the center building. The center also has a camera security system in place.

The center participates in the CACFP (food program). The center also employs two full-time cooks.

The center is participates in IQ4K which is a voluntary program based on best practice.

The center uses an electronic application for daily sheets, billing, and other functions.

Monthly staff meetings are held. Quarterly lead teacher meetings are also held.

The center has their own website and Facebook page.

The infants and toddlers have the learning curriculum used by the center incorporated into their day to day activities.

Some of the staff members speak multiple languages.

There is a good mix of tenured and newer staff.

The center offers staff benefits including, but not limited to a 401k plan, sick leave, T.E.A.C.H. program, competitive wages, etc. There is also an incentive program in place for good work.

There are special programs put on by the center throughout the year for parents including parent teacher conferences, parents night out, holiday programs, etc.

The center has a lot of storage space.

Children assessments are completed throughout the year.

The center is a host location for professional development training for staff from this center and other centers throughout the year.

There is an indoor gym when weather doesn't permit outdoor play.

The center has finished the first year of PBIS training.

Staff reportedly work well with each other. There is a good mix of tenured and newer staff.

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

109.11(3)a: Center shall ensure that: Facility and premises are sanitary, safe, and hazard free.
Some of the phone cords should be wrapped up rather than free dangling in classrooms. There was another three year old classroom where a cord should be more securely fastened to the wall and/or tucked along the side of a shelf.

V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:

Radon testing was completed 7/19/23 - 7/21/23. 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 annual furnace inspection was last completed on 9/18/23 so it is coming due again soon.

The center does not transport and they do not go on field trips. The center will bring in different agencies/individuals for presentations to children.

I-Power discussed at the visit. The center should continue to upload professional development training certificates.

It is recommended no Boppy Pillows be used in infant classrooms.

It was noted during the visit, part of the playground fence is bowed. This is due to the last big storm. A work order is in to repair the area damaged.

A new, full, two-year license is recommended. The center sent in their application and payment on 8/16/24.

*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.