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

Name of Center: Bloom Early Learning Center, LLC **Enrollment:** 76 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 49966

Street: 119 Brick ST SE **City:** Bondurant Iowa **Zip** 50035 **County:** Polk

Mailing Address: 119 Brick ST SE, Bondurant , IA, 50035

Director's Name: Amy Vandenburg **Phone Number:** 515-967-2063

On-Site Supervisor(s): Shyanne Davis (in training) **E-Mail:** twshuxley1995@gmail.com

Date(s) of Visit: 09-10-2024

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:** 07-11-2024

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

Date Inspected: 11-02-2021

Comments : Fire inspections are due at least every three years.

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	17	20	51	30	118
Summer					0

QRS Rating: N/A

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: Maggie Gibson, SWIV **Date:** 09-22-2024

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

N/A.

II. IDENTIFY THE AREAS OBSERVED ON THE VISIT:

An unannounced full-licensing visit was completed 9-10-24. Director Amy Vandenburg was present for most of the visit.

Bloom Early Learning Center was given Permission to Open on 5/25/18. Keri Alleman is the owner and- had purchased this center from Kids Academy of Bondurant in May of 2018. Kids Academy of Bondurant had been operating a childcare center in this building since May of 2005. Keri owns another daycare center in Huxley, Iowa and brings years of experience and expertise to this center. This center provides traditional child care and before/after school care for children ages 6 weeks to school-age; Monday through Friday 6:30 AM to 6:00 PM. The current enrollment is 79. The director of this program is Amy Vandenburg. Amy is also the director for another center owned by Keri. Amy has been a director since 2018. She has a bachelors degree in early childhood education with a reading endorsement. She had been in child care for several years prior to becoming director. Amy meets the qualifications as director. Sally Hall has been submitted for on-site/assistant director. Sally has been working in child care since 2005 and has been working at this center since 2021. She meets the qualifications.

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

Room Observations: The center uses the Pinnacle Curriculum for newsletters and Creative Curriculum otherwise; using Smart Care app for parents and staff also. The rooms were in ratio; and maintained good structure in the rooms.. Each room was nicely arranged and had a variety of age/developmentally appropriate play centers and toys. The center utilizes oxivir/soapy water and bleach water. Rooms were observed to have ready access to the necessary cleaning supplies. There were a few missing handwashing posters, which the director indicated had been replaced a few days after the visit. Discussion took place regarding no-use of aerosol cleaners/air fresheners when children are present.

Nutrition Practices: There is an on-site kitchen, where a dedicated kitchen staff prepare meals. Meals are served cafeteria style while school-age children are in school. During the summer session or no-school days, meals are served family style in the classrooms by staff. When the children are eating, staff maintain supervision and interactions, which was observed. Menus were posted and on a 5-6 week rotation, and in-line with CACFP guidelines. The kitchen was observed just after lunch preparation; when cooking staff was required to be in ratio in order for another staff to have a break. The oven had been left on broil, but was turned off after notifying staff. There were thermostats located in the refrigeration units. The dry-food storage was orderly and food was stored sealed as required.

Health and safety: The center uses a three tier system of sanitation with oxivir, soapy water and bleach water, which were all observed to be stored safely and accessible in the classrooms. Each room has first aid kits in backpacks which staff talk along when going outside or on a field trip etc. There were conspicuously posted tornado/fire emergency exit plans. Fire/Tornado drills were documented having occurred monthly as required. Radon testing was completed 6/14/22 and all rooms tested <4.0 cutoff. The heating system is via boilers, which are inspected by Iowa Division of Labor; tags of such

inspection present in the boiler room. The boiler rooms is secured by lock, accessible only to staff. There are carbon monoxide detectors in the kitchen/school age rooms.

Playground: There are two playground areas. The playground used by infants/young toddler is enclosed by a wooden railing, with fiberglass panels preventing splinters or small fingers/hands from coming through the slats. This playground was surfaced with artificial turf and in very good condition. The playground for older children is on the East side of the building, enclosed by either chain-link or wooden privacy fencing that was sound and in good condition. The was a variety of play structures all in good condition and this area was surfaced by new artificial grass turf.

Transportation/Field Trips: This center owns/maintains two vehicles for field trips in the summer and before/after school transportation. One is a small bus, the other is a van. Both are professionally maintained by a local auto mechanic.

Administrative Review: This center had posted information for mandatory reporter; handbook accessibility; consultant contact, license; fire/tornado plans and non-smoking signs. Five staff files were reviewed; there were two staff needing to provide or update the file with current physicals; two staff needing to update mandatory reporter training and one staff that will need to update essentials training. There were eleven child files reviewed; all contained the necessary information.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

The staff work well together as a team. There has been some turnover in staff; however staff were observed to work very well and step-up to maintain ratio.

The director is organized and invested in the center. The director is able to do more room observations and support staff.

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

109.7(1): All staff(within first 3 months of employment)Two hours of approved training FOR the mandatory reporting of child abuse.At least one hour of training regarding universal precautions and infectious disease control.Certification in American Red Cross, American Heart Association, American Safety and Health institute or MEDIC First Aid infant, child, and adult cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) OR equivalent certification approved by the department. A valid certificate indicating the date of training and expiration date shall be maintained.Certification in infant, child, and adult first aid that uses a nationally recognized curriculum or is received from a nationally recognized training organization including the American Red Cross,American Heart Association, American Safety and Health Institute or MEDIC First Aid or an equivalent certification approved by the department.A valid certificate indicating the date of training and expiration date shall be maintained.Minimum health and safety trainings, approved by the Department. If significant changes occur to content, the Department may require the training be renewed.

One staff missing essentials certification; the director indicates this will be completed soon.

109.9(1)d: All files contain a pre-employment physical exam report completed within six months prior to hire and at least every three years. Physical exams shall be documented on form 470-5152, Child Care Provider Physical Examination Report.
Number not in compliance: 1

109.9(1)e: All files contain documentation to indicate that ongoing staff training requirements are met, including current certifications in first aid/CPR and mandatory child abuse training.
Number not in compliance: 2 (two staff needed updated mandatory reporting training)

V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:

Radon testing was completed in June of 2022. All rooms tested fell below the 4.0 cutoff. Radon testing is required every five years when valuations were below the 4.0 cutoff level.

Center staff maintained good structure in the rooms with children that appeared content. The director was observed to be responsive to the children and staff in a positive manner.

A new 2 year full license is recommended.

*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.