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

Name of Center: Berry Tender Child Care **Enrollment:** 91 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 22967

Street: 401 Commercial ST **City:** Strawberry Point Iowa **Zip** 52076 **County:** Clayton

Mailing Address: PO Box 471, Strawberry Point, IA, 52076

Director's Name: Jessica Haynes **Phone Number:** 563-933-2514

On-Site Supervisor(s): Melany Kelley **E-Mail:** berrytenderchildcare@gmail.com

Date(s) of Visit: 01-06-2023

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

LICENSING VISITS

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

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

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

Date Inspected: 08-02-2021

Comments : Compliance on 08/05/21

LICENSE TYPE: X **Child Care** **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: 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	15	21	20	14	70
Summer					0

QRS Rating: N/A

RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE:	
X	**FULL** license from 02-01-2022 to 02-01-2024
	PROVISIONAL license from
	DENIAL of initial application
	SUSPENSION of license
	REVOCATION of license

Licensing Consultant: Becky Frost **Date:** 01-23-2023

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

N/A

II. IDENTIFY THE AREAS OBSERVED ON THE VISIT:

On 01/06/23 I made an unannounced off year licensing visit to Berry Tender Child Care in Strawberry Point. I met with Jessica Haynes, the director. Ms. Haynes has been with the center since August 2003 and the director since October 2015. Ms. Haynes has a one-year diploma in child development. Melany Kelley is the on-site supervisor for the program. She has been with the center since September 2004. There are sixteen staff members employed by the center. Pictures of the staff members are in the hallway on a parent board.

The childcare center is in the Strawberry Point Civic Center and it is attached to the local library. The program operates Monday through Friday from 5:15 am until 6:30 pm and serves infants through school-aged children. There are currently of 91 children enrolled in the center.

The program operates out of the following rooms: Duckling (infants), Bear (two and three-year-old children), Tiger (preschool and school-age children), and Lion (school-aged children during the summer). An inspection of each room was completed. Windows provide natural lighting. The rooms are decorated with the children's art projects, and posters to assist the children with the learning process, such as the alphabet, shapes and colors. The children's birthdays were posted. There is an area for circle time.

The centers observed on the day of the licensing visit include library, Lego/blocks, table toys, games, puzzles, transportation, computers, art, dramatic play, listening, writing, math, science/discovery, woodworking, playdough, sensory table and music. Centers were arranged in a manner that allowed easy movement between activities, but it also allowed for clear supervision by staff members. Materials were in good condition. The materials are located at child level, so they were easily accessible to the children. Cots are used to nap.

The classrooms use a variety of resources to create lesson plans. Activities are based around weekly themes and each teacher makes their own lesson plans. Lesson plans were available for review in each room. The center is using the HiMama app for daily sheets in the infant room and all classrooms are using the app to complete their lesson plans and communicate with parents.

There was a phone with emergency numbers in the office and the Tiger room. Emergency numbers are in the binders with the children's emergency information in each room. Walkie talkies are available to each room so that staff members can communicate with one another. Emergency fire and tornado procedures and evacuation diagrams were posted by the main program doors and outdoor exits in the program rooms and gym. Daily schedules were posted in each room.

I reviewed documentation of monthly fire and tornado drills. I reviewed documentation of monthly playground inspections. A radon test was completed in October 2021 and is good for two years. Results were within EPA guidelines. The fuel burning inspection was completed and no concerns were noted. A carbon monoxide detector was on site and is in each program room except for the infant room. Outlets were protected. The fire marshal inspection occurred on 08/02/21, with compliance on 08/05/21.

The program participates in the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP). The center provides the children with breakfast, lunch and a morning and afternoon snack. The center makes the meals on site and use a four-week rotation of menus. Ms. Kelley is the cook. The kitchen is in a sectioned off area of the Tiger room. The kitchen is separated from the classroom using countertops and cupboards. The children do not have access to the kitchen. Children eat in their rooms and food is dished out to the children by staff members. Menus were available for review. Dishes are washed using the three-step method. The refrigerator and chest freezer had thermometers. Food items were stored according to NHSPS guidelines.

In the infant room, the center provides a specific brand of formula. If parents want a different brand, they must provide it. The parents provide their children baby food and the center provides cereal. Bottles are washed in the room using the three-step method.

There is a refrigerator in the Bear room and Duck room and thermometers were present.

The center uses Purell Professional Surface Disinfectant to sanitize the food tables and disinfect the changing tables. I discussed diaper changing procedures with staff members and proper procedures are being followed.

The parent information is located on a bulletin board inside the entrance. The mandatory reporter, childcare consultant and the handbook availability were posted. The license is in the office. A no-smoking sign was posted at the entrance.

Staff members were observed to have great interaction with the children. There was child friendly music playing in the classrooms. In the Tiger room staff members kept the children occupied while waiting to wash hands and use the bathroom by singing with the children and asking them questions. The staff members in the infant room were on the floor interacting with the children. They had children on their laps and introduced them to activities. They were nurturing and had great knowledge of the children's routines. In the Bear room staff members were on the floor with children and were also observed to be nurturing. They offered the children choices and introduced activities. Staff members in the rooms were observed to be enthusiastic and had great teamwork. They asked great questions while I was in the room. Child friendly music was playing in the classrooms. The children seemed to enjoy and feel comfortable in the program.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

Ms. Haynes states they are fully staffed and have reliable staff members and staff members collaborate with one another to make sure everything is covered and things are getting done.

Ms. Haynes states they have good communication with the parents they serve. They are using the HiMama app to communicate with parents and prepare lesson plans. The parents and staff members love the app.

The program has a locked door for security at the entrance of the hallway to the childcare center. Cameras are in each room and they can record.

The program has added new playground equipment in two spaces.

The city is putting in a new HV system for heating and air conditioning in the building this month (January 2023).

The program is a bus stop for the school-aged children.

Ms. Haynes states they have a supportive Board of Directors.

The program partners with Keystone AEA to meet the needs of children with identified concerns.

Ms. Haynes states they have a large facility and they have use of the gym. They can also take the children to story hour at the library that is connected to the facility.

Ms. Haynes states that she and Ms. Kelley make a great team and they have worked together for many years.

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

N/A

V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:

A full license is issued for the remainder of the licensing period. All DHS licensing standards and procedures must be maintained during the renewal period.

You had a terrific visit!

*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.