Health and Human Services

Iowa Department of Health And Human Services

CHILD CARE CENTER ANNUAL EVALUATION

Name of Center: KCE Champions LLC @ Wright Elementary School

Provider No.: 51889

Address: 1524 Hollywood BLVD NE, Cedar Rapids, IA, 52402

County: Linn

Director's Name: Bethany "Bree" Hogue

On-Site Supervisor: Kasey Schwab

Phone Number: 3194323608

E-Mail: Bree.Hogue@discoverchampions.com SSous@discoverchampions.com

HHS Visit Date: 02/06/2026

Licensing Period: 12/01/2026 to 12/01/2028

Fire Inspection:

Date Inspected: 02/17/2022

Comments:

Report Visit Type:

- [ ] PTO
- [X] Licensing Visit
- [ ] Drop In
- [ ] Administrative Change

License Type:

- [X] Full
- [ ] Provisional

Quality initiative:

- [X] Accrediation — Comments: Corporate Accreditation from Cognia a global leader in advancing excellence in education through accreditation

Program Duration:

- [X] Year-Round
- [ ] School Year
- [ ] Summer Only

CHILD CARE CENTER ANNUAL EVALUATION

HOURS:	*Year-round*	*School-Year*	*Summer Only*
Sunday			
Monday	6:30 AM to 6:00 PM		
Tuesday	6:30 AM to 6:00 PM		
Wednesday	6:30 AM to 6:00 PM		
Thursday	6:30 AM to 6:00 PM		
Friday	6:30 AM to 6:00 PM		
Saturday			

Program Population Served:

- [ ] Infant(0-<24 Months)
- [ ] Toddler
- [ ] PreSchool
- [X] School Age
- [ ] All Ages

LICENSE CAPACITY	Infants	2 Years	Preschool	School-Aged	Capacity
General				60	60
Summer					0

1. Basic Overview

KinderCare Learning Companies, Inc. was founded in 1969 and has grown to become one of the largest providers of childcare in the United States. KinderCare Learning Companies, Inc. is currently primarily owned by Partners Group a Swiss private equity firm as well as other shareholders and investors. KCE Champions LLC is a division of KinderCare Learning Companies, Inc. and included as a core brand along with KinderCare Learning Centers and The Creme School. Specifically, this license and inspection report pertains to KCE Champions LLC @ Wright Elementary School which commenced operations in 8/22/2022. This location includes childcare for school-age children outside of school hours including the option to provide full days of childcare on no school days and extended school breaks including winter, spring and summer breaks. Total enrolled and attending children were reported to be 28 on 2/6/2026.

KinderCare Learning Companies, Inc. has a regional manager named Setara Sous. Ms. Sous has a BA in criminology, has experience working with children and continues to participate in child development related training. Ms. Sous qualified for an Iowa director role in January 2024. KinderCare Learning Companies, Inc. has an area manager named Bethany "Bree" Hogue. Ms. Hogue qualified for the Iowa director role when this program first commenced operations in 2022. Ms. Hogue reports working towards completion of an AA degree in early childhood education, has experience working with children and participates in child development training. Ms. Hogue is not only the director of this specific KCE Champions LLC location as she is also the director of several other Iowa locations. As a result, this location is required to have at least one Iowa qualified on-site supervisor (OSS). Kasey Schwab has qualified as an Iowa OSS role for this location since September 2025. Ms. Schwab has experience working with children and continues to participate in child development related training.

On 2/6/2026, program space was observed. Primary programming occurs in the school cafeteria. The program also has some access to the indoor school gymnasium and outdoor school play areas. Sufficient restrooms including hand washing

sinks are available to accommodate total capacity. All foods offered to the childcare children are stored and prepared by the Cedar Rapids Community School District in the on-site school kitchen. On 2/6/2026, activities observed included afterschool gathering, tabletop events (e.g. games, crafts, watercolor painting, book reading, imaginative items), and small group game of charades. Curriculum allowed for a variety of experiences that were observed to pique child interest as well as encourage social emotional growth, innovation, good sportsmanship, the use of social graces and child choice. On 2/6/2026, staff were observed to be in ratio and engaged in programming with the children. Routine transitions including afternoon snack rituals, restroom breaks, and face-to-name checks were observed. Children appeared comfortable with staff and to be enjoying the mornings' events.

2. Identify Observed Strengths of the program

According to the family and employee handbook, the philosophy of KCE Champions LCC is that "...learning is meant to be a natural, joyful experience. Our goal is to help your child develop socially, emotionally, physically, and intellectually. Children thrive when the process of discovery is lovingly encouraged and gently reinforced..."

KCE Champions LLC @ Wright Elementary School has established the following website for families and the community to learn more about the program: https://crschools.us/students-and-families/quick-links/champions/.

As of 2/6/2026, KCE Champions LLC programs remain for profit and operate under a board of directors having several Chief Operators including ones specific to operations, finance, curriculum and branding. The local management team (e.g. Ms. Sous, Ms. Hogue, Ms. Schwab) remains primarily consistent. Management is knowledgeable of licensing guidelines as well as their own policies and procedures.

On 2/6/2026, KCE Champions LLC @ Wright Elementary School was found to have an area for required postings as well as other information. Curriculum continues to focus on six content areas that research shows enhance children’s growth and development as well as help build the essential skills needed to be successful in school and beyond: Character Development, Community, Creative Expression, Executive Function, Inquiry-Based Learning, and Literacy. The program provides child interest areas in creative arts, literacy, math and construction, puzzles and games, and science. Daily fitness, healthy eating, and homework assistance (as needed) are part of the program’s operations. Extended school break curriculum continues to be enhanced with guest speaker events and off-site field trips.

KCE Champions LLC continues to have and update as needed policies and procedures that include those for safety, daily health checks, hand washing, cleaning, sanitizing and disinfecting. On 2/6/2026, Ms. Schwab acknowledged how their team of staff continue to help ensure the children's space is sanitary and hazard free each day by following their policies and procedures. Ms. Schwab also talked about having support from the school (e.g. school kitchen staff, school administration, school maintenance, school custodial team) as to daily building and grounds conditions and repairs. School kitchen is inspected by the local health department. There is an AED on-site.

KCE Champions LLC locations including this specific location have emergency plans, policies, and procedures in place which are annually reviewed and updated as needed. The programs have successfully navigated through air quality alerts (2023, 2025), repeated expansion and acquisition events, and repeated technology outages (7/19/24 global technology outage, 10/10/2025 AWS outage, 10/29/2025 Microsoft outage).

3. Identify the aspects that fall below the standard

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

Not applicable.

5. Special Notes/Recommendations

On 2/6/2026, the general public was observed accessing the school playground with leashed and unleashed dogs. When asked, Ms. Schwab talked about how this is a regular occurrence. Ms. Schwab discussed a past incident in which an unleashed dog jumped up on their enrolled childcare children resulting in their program having to quickly retreat back into

the school building. Licensing strongly supports collaborating with the program's legal and insurance persons as well as the school regarding the practice of allowing the public and their pets to regularly access the outdoor play areas during the childcare's contracted days and times of operation. Please also consider installing outdoor signage to discourage this practice as well as fencing.

Continue to collaborate with the school district regarding maintenance of the outdoor playground (e.g. sufficient cushion surface depth, chipping/rusting equipment, power washing of outdoor equipment). If any area of the outdoor play space becomes unsatisfactory, the childcare shall refrain from accessing those areas until remedies are made.

On the day of the monitoring visit, posted lesson plans were dated 1/19/2026-1/30/2026 and not current. Ensure current lesson plans with current dates are posted. This has been noted in prior annual inspections. As a result, further such findings will be noted as a violation in future reports.

A full license is issued. Thank you for the visit.

Date: 02/16/2026

HHS Licensing Consultant: Amy Lyons

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**.