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

Name of Center: Tiger Tots Community Child Care Center Inc **Enrollment:** 45 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 25684

Street: 613 W North ST **City:** Madrid Iowa **Zip** 50156 **County:** Boone

Mailing Address: 613 W North ST, Madrid, IA, 50156

Director's Name: Mikaela Dew **Phone Number:** 515-795-3359

On-Site Supervisor(s): Kyla White **E-Mail:** madridtigertotspreschool@gmail.com

Date(s) of Visit: 01-05-2024

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

LICENSING VISITS

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

Signed Application (470-0722) Received X **Yes** **No** **NA** **Date Signed:** 01-03-2023

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

Date Inspected: 08-30-2021

Comments : State Fire Marshal inspections are due every three years. The center is be due for a re-inspection in the summer of 2024.

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	10	10	17	10	47
Summer					0

QRS Rating: N/A

RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE:	
X	**FULL** license from 02-01-2023 to 02-01-2025
	PROVISIONAL license from
	DENIAL of initial application
	SUSPENSION of license
	REVOCATION of license

Licensing Consultant: Nate Knepper **Date:** 01-07-2024

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

N/A.

II. IDENTIFY THE AREAS OBSERVED ON THE VISIT:

An off-year visit was conducted on 1/5/24. The director was present throughout 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. The most recent COVID updates were also reviewed.

Tiger Tots Community Child Care Center, Inc. is a child care center located in Madrid, IA. The center utilizes two classrooms on the lower level of the Madrid Nursing Home. The center has been in operation since 1975 and serves children ages 18 months to 12 years in age using a combination of the Creative Learning Curriculum as well as their own curriculum developed over the years.

The center is overseen by a Board. Mikaela Dew became the director of the center in December of 2020 when the previous director retired. Mikaela has a Bachelor's degree in Early Childhood and Elementary Education. Mikaela worked at Tiger Tots as a staff and preschool teacher for nine years prior to becoming the director. She meets the qualifications for director. The on-site supervisor of this center as of 8/2022 is Kyla White. Kyla has past experience working in child care and has taken a number of professional development training courses to meet the requirements for this position.

The center provides preschool classes for three year old children and also provides the Universal Pre-K program for four year old children through the school district. Preschool classes are held Monday - Thursday in both the AM and PM. Times are based on the age of children.

During the visit, children were engaged in free choice play in the large classroom at the different learning stations made available to them. Some children were playing with blocks and other manipulative toys. Some children were doing art work. Some children were sitting in small groups visiting. Staff were spaced out and engaged in all child activities. Staff and child hand washing was also observed.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

The center is a part of the Iowa Quality Preschool Program.

The center has partnered with the school district for their Universal Preschool program.
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The center has their own website.

The center has support from Madrid Home as Madrid Home provides some essential services the center benefits from such as providing lunch every day for children and staff, washing dishes, laundry facilities, etc.

The center participates in the food program (CACFP).

The center is a pick-up/drop-off site for school-age children.

The director feels staff are very caring and nurturing; as well as observant and aware of the needs of the children.

The director continues to believe the center is family oriented and that they have good communication with families. The center also uses the Bright Wheels application for communication with parents.

The center values their staff and show staff they are appreciated by having different events throughout the year for their staff, recognition boards for good work, etc.

A radon mitigation system was installed in 2021.

The director is organized.

Staff photos are posted near the entrance.

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

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: One new staff member does not yet have a physical. However, this is scheduled for 1/26/24.

109.11(3)a: Center shall ensure that: Facility and premises are sanitary, safe, and hazard free. Adequate indoor and outdoor space is provided. The outdoor area shall include safe play equipment and area of shade.
1. The bolts along the playground fence and the gates still have bolt that need to be cut/capped so that no more than two threads are showing. THIS IS A REPEAT ISSUE FROM LAST YEAR.
2. There are cracks in the black plastic border of the sandbox, the Little Tyke slide/climber, and the green rocker (crocodile).
3. The black mesh under the wood chips is exposed and presents as a tripping hazard at the swings and some slides.

V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:

Radon testing was last completed 11/27/23 - 11/30/23. Radon levels in both classrooms came back 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 boiler inspections expire in 9/2024 and 12/2024.

The center goes of field trips during the summer months. They contract with the school district for a bus and bus driver. The center is also a pick-up/drop-off site for school-age children.

IQ4K and I-Power were discussed during the visit.

The center's current exemption status for how they combine children will expire after 10/31/24. The center is currently working with an architect/contractor to create separate classroom space. Blueprints were observed.

A new consultant posting was emailed after the visit concluded. This should be posted in a more visible area (by license, mandatory reporter posting, and food menu) as discussed at the visit.

A new monthly playground inspection form was emailed to the center after the visit concluded.

It is recommended that outdoor playground mats be purchased to put under swings and at the bottom of slides. This will help preserve the wood chips in these areas.

*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.