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

Name of Center: Love Kids Child Care Center LLC **Enrollment:** 17 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 47657

Street: 901 N 35th ST STE 201 **City:** Council Bluffs Iowa **Zip** 51501 **County:** Pottawattamie

Mailing Address: 901 N 35th ST STE 8201, Council Bluffs, IA, 51501

Director's Name: Pat Bridgeman **Phone Number:** 712-256-0181

On-Site Supervisor(s): na **E-Mail:** jaytaybridgeman@gmail.com

Date(s) of Visit: 07-17-2023

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

Date Inspected: 01-13-2022

Comments :

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 X 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	8	5	3	1	17
Summer					0

QRS Rating: N/A

RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE:	
X	**FULL** license from 09-01-2022 to 09-01-2024
	PROVISIONAL license from
	DENIAL of initial application
	SUSPENSION of license
	REVOCATION of license

Licensing Consultant: Kathy DeGeorge-Evans **Date:** 07-26-2023

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

II. IDENTIFY THE AREAS OBSERVED ON THE VISIT:

An unannounced off year licensing visit was made to Love Kids Childcare on 7-17-2023. The center located at 901 N. 35th St, Council Bluffs Iowa 51501, next to the office at Feather Stone Apartments. The center opened on Monday, September 26, 2016. There are 17 children enrolled. The center serves infant to preschool age children 6:30 am to 5:00 pm Monday through Friday.

Observation of room:
The center is one room that is separated by portable walls. One side is for infants and the other side is for children two years and older.
The rooms have age and developmentally appropriate toys and equipment. I would recommend more items for the program rooms.
Pat was with twelve children two and older, the room wasn't in ratio. Pat stated a staff person was on their way, this staff person never came in. Two hours later another staff came in. The older children were playing, having a book read to them and eating lunch. Pats 15 year old daughter was there entertaining the children and she was reading a book to them. Tay was with three children in the infant area, the children were having fun playing. Pat and Tay had excellent interactions with the children, they were nurturing and attentive to the needs of the children.
Lesson plans were in a file, please have the lesson plan/activities out or posted showing you are using them.
I am recommending the lesson plans/activities include more detailed information giving a better description of the day. There are many examples that include literacy, math, science, music, large motor skills, sensory etc.
Pat has worked with CCR&R in the past on a variety of topics.
A staff persons purse was on the floor accessible to children, this is a health and safety hazard. Please place personal belongings/purses in a place that isn't accessible to children.
At times Tay would leave the infant room to clean and get lunch ready, leaving the children unsupervised. I realize your center was short staffed until 11:58 am, when a third staff person arrived but you will need to plan accordingly. If you don't have enough staff to supervise the children you will need to call parents to pick up their children.
Please don't lay mats on top on each other with the children's sheets and blankets on them. Please store the mat/cot cover and blankets individually each day in their cubby or another spot you identify for individual storage.

Nutrition:
Proper food storage was observed. The center isn't on the federal food program. A copy of a rotation of menus was posted, if you aren't serving what is listed on the menus you should make accurate menus. You were serving pizza rolls, corn, peas, peaches and a can of ravioli to a couple of the younger children. You need to comply with the CACFP food guidelines even if you aren't on the food program. Please review and follow the CACFP food guidelines.
You need to make sure ratio is maintained when you are preparing meals in the kitchen.

Health and safety:
Pat reported that the center follows medication management procedures when a child is prescribed medication - please review your procedures and medication log with the child care nurse consultant.
Radon testing is needed, the last radon testing was completed in May 2021 with a score of 1.7 pCi/L.

You reported that your building has all electric appliances. If there are fuel burning appliances you would need an annual fuel burning inspection.
Monthly fire/tornado drills weren't documented for April and May 2023, Tay stated she did the fire/tornado drills but she didn't write them down.
Please follow the 3 step bottle procedure for sanitizing and disinfecting. 1. Soap/water for cleaning, 2. Water for rinsing and 3. Your EPA approved product for sanitizing and disinfecting. If you are using bleach/water please follow the mixing instructions for both sanitizing and disinfecting that are on your specific bottle of bleach or on your specific bottle of bleach website. Child Care Resource and Referral and the child care nurse consultant can assist with this.
The infant room has a new diaper changing table. The old diaper changing table was moved to the main area, it has cracks/holes in two corners.

Playground:
There is a small fenced playground in the back of the center with a small piece of equipment. Please refer to the Handbook for Public Playground Safety for information of surfacing, fall zones and appropriate equipment.
Monthly playground inspections weren't completed, Pat filled in the monthly inspections during my visit.

Transportation:
The center doesn't provide transportation services.

Administrative records:
Staff files were read and were incomplete. Skyler needed the national record check. Pat stated she wasn't aware that staff must have the finger printing sent in for the national record check before a staff person can begin employment. Please read your record check guidelines. Pat had the Child Care Resource and Referral worker come to the center on 7-18-2023 to complete the fingerprinting for the national record check for Skyler. Make sure you have the criminal record check results for all staff at the center. A staff physical was needed, make sure you use the required DHS form for staff physicals. Some staff need annual training. Tay stated she has her annual training and that it needs printed. Please review all staff files and have them updated with the required information. First aid/CPR was expired.
Child files were read and were incomplete. Please review all children's files and update their registration information. Some files need a current physical and immunizations need to be on the Iowa form. Make sure all files have emergency contact information for the doctor and dentist - the name and phone numbers are required.
Please contact public health or your child care nurse consultant for their assistance in transferring immunizations to the Iowa form.
Pat has daily contact with her staff. Pat has expressed difficulties of finding staff to hire.
Please make a current copy of the Child Care Centers and Preschools Licensing Standards and Procedures, this was revised in April 2021. Please read the handbook.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

Pat has worked with CCR&R on a variety of topics.
Pat is always pleasant and willing to make the necessary corrections.
The staff have good interactions with the children, they are nurturing and positive.
The center received a new diaper changing table, a new crib and a new cot.

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

109.8(2): Ratio maintained in center as required by age.
109.8(2)d: At least one staff shall be present in every room.Brief absence of staff person permitted for 5 or less minutes when another staff person is present.
Pat was with twelve children two and older, the room wasn't in ratio. Pat stated a staff person was on their way, this staff person never came in. Two hours later another staff came in. At times Tay would leave the infant room to clean and get lunch ready, leaving the children unsupervised. I realize your center was short staffed until 11:58 am, when a third staff person arrived but you will need to plan accordingly. If you don't have enough staff to supervise the children you will need to call parents to pick up their children.

109.9(1)b: All files contain:A signed copy of DHS criminal history record check or any other permission form approved by the Department of public Safety for conducting an Iowa or national criminal history check. A copy of Request for Child Abuse Information.Copies of the results of Iowa records checks conducted.Copies of national criminal history check results.Any Department-issued documents sent to the center related to records check.
Skyler needed the national record check. Pat stated she wasn't aware that staff must have the finger printing sent in for the national record check before a staff person can begin employment. Please read your record check guidelines. Pat had the Child Care Resource and Referral worker come to the center on 7-18-2023 to complete the fingerprinting for the national

record check for Skyler.
Make sure you have copies of the criminal record checks for all staff at the center.
This has been corrected if the national record check (finger prints) directions were followed and sent in.

REPEAT VIOLATION - 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.
A staff physical was needed, make sure you use the required DHS form for staff physicals.

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.
Some staff need annual training. First aid/CPR was expired.

109.9(2): All files are updated at least annually and when a change occurs.
Please review all children's files and update their registration information.

REPEAT VIOLATION - 109.9(3): Signed and dated Iowa immunization certificates are on file for each child enrolled.
Immunizations need to be on the Iowa form. Please contact public health or your child care nurse consultant for their assistance in transferring immunizations to the Iowa form.

REPEAT VIOLATION - 109.10(1)a: Preschool (for children five years and younger not enrolled in school): Physical exam report submitted within 30 days of admission, was obtained no more than 12 months prior to admission, is signed by a licensed MD, DO, PA, Chiropractor or ARNP, and contains health history; present health status including allergies, medications, and acute/chronic conditions; and recommendations for continued care if necessary.
Some files need a current physical.

109.10(15)b: Emergency instructions, phone numbers, and diagrams for fire, tornado, and flood shall be visibly posted and documented at least once a month for fire and tornado. Records shall be maintained for current and previous year.
Monthly fire/tornado drills weren't documented for April and May 2023, Tay stated she did the fire/tornado drills but she didn't write them down.

REPEAT VIOLATION - 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. Sufficient space provided for dining. Sufficient lighting shall be provided. Sufficient ventilation. Sufficient heating. sufficient cooling. Sufficient bathroom and diapering facilities. Equipment, including kitchen appliances, are maintained so as not to result in burns, shock, or injury to children. Sanitation and safety procedures for the center are developed and implemented to reduce risk or injury or harm to children and reduce transmission of disease.
A staff persons purse was on the floor accessible to children, this is a health and safety hazard. Please place personal belongings/purses in a place that isn't accessible to children.

109.11(7)b: Centers at ground level that use basement area as program space, or have a basement beneath program space: Testing and plan for remedy of radon is conducted.
Radon testing is needed, the last radon testing was completed in May 2021 with a score of 1.7 pCi/L.

REPEAT VIOLATION - 109.12(1): Program structure that uses developmentally appropriate practices and written program of activities planned to the developmental needs of children served.Program complements but does not duplicate school curriculum.Schedule of program is posted in a place visible to parents.
Lesson plans were in a file, please have the lesson plan/activities out or posted showing you are using them.
I am recommending the lesson plans/activities include more detailed information giving a better description of the day. There are many examples that include literacy, math, science, music, large motor skills, sensory etc.

109.15(2): Center shall follow minimum CACFP menu patterns for meals and snacks.Menus planned one week in advance, made available to parents, and kept on file with substitutions noted.Avoid foods with high incident rate of causing choking.
A copy of a rotation of menus was posted, if you aren't serving what is listed on the menus you should make accurate menus. You were serving pizza rolls, corn, peas, peaches and a can of ravioli to a couple of the younger children. You need to comply with the CACFP food guidelines even if you aren't on the food program.

Please send me an email by August 16th, 2023 and let me know how the items listed above have been corrected.

V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:

A full license is recommended for 9-1-2022 to 9-1-2024.
Off year licensing visit 7-17-2023.

A referral has been made to Child Care Resource and Referral for consultations and training on lesson plans/activities, ratio and staffing requirements, staff files, staff training, understanding the record check process, child files, organization - using forms such as fire/tornado drill and monthly playground safety inspections - posting it on the wall for easy access, review of sanitizing and disinfecting - 3 step bottles/proper mixing, health and safety requirements etc. Pat needs to a make a current copy of the Child Care Centers and Preschools Licensing Standards and Procedures, this was revised in April 2021, etc.
I am concerned that you have several aspects of operation that fall below the standards and many are repeat violations. You are an established center that has been open since 2016 and have had the same director. It is imperative that you learn and follow the licensing rules and that you maintain the information.

Love Kids Child Care LLC is your business and you must be confident as the director and learn and be able to practice the Iowa DHHS child care rules/regulations.
I am recommending that the director/owners of Love Kids Childcare read and learn the DHHS Child Care Centers and Preschools Licensing Standards and Procedures. It is vital that you and your staff are knowledgeable of the Iowa rules and regulations. When the director is away from the center the person left in charge must be aware of the DHHS rules.
It is important that you read your emails to be aware of rule changes, grant information etc.

Please send me an email by August 16th, 2023 and let me know how the noncompliance items have been corrected.

*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.