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

Name of Center: Link & Learn Daycare **Enrollment:** 7 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 52313

Street: 1452 29th ST **City:** West Des Moines Iowa **Zip** 50266 **County:** Polk

Mailing Address: 1452 29th ST, West Des Moines, IA, 50266

Director's Name: Carissa Williams **Phone Number:** 515-262-8888

On-Site Supervisor(s): **E-Mail:** cwilliams@linkassociates.org

Date(s) of Visit: 01-11-2024

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

LICENSING VISITS

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

Signed Application (470-0722) Received X **Yes** **No** **NA** **Date Signed:** 09-05-2023

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

Date Inspected: 09-28-2023

Comments :

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 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	8		24		32
Summer					0

QRS Rating: N/A

RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE:	
X	**FULL** license from 10-01-2023 to 09-01-2025
	PROVISIONAL license from
	DENIAL of initial application
	SUSPENSION of license
	REVOCATION of license

Licensing Consultant: Melinda Larson, Child Care Licensing Consultant **Date:** 01-12-2024

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

II. IDENTIFY THE AREAS OBSERVED ON THE VISIT:

Link & Learn Daycare opened on 10/4/23. The daycare is owned and operated by Link Associates. The center is located in the Link Associates building, which is a secured building. The daycare also has a secured entrance. The daycare provides childcare for children ages infancy through five years. The center's current operational hours are 7:00am to 5:00pm but these hours could change based on needs of families. Carissa Williams is the director. Carissa has been in the child care industry for fourteen years and has five years experience in daycare management prior to coming to this daycare.

An unannounced visit was completed on today's date. All areas subject to HHS licensing were reviewed. The center has mandatory postings in place near the center's entrance. Each classroom had a schedule posted. Lesson plans were also posted. The center uses Creative Curriculum for lesson planning. The center uses ProCare as their software management system. Diaper changing procedures and hand washing procedures were posted. Both classrooms are well supplied with age appropriate supplies, learning materials and toys. The center has two classrooms. The smaller classroom is for children ages six weeks to two years. The larger classroom serves children two years to five years. Currently, there are three and four year olds enrolled. The center plans on dividing the classroom into two classrooms when additional ages enroll. The larger classroom has defined learning centers set throughout the room.

Carissa assisted with today's visit. There were three children in the infant classroom. There was one staff working in this classroom. The children were all one year of age. There were two children present in the larger classroom. One staff was working with this class. The older children were were observed during child directed play activities and also some staff assisted activities. Children were doing a handprint craft activity. Children had also done a group activity identifying their favorites fruits and vegetables.

The center provides breakfast, lunch and afternoon snack. Menus reviewed showed the center is following CACFP requirements. Menus are on a four week rotation. The center prepares their own snacks and meals in a kitchen on site. Food storage is sufficient to prevent spoilage.

The center has a playground located right by the building. There is natural shading in the playground area. The center has plans for surfacing to be added with some playground structures when weather permits.

The center does not have off site field trips at this time.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

The director has several years of experience in the child care industry prior to coming to the daycare. The center's space was

remodeled specifically for the child care center. There is cameras with video in classrooms and the playground area. The director has been working with CCR&R for consultation and plans on participating in IQ4K in the future.

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

There were no licensing violations cited during today's visit.

V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:

The center has a full license.

*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.