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

Name of Center: Dr Clifford C Smith Childcare Center **Enrollment:** 33 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 31128

Street: 626 Main ST **City:** Mc Gregor Iowa **Zip** 52157 **County:** Clayton

Mailing Address: PO Box 361, Mc Gregor, IA, 52157

Director's Name: Jennifer McCullick **Phone Number:** 563-873-2992

On-Site Supervisor(s): Jennifer McCullick **E-Mail:** drsmithchildcare@mflmm.k12.ia.us

Date(s) of Visit: 11-18-2022

Licensing Visit X **Unannounced Visit** X **Off Year Visit** X **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: 10-09-2020

Comments : Compliance on 10/26/20

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	14	12	8	4	38
Summer					0

QRS Rating: N/A

RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE:	
X	**FULL** license from 12-01-2021 to 12-01-2023
	PROVISIONAL license from
	DENIAL of initial application
	SUSPENSION of license
	REVOCATION of license

Licensing Consultant: Becky Frost **Date:** 11-22-2022

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

N/A

II. IDENTIFY THE AREAS OBSERVED ON THE VISIT:

On 11/18/22 I made an unannounced off year licensing visit to Dr. Clifford C. Smith Childcare Center in McGregor. I met with Jennifer McCullick, the director. Ms. McCullick started with the program in October 2019 and became the director in May 2022. She has an AAS in early childhood education. She was previously an infant room teacher. The center employs thirteen staff members.

The program operates out of a free-standing building. It is open Monday through Friday from 5:30 am until 6:00 pm and it serves infants through school-aged children. There are currently 33 children enrolled.

The center operates out of the following rooms: infant room, toddler room (two and younger three- year-olds), and a preschool room. School-aged children use the preschool room when they are present during the school year. During the summer months the school age children are cared for at the elementary school in town. This program is also licensed by DHH. An inspection of each room was completed. Windows provide natural lighting. The rooms are decorated with the children's art projects. The preschool and toddler rooms are decorated with posters to assist the children with the learning process, such as the alphabet, shapes, colors and numbers. 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, computer, art, dramatic play, writing, math, science/discovery, 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.

Rosie Richards is the preschool teacher. She uses Creative Curriculum and a variety of resources to develop lesson plans in the preschool room. The children engage in a lot of science and outdoor exploration, depending on the children's interests. Ms. Richards did show me a detailed calendar of activities that she prepares and provides to the parents. She maintains binders for each month that has all the activities organized by week. The toddler room uses a variety of resources to plan activities. They also keep a binder for the month that has all the activities organized for each day. A lesson plan was available for review in each room.

There was a phone with emergency numbers in the classrooms. Emergency fire and tornado procedures and evacuation diagrams were posted by the main program doors and outdoor exits. A daily schedule was 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 2022. The results in the preschool room were above the EPA guidelines with a level of 4.3 pCi/L. Ms. McCullick is going to re-test the preschool room. The other rooms were within EPA guidelines. The annual fuel burning inspection was completed and no concerns were noted. A carbon monoxide detector was on site in the hallway near the infant room. Outlets were protected. The fire marshal inspection occurred on 10/09/20, with compliance on 10/26/20.

The program participates in the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP). Sally Schneider is the cook. The center

provides the children with breakfast, lunch and an afternoon snack. MFL MarMac Intermediate School prepares some of the lunch items and delivers them to the center. The school provides the center a new breakfast, lunch and snack menu each month. The childcare center prepares breakfast and snacks and the lunch items that are not provided by the school. Meals are served in the classroom and dishes are returned to the kitchen. Teachers dish out the food and serve it to the children.

The kitchen is clean and organized. There is a dishwasher and three sinks available to wash dishes using the three-step method. There are two refrigerators and a chest freezer. Thermometers were present. Food items were stored according to NHSPS guidelines. Menus are posted.

In the infant room the center provides one brand of formula, baby food and cereal. If parents want a different brand, they must provide it. Bottles are sent to the kitchen to be washed.

Owlets are used in the infant room if the parents request this. The ProCare app is used to complete daily sheets for the children under the age of two-years-old.

The center is using Hillyard Sanitizer to sanitize the food tables. Bleach is used to disinfect the changing tables. I discussed diaper changing procedures with staff members and proper procedures are followed. There is a mat used for diaper changes in the toddler bathroom. The mat has a tear in it which makes it unable to be properly disinfected. This must be replaced.

Cots are used to nap in the rooms for the older children.

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 was conspicuously hung. A no-smoking sign was posted at the entrance.

The outdoor play area is naturalistic. There are two fenced in areas, one for the older children and one for the toddlers. There is a playhouse, picnic tables and benches. There are two slides built into a hill. There is a second small hill in the area as well. There was a slide in the area for older children that had a fall height of greater then eighteen inches and requires fall surfacing. This slide should be removed. There is a path for riding toys and helmets are used. There is a sandbox with a cover. There are music centers and chalkboards for the children. There is also an area for vegetable and flower gardens. Shade is provided by trees and there is a small shelter structure available.

Staff members were observed terrific interaction with the children. Staff members were on the floor engaged in activities in all the rooms. Staff members maintained positive conversations with the children and provided them with praise. Positive redirection was used when necessary. Staff members were modeling good manners for the children. They introduced activities to the children and used play as an opportunity to teach the children about colors and counting. Staff members encouraged the children to use their imaginations. The children seemed to enjoy and feel comfortable in the program.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

Ms. McCullick states the center has loving and caring staff members.

Ms. McCullick states the children love to come to the center.

Ms. McCullick works with Child Care Resource and Referral (CCR&R). Ms. McCullick is planning to apply for an IQ4K level 1.

Ms. McCullick is organized and has embraced the role of director. She has stepped in and corrected missing information in the staff and children files from the last visit.

The program uses the Pro Care system to communicate with parents and for parents to check their children in and out of the center.

There are pictures of staff members and children in the hallway. The hallway is also decorated with the children's artwork.

The program operates out a secured building and they have cameras in each room and the hallway. They can record. There is also a camera to record the playground.

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.

An administrative change is being made to remove Elizabeth Oemigas as the on-site supervisor. She is no longer with the program.

*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.