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

Name of Center: Kids Corner Child Care & Learning Center **Enrollment:** 68 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 19201

Street: 314 6th Street North **City:** Winthrop Iowa **Zip** 50682 **County:** Buchanan

Mailing Address: PO Box 265, Winthrop, IA, 50682

Director's Name: Taylor Miller **Phone Number:** 319-935-3434

On-Site Supervisor(s): Taylor Miller **E-Mail:** winthropkidscorner@gmail.com

Date(s) of Visit: 02-07-2023

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

LICENSING VISITS

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

Signed Application (470-0722) Received X **Yes** **No** **NA** **Date Signed:** 01-05-2023

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

Date Inspected: 02-07-2023

Comments : Compliance on 02/23/23

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	24	15	18	11	68
Summer					0

QRS Rating: 4

RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE:	
X	**FULL** license from 03-01-2023 to 03-01-2025
	PROVISIONAL license from
	DENIAL of initial application
	SUSPENSION of license
	REVOCATION of license

Licensing Consultant: Becky Frost **Date:** 02-27-2023

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

N/A

II. IDENTIFY THE AREAS OBSERVED ON THE VISIT:

On 02/07/23 I made an unannounced licensing visit to Kids Corner Child Care & Learning Center in Winthrop. I met with Taylor Miller, the director. Ms. Miller has been employed with the center since September 2019 and became the director in March 2022. She has an AA in early childhood education. Faith Stratton is the assistant director at the center. She started with the center in October 2021. The program employs twenty staff members.

The program operates out of a free-standing building. It is a non-profit program that has been in operation since 2005. The program operates 5:30 am until 6:00 pm Monday through Friday. The program serves infants through school-aged children. There are currently 68 children enrolled in the center.

The program operates out of the following rooms: infants (Itty Bitty Bloomers), a room for children eighteen months to two-years-old (Messy Monkeys), a room for children two and three-years-old (Dancing Dolphins), a room for three through five-years-old (Little Guppies) and they use the media room as the school age room before and after school. An inspection of each room was completed. Windows provide natural lighting. The rooms are decorated with the children's art projects, and posters to assist the children with the learning process, such as the alphabet, shapes, colors and numbers. The children's birthdays were posted.

The centers observed on the day of the licensing visit include library, listening, blocks/Legos, table toys, games, puzzles, transportation, art, dramatic play, writing, math, science/discovery, sensory table 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.

Each room has access to a bathroom that has one sink, and each room has two sinks. Changing tables are in the rooms for the younger children. Handwashing procedures were posted near all the sinks and diaper changing procedures were posted near all the diaper changing tables. I observed and discussed diaper changes with the staff members and procedures are being followed.

The center incorporates the Creative Curriculum in each room to develop lesson plans. They also use a variety of other resources. Each teacher prepares their own lesson plans and activities are planned around themes. The length of the theme/unit depends on the topic and the children's interest level. Each room completes a newsletter. Lesson plans were available for review.

Daily sheets are provided to parents in each room to inform parents on how the child's day was through the Brightwheel app. Parents have loved receiving information this way. The app does not have a spot to document a child's mood. This is a mandated area for children under the age of two-years-old. You should document the children's mood under the notes section if there is not a specific area for mood.

The program is using medication authorization forms for all medications. One child is on a prescription medication and there was not documentation for everyday the medication is prescribed. You must document each day on the medication

authorization form. If the medication is not given to the child, you must document the reason it was not given.

There were over the counter medications (diaper creams) in the infant room that were not labeled with the child's name. These must be labeled.

I observed first-aid kits in each room. You must remove the triple antibiotic cream from the kit in the Messy Monkeys room and the Vaseline from the kit in the Little Guppies room. A signed medication authorization form is mandated to use these products. It is recommended that you clean any injuries with soap and water and apply a band-aid.

There was a phone in each classroom and emergency phone numbers, including the centers address and phone number, were posted. Emergency fire and tornado procedures and evacuation diagrams were posted by the main program doors and outdoor exits in all rooms. A daily schedule was posted in each room.

Cribs are used to nap for the infants and cots are used to nap for the older children.

I reviewed documentation of monthly fire and tornado drills. I reviewed documentation of monthly playground inspections. The radon test was completed in January 2022 and is good for two years. Results 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 kitchen. Outlets were protected. The fire marshal inspection occurred on 02/07/23, with compliance on 02/23/23.

The program participates in the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP). The center provides the children with breakfast, lunch and a morning and afternoon snack. Amy Ball is the primary cook. She uses a four-month rotation of menus. The program has a refrigerator, an upright freezer and a chest freezer. Thermometers were present. Dishes are put through an industrial dishwasher, and they have three industrial sinks to use for the three-step method for larger dishes. Food items were stored according to the NHSPS guidelines. Meals are served family style for the older children.

The program makes homemade baby food for the infants. Parents provide formula. If parents want the center to provide the formula, they must pay a fee. The center provides the homemade baby food and cereal. Bottles are currently washed in the infant room using the three-step method. There is a refrigerator in the infant room and thermometers were present.

The program uses Clorox Healthcare Hydrogen Peroxide Cleaner Disinfectant to sanitize the food tables and disinfect the changing tables.

The program has a large fenced in playground area that is divided into two spaces. The area for the older children has a larger piece of climbing equipment with slides and other activities for the children. There is also a smaller piece of climbing equipment with slides. There is a tunnel, playhouses, rocking toys, pushing toys and a teeter totter. There are picnic tables for the children to rest. In the area for the younger children there is a shade shelter. There were also rocking toys, pushing toys and a small slide. Woodchips are used for fall surfacing. Trees are available for shade.

There is a slide in the Messy Monkey room that has a fall height greater than 18 inches and requires fall surfacing. This cannot be used in the classroom without proper fall surfacing.

The parent information is in the entrance. The childcare consultant and the handbook availability were posted. The program did not have the mandatory reporter posting, but this has since been corrected. The license was conspicuously posted. A no-smoking sign was posted at the entrance.

Staff and children files were reviewed at the time of the licensing visit. I reviewed twelve children files. They were in good condition. Files must contain emergency contact information for the doctor and dentist of each child. The doctor and dentist's name, phone number and complete street address must be provided. One file did not provide the emergency dental contact information and one file did not provide the emergency doctor contact information.

I reviewed four staff files. They were in good condition. One file had a current physical, but it was not on the mandated Department of Health and Human Services form, so it is invalid. One staff member had a hit, and the information needs to be mailed into Des Moines to get permission for the staff member to work in childcare.

I reviewed policy and procedures, staff and parent handbooks. The necessary written emergency procedures and policies were present. Emergency Preparedness Plans have been completed.

Staff members were observed to have great interaction with the children. Staff members were on the floor with the children. They were observed to be nurturing and held children on their laps. Staff members introduced activities to the children and were flexible. They maintained positive conversation with the children. They were enthusiastic and provided the children with praise. Staff members provided the children with handwashing reminders. They entertained the children with songs while they were waiting for snack. Staff members included all the children in circle time and were patient. The children seemed to enjoy and feel comfortable in the program.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

Ms. Miller states the teachers do a good job of providing different activities for gross motor and fine motor skills.

The center has a Quality Rating System (QRS) level of 4 that expires on 08/31/23.

The center is in a secured building and there are cameras in the rooms that can record.

The center had organized staff and children files and an organized licensing binder.

Staff members receive a twenty percent discount for childcare while they are working. Extended family members of staff members may also receive the discount.

The toddler room serves as an inclement weather room.

The center is using the Brightwheel app. The Brightwheel app allows parents to sign their children in and out of the center, pay their bills and it is how staff members communicate with parents daily. The parents love the Brightwheel app. The Brightwheel app also has all the emergency contact information for the children.

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: 1
One file had a current physical, but it was not on the mandated Department of Health and Human Services form, so it is invalid.

109.9(2)b: All files contain sufficient information and authorization to allow the center to secure emergency medical and dental services at any time child is in center's care.
Number not in compliance for medical: 1
Number not in compliance for dental: 1
Information lacking: Files must contain emergency contact information for the doctor and dentist of each child. The doctor and dentist's name, phone number and complete street address must be provided. One file did not provide the emergency dental contact information and one file did not provide the emergency doctor contact information.

109.10(3)b: For every day an authorization for medication is in effect and child is in attendance, there shall be a notation of administration including the name of medicine, date, time, dosage, given or applied, and the initials of the person administering the medication or the reason the medication was not given.
The program is using medication authorization forms for all medications. One child is on a prescription medication and there was not documentation for everyday the medication is prescribed. You must document each day on the medication authorization form. If the medication is not given to the child, you must document the reason it was not given. There were over the counter medications (diaper creams) in the infant room that were not labeled with the child's name. These must be labeled.

V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:

A full license is issued. All DHS licensing standards and procedures must be maintained during the renewal period.

*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.