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

Name of Center: Son Rise Christian School & Day Care **Enrollment:** 19 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 22662

Street: 928 Jefferson ST **City:** Waterloo Iowa **Zip** 50702 **County:** Black Hawk

Mailing Address: 928 Jefferson ST, Waterloo, IA, 50702

Director's Name: Tish Jacobsen **Phone Number:** 319-235-6191

On-Site Supervisor(s): Tish Jacobsen **E-Mail:** preschool@sonrisewaterloo.com

Date(s) of Visit: 11-07-2023

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

LICENSING VISITS

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

Signed Application (470-0722) Received X **Yes** **No** **NA** **Date Signed:** 10-09-2023

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

Date Inspected: 10-31-2023

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: 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	0	16	68	22	106
Summer					0

QRS Rating: 1

RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE:	
X	**FULL** license from 12-01-2023 to 12-01-2025
	PROVISIONAL license from
	DENIAL of initial application
	SUSPENSION of license
	REVOCATION of license

Licensing Consultant: Becky Frost **Date:** 11-13-2023

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

N/A

II. IDENTIFY THE AREAS OBSERVED ON THE VISIT:

On 11/07/23 I made an unannounced licensing visit to Son Rise Christian School & Day Care in Waterloo. I met with Tish Jacobsen, the director. She has been with the program since September 1999, and she started as the director in January 2015. I also met with Alyssa Van Dyke, the on-site supervisor, assistant preschool teacher and childcare coordinator. She has worked at Son Rise since April 2014, but has found a new job and will be leaving soon. The program employs six staff members.

Son Rise Christian School and Day Care is in Open Bible Church in Waterloo. The preschool program operates Monday through Friday from 9:00-11:30 am and serves children ages three through five-years-old. Elizabeth "Beth" Hottle is the lead teacher and Alyssa Van Dyke is the assistant. The daycare program operates from 6:30 am until 5:30 pm and provides care for children ages two-years-old through twelve-years-old. Cheyenne Allison is the lead teacher in the childcare program. Michaela Van Dyke is an additional staff member in the childcare room and is the cook. There are 19 children enrolled between the two programs.

The program operates out of four rooms. Two rooms are used for childcare, one room is used for large group preschool activities and one room is used for small group preschool activities. An inspection of each room was completed. The program uses both natural lighting and artificial lighting in the rooms. 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. 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, computer, transportation, art, dramatic play, writing, math, science/discovery, woodworking, Play-Doh, 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.

All the children are cared for in the primary daycare room and gym in the morning. The preschool children then move to the preschool room at 9:00 am.

There are two bathrooms in the hallway. The boy's bathroom has one toilet, two urinals and two sinks. The girl's bathroom has three toilets and two sinks. Handwashing procedures were posted in both locations. There is an area for diaper changes in the girl's bathroom and a mat for diaper changes in the boy's bathroom. Diaper changing procedures were posted.

The childcare program uses a variety of resources to develop lesson plans and the preschool program uses Footsteps For Fours and a variety of other resources to develop lesson plans. They also incorporate a Christian aspect to their teachings. The study typically lasts about two or three weeks depending on the children's interest level. They also discuss Bible stories.

There was a phone with emergency numbers in the classrooms and in the kitchen. Emergency fire and tornado procedures

and evacuation diagrams were posted by the main program doors and outdoor exits in the classrooms. Add the evacuation diagram near the outdoor exit in the gym. The evacuation diagrams were near the other two exits. Daily schedules were posted and a lesson plan was available for review in the preschool and childcare.

Cots are used to nap. Make sure the bedding of one child does not hang over the cot and touch the bedding of another child.

I reviewed documentation of monthly fire and tornado drills. I reviewed documentation of monthly playground inspections. A radon test was completed in October 2023 and is good for two years. Results were within EPA guidelines. The fuel burning inspection was completed and no concerns were noted. A carbon monoxide detector was on site in the big preschool room and kitchen. Outlets were protected. The fire marshal inspection occurred on 10/31/23.

The center is not on the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP), but they follow the guidelines. The program serves lunch and a morning and afternoon snack. They do not prepare or provide breakfast, but if a parent brings breakfast to the center for their child, they will serve it to the child. Preschool parents are assigned a week and they donate the morning snack once each month. The program provides the lunch and afternoon snack. Michaela Van Dyke is the cook. A new lunch menu is prepared each month. Lunch and snack menus were available for review.

The large daycare room is also where the kitchen area and dining room are located. All the children from the program eat lunch in this dining area. The daycare children also eat snack in the dining room. The preschool children eat their morning snack in the big preschool classroom.

The kitchen was observed to be clean and organized. There are three refrigerators and thermometers were present. Dishes are put through the dishwasher and there are also two sinks available to wash dishes using the three-step method. Food items were stored according to NHSPS guidelines in the kitchen and preschool room.

The center uses bleach and water to sanitize the food tables and to disinfect the changing tables.

The program has a fenced in play area. Rubber chips are used for surface cushioning. There is a piece of climbing equipment that has a climbing wall, swings and a slide. There are stationary trucks and cars for the children to play on. There is also a Merry Go Cycle, a dome climber tunnels, a playhouse, dramatic play equipment, pushing toys, spinning toys and a teeter totter. A picnic table is available for the children to rest. Trees provides shade and there is a small grassy area.

The program also has a gym available for the children to develop large motor skills and for group activities. The gym has basketball hoops and a variety of balls to play with, a playhouse and some cube blocks to climb on and through. There is a small piece of climbing equipment with a slide and a dramatic play piece. There is adequate cushion surfacing.

The parent information is located on a bulletin board inside the entrance of the center and in the entrance of the childcare room. 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.

Staff and children files were reviewed at the time of the licensing visit. I reviewed six children files. They were in great condition.

I reviewed two staff files. They were in good condition. One staff member had an outdated physical. She has been on maternity leave and recently returned.

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 had terrific interaction with the children and they provide a great routine for the children. Staff members provide time in the gym for all the children in the morning before they move to preschool and childcare. Once in preschool the children are split into two groups so they are provided more individualized attention and instruction. The children then come together for circle time. Staff members were enthusiastic and provided the children with praise. They provided the children with choices and used positive redirection when necessary. Staff members had great teamwork. The children appeared to enjoy themselves in the program.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

The program has an IQ4K level of 1 that will expire on 06/30/25.

Ms. Jacobsen states the program is Christ centered and He runs the building and brings parents to the program because they do not advertise.

Ms. Jacobsen states the teachers love the children.

Ms. Jacobsen states the church community is supportive. They give donations when they are needed.

Ms. Jacobsen states the program has a family atmosphere and she considers her co-workers to be family.

The noted accomplishments include: the staff members work very well as a team. They continue to teach Christian values and incorporate Bible stories and songs into their curriculum. Staff members have several years of experience at Son Rise.

The noted goals include: they continue to look for new classes to help them become better educators. They are looking to purchase some new toys for the center. They want to expand the outdoor playground with a grass area.

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

N/A

V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:

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

An administrative change is being made to remove Alyssa Van Dyke as the on-site supervisor as she has taken a new job and is leaving soon.

*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.