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

Name of Center: First English Christian Preschool **Enrollment:** 59 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 30278

Street: 1311 E 18th St **City:** Spencer Iowa **Zip** 51301 **County:** Clay

Mailing Address: 1311 E 18th St, Spencer, IA, 51301

Director's Name: Tammi Harrison **Phone Number:** 712-262-3699

On-Site Supervisor(s): **E-Mail:** felcpreschool1979@gmail.com

Date(s) of Visit: 09-26-2024

X **Licensing Visit** **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:** 08-31-2024

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

Date Inspected: 10-12-2021

Comments :

LICENSE TYPE: **Child Care** X **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.) 2 Years X Preschool-Age School-Age

Get-Well Evening Care Special Needs

SCHEDULE: Year-round X School-Year Summer Only

HOURS:	*Year-round*	*School-Year*	*Summer Only*

LICENSE CAPACITY	Infants	2 Years	Preschool	School-Age	Capacity
General			50		50
Summer					0

QRS Rating: N/A

RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE:	
X	**FULL** license from 10-01-2024 to 10-01-2026
	PROVISIONAL license from
	DENIAL of initial application
	SUSPENSION of license
	REVOCATION of license

Licensing Consultant: Jana Drew **Date:** 09-27-2024

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

II. IDENTIFY THE AREAS OBSERVED ON THE VISIT:

A visit was made to the First English Christian Preschool on 09-26-24 and spoke director Tammi Harrison. Tammi has been the director of the program since 2017 and is well qualified for the position based on her experience, formal education, and on-going professional development training. Tammi has her Early Childhood Endorsement. The program is located in the First English Church and School and is operated out of 4 classrooms. The center offers early care from 7:45am to 8:20am and then starts their preschool day. The program offers full day pre-kindergarten programming for the 4 year old children, and offering two sessions of pre-school programming for 3 year old children with on operating Monday, Wednesday, and the other on Tuesday, Thursday. The program currently uses 3 classrooms and 1 room as a rest area for those children who stay all day. Hours of operation are Monday-Thursday for 3 year olds and one 4 year old class 8:15 to 11:15am. One 4 year old classroom who stays all day 8:15am to 3:15pm and one 4 year old classroom which is only in the morning from 8:15 to 11:15am. The 4 year old preschool program is apart of the Voluntary Statewide Preschool Program. On Wednesdays, there is no afternoon 4year old preschool due to staff development. All aspects of the program subject to licensing standards were reviewed.

There are 59 children enrolled in the program. All areas of the program were observed. These areas observed consisted of classroom observations and activities, nutritional practices, health and safety practices, field trip and transportation practices, and administrative review. The center continues in been cleaning toys that children use. Sufficient amount of toys and equipment for the number of children. Daily schedule of activities was posted. Displayed throughout the room were colors, shapes, five senses, globe of the world, picture schedule for the children, job chart, children's artwork and the alphabet. . The center utilizes the Creative Curriculum and Gold in their teachings as well as a Bible Curriculum.

Each classroom has a similar design with restroom facilities just off the programming space in the room, a sink in the classroom, and a secondary exit providing direct access to the outdoors. A half wall defines a primary group learning area from other play areas and an area where tables are present. Each room has windows along the exterior walls that provide natural light, a view of the outdoors, and ventilation. The layout of each room is the same as in previous visits with each divided in to activity centers. Each activity center had a good variety of materials that were observed to be in good repair and appropriate to the ages of the children present. Each room was observed to be clean with no immediate safety concerns present due to maintenance.

The center provides snacks for the children and although they are not on the food program they follow it's guidelines. Good food storage practices are in place. For those kids that are all day the school provides lunch and then the children rest in the afternoon.

Since program is affiliated with the school, the school provides transportation to and from the school. The program has a bus that has 5 point harness.

The center has an outdoor playground which was observed to be in good repair. Pea gravel is used for fall surfacing. The playground is fenced and shade is provided by the building, however more shade is needed. The program continues in looking at different options for more shade and looking at grants to help pay for it. This past summer had some major

flooding in the area and has pushed back looking for shade structure. They may be reaching out to community partners to help install a permanent structure. The program can also make use of the school gymnasium when weather conditions do not allow for outdoor play.

In reviewing administrative records all required notices and postings were present and in an area readily accessible to all parents and visitors.

Center goals are to get on the food program for snacks, update the playground for more shade; get more acclimated with the Bright Wheel app, and to get on IQ4K program.

Strength of the program is that the program has good quality staff who work well as a team and staff have been there for more than two years. Staff come with alot of experince working with children.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

Center uses the Bright Wheel Application to communicate with parents.

The center is also participating in the QPPS program.

Tammy obtained her Early Childhood Endorsement.

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

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.
Number not in compliance: 1

109.11(3)a: Center shall ensure that: The outdoor area shall include safe play equipment and area of shade.
Center is looking at adding more shade.

V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:

Center needs to email consultant by 10-31-24 confirming that all aspects below standards have been corrected.

A full license will remain in effect at this time.

At least one visit will be made to the center during the next year.

*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.