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

Name of Center: Shell Rock Child Care & Preschool **Enrollment:** 42 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 21871

Street: 218 S Cherry St **City:** Shell Rock Iowa **Zip** 50670 **County:** Butler

Mailing Address: PO Box 670, Shell Rock, IA, 50670

Director's Name: Alisha Tellinghuisen **Phone Number:** 319-885-4980

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

Date(s) of Visit: 01-23-2023

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

LICENSING VISITS

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

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

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

Date Inspected: 08-11-2021

Comments :

LICENSE TYPE: X **Child Care** **Preschool (ages 3-5 meets three hours or less per day)**

Financial Type: X Profit 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	10	6	14	20	50
Summer					0

QRS Rating: N/A

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

Licensing Consultant: Raymond Salsbury **Date:** 02-01-2023

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

N/A

II. IDENTIFY THE AREAS OBSERVED ON THE VISIT:

An unannounced annual visit to Shell Rock Child Care and Preschool aka Bright Beginnings in Shell Rock on 01-23-23 where I met with Alisha Tellinghuisen, the director, owner, and lead teacher of the preschool room. She has been the owner of the center since 1998. Alisha is well qualified for the position based on her experience, education, and on-going training. The child care center is located in a free standing store front building on the main street of Shellrock. The program operates Monday through Friday from 6:00 am until 5:30 pm and serves infants through school-aged children. The core preschool hours are 8:30am-11:00 am. There are currently 42 children enrolled in the program served by 4 teachers. All aspects of the program subject to licensing standards were reviewed during the visit.

The general layout and design of the building and classrooms remains the same as in prior reports. As noted the program operates out of a store front building that has a long narrow design. The building is divided into three rooms with a full width divider wall that creates an infant space at the back, and a small room for the two year old children created off the main space which is used for the preschool and school age children. A large store front window provides natural lighting in the preschool room. The infant and two-year-old rooms do not have windows and use artificial lighting. Restrooms are located just off the main programming space, one of which is also accessible through a second door from the 2 year old room. Additional bathroom facilities are located further back in the building off the utilities room. Each room has multiple exits from the room with the preschool and two year old room passing through other spaces, and the infant room having a direct exit to the outdoors. All exits were clear of obstruction and opened easily and freely. Sinks are located in the preschool and infant rooms which can be use for hand washing, and food preparation. Each room was observed to be clean. While there were some minor maintenance issues such as drywall damage noted none rose to the level of being an immediate safety concern.

Furniture and play structures are used to divide each room into activity centers that include library, Lego/blocks, table toys, games, puzzles, transportation, art, dramatic play, writing, math, sensory table, and music. Centers were arranged in a manner that allowed easy movement between activities without creating any blind areas. The toys and materials were observed to be in good repair and appropriate to the ages of the children present. One issue that was noted was the use of repurposed experience bottles in the infant room where the teacher had glued the caps on to reduce the risk of them being a choking hazard but the glue used was insufficient to prevent them being able to be removed. It was discussed that these should be re-glued using another product. Alisha did note that the center had received additional toys and materials recently to replace those that were damaged and had served their useful life. A copy of the daily schedule and curriculum were posted. The curriculum is a preplanned rotation designed around monthly themes with the current theme being related to "Circus", and the letter G. Good interactions were observed with the teachers continuing to implement the planned schedule despite a change in the normal routine due to a weather related school delay and cancelation of preschool. This included the center moving between individual free choice play, a teacher lead small group activity, and lunch service. Maintaining a daily routine and schedule is part of the positive behavior support approach used by the center to reduce the occurence of behavioral issues. Other supports included the teachers recognizing positive behaviors and the use of transition activities. When issues did arise the teachers would redirect the children and engage in guided problem solving to help the children change their behavior.

Good health and safety practices were observed on the day of my visit. I was able to observe a diaper change while at the center and the teacher did follow the posted procedures. First aid kits were present and contained a supply of materials necessary to address most common first aid needs. Good hand washing were observed with the teachers ensuring the children washed their hands and providing assistance to ensure that they washed them in an effective manner. Good cleaning practices were observed with the teachers waiting for children to be in other areas before engaging in cleaning. Chemical cleaners, purses, and other items that could present a safety risk to children were stored in areas where they were not accessible to children. Safe sleep practices were observed to be in use in the infant room.

The center does have a kitchen space located at the rear of the building where meals and snacks are prepared. Good food storage and handling practices were observed, and the kitchen area was clean. The program uses a 4 week menu rotation and a copy of all for menus are posted. It was noted that the meal planned for the day included spaghetti, corn, peaches, and milk. Meals are served in the classrooms and though the teachers did not eat with the children supervision is provided at the tables. Meals were pre-portioned with the staff wearing food service gloves, and using measured scoops. The teachers did cut items such as the peaches to reduce the risk of choking.

The center does have a playground space located across the main street. The playground does have a climbing structure present and is fully enclosed by fencing. The equipment and fencing did appear to be in good repair. Rubber mulch is used for fall surfacing beneath the climbing structure but depth of material could not be assessed due to snow cover. There are no permanent shade structures other than the limited shade that would be provided by neighboring buildings, and the play structure.

In reviewing administrative records all required notices were posted in an area readily accessible to parents and visitors. All staff files were reviewed and found to contain all required documentation. All child files were reviewed and found to contain all required information. All inspection logs and certificates were available and current.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

The center has obtained new toys and equipment to continue to provide the children with a positive learning experience and environment. The center also completed recent renovations to the kitchen area.

The center does have a strong group of core staff who have been with the center for several years providing a high level of continuity and training.

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

None Cited.

V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:

A full license is recommended at this time. Please provide a written response to the licensing consultant identifying a plan of action to correct and maintain those aspects cited as not meeting licensing standards and identifying an anticipated date of compliance. 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.