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

Name of Center: St Columbkille Early Childhood **Enrollment:** 136 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 19211

Street: 1220 Rush ST **City:** Dubuque Iowa **Zip** 52003 **County:** Dubuque

Mailing Address: 1220 Rush ST, Dubuque, IA, 52003

Director's Name: Marcy Wiedenbacher **Phone Number:** 563-583-1620

On-Site Supervisor(s): none **E-Mail:** mweidenbacher@holyfamilydbq.org

Date(s) of Visit: 02-01-2023

X **Licensing Visit** X **Unannounced Visit** X **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 **State** X **Local** **NA** **Is Fire Inspection Approved?** X **Yes** **No** **NA**

Date Inspected: 01-03-2022

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.) 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			44	32	76
Summer					0

QRS Rating: 4

RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE:	
X	**FULL** license from 06-01-2023 to 06-01-2025
	PROVISIONAL license from
	DENIAL of initial application
	SUSPENSION of license
	REVOCATION of license

Licensing Consultant: Heidi Hungate **Date:** 02-17-2023

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

N/A

II. IDENTIFY THE AREAS OBSERVED ON THE VISIT:

An unannounced licensing visit was completed at this center on 2/1/23. The center director, Marcelline Weidenbacher, was present as were other staff. Marcelline is a qualified director with many years of experience and training while operating this program. This center is part of the Holy Family Catholic school system which has many other schools and centers in the Dubuque area as well as a well-defined organizational structure. The Holy Family system provides support to this preschool and child care operation. The center operates school year/school day only. The center uses space in a building connected to the St. Columbkille Elementary School complex. The before/after school children cared for at the center are only children who attend this school. The center participates in the Iowa Voluntary Preschool program.

The center operates out of identified and separate space on the main and lower level of the building with the following rooms in use on the lower level: school age room #1, hallway restroom areas, "preschool room" (three year old preschool, child care for three to five year old children, and all children who nap rest here); green room (school-agers before school, multi-purpose use, kitchen area, and breakfast room); and school age room #2. The following rooms are used on the upper/main level: hallway restroom area; pre-k room number #1; kitchenette area (there is a restroom adjacent to this room); and, pre-k room #2. The children travel to the school about once per week to use the school gymnasium and library as well. The four/five year old children also travel to the school building once per week for music class. All children have to travel to use the hallway restroom areas from their program rooms. All program space was observed.

The center serves breakfast, snack, lunch, and snack, and the center does participate in the CACFP. All food is prepared in the IDPH licensed school kitchen and brought to the center. Some children do bring their own lunch, and the center is reminded to be careful to inspect and supplement to meet CACFP requirements when necessary. Both kitchenette areas (upper level and green room on lower level, no major appliances) appear clean and are highly organized.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

The center continues to be very well managed by an experienced director and several experienced staff. The staff continue to work quite well together. Required documentation and staff and child files continue to be well organized. The center continues at a four star QRS rating through 2/28/24. The center benefits from being part of the larger Holy Family system and the resources available with that. The staff were observed to be highly engaged with all of the children in the program rooms. The children appeared to be thoroughly enjoying their experiences. The center is bright with large windows, is organized, and is nicely decorated with the children's projects and creations. Program rooms are large and organized. Materials are nicely arranged and are accessible to the children. The center has a good supply of books arranged by topic. The center has iPads for the children to use and Smartboards in the prek rooms. The center participates in the local AEA borrowing program where materials are available to supplement the center's program activities.

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

109.11(3)a: Center shall ensure that: Facility and premises are sanitary, safe, and hazard free. Sanitation and safety

procedures for the center are developed and implemented to reduce risk or injury or harm to children and reduce transmission of disease.
1. Paper towel dispenser sits next to the hand washing sink in the three year old preschool room. The area within 18 inches of the hand washing sink is not sanitary.
2. Coffee cups, electrical outlets in power strip, and teacher bag accessible as well as the closet area open and accessible to the children in the prek #1 room.
3. Coffee cup accessible to children in the prek #2 room.

V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Improve storage of blankets/bedding items in the three year old preschool room. These items shall be stored separate and where they can be maintained sanitary.
2. Improve supervision of hand washing activity (observed prior to snack) for the prek #1 room. Children shall wash hands with supervision and then travel directly to the tables to be seated. This was reviewed with the center director and suggestions provided.

This center will continue with a full license. Please correct the violations as well as the concerns noted in the report so that corrections are obvious and maintained. This report does not require a written response. Thank you.

*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.