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

Name of Center: Tinker Tots Preschool **Enrollment:** 51 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 7382

Street: 1501 Industrial AVE **City:** Bedford Iowa **Zip** 50833 **County:** Taylor

Mailing Address: 1501 Industrail AVE, Bedford, IA, 50833

Director's Name: April Spargen **Phone Number:** 712-523-2411

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

Date(s) of Visit: 04-30-2024

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

LICENSING VISITS

New Application **Re-Application** X **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: 11-01-2021

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: 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	23	13	29	75
Summer					0

QRS Rating: 3

RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE:	
X	**FULL** license from 08-01-2024 to 08-01-2026
	PROVISIONAL license from
	DENIAL of initial application
	SUSPENSION of license
	REVOCATION of license

Licensing Consultant: Kathy DeGeorge-Evans **Date:** 05-31-2024

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

II. IDENTIFY THE AREAS OBSERVED ON THE VISIT:

An unannounced licensing visit was made to Tinker Tots Preschool, Inc. on April 30, 2024. Tinker Tots Preschool built a new center at 1501 Industrial Ave., Bedford Iowa 50833 and opened in November 2021. This is a nonprofit center that is run by the board. The board is very supportive of the center. April Spargen became the director in May 2022, she worked at the center since May 2021. Child care services are offered to infants to school age children, Monday through Friday 6:00 am to 6:00 pm. Enrollment is 51 children.

Observation of rooms:
There are six rooms two program rooms have nap rooms. The center partners with Head Start for the preschool room. (Three rooms) The infant room , two/three year old room and the preschool age room were being used on the day of my licensing visit 4-30-2024. A staff persons purse was accessible to the children in the two/three year old room - this is a health and safety hazard. Please have staff places their purses and personal belongings somewhere not accessible to the children. The rooms look great and have a fun variety of age and developmentally appropriate equipment and supplies. The children were observed during nap time/rest time. All rooms were in ratio. Staff were positive and attentive to their needs. Staff in the program rooms are responsible for preparing the lesson plans/activities. The daily sheets looked good, they are on the Procare app.

Nutrition:
The center employs a cook. The center participates in the federal food program. Proper food storage was observed and there are thermometers in the refrigerator/freezer. Menus are posted.

Health and safety:
Monthly fire/tornado drills were practiced and documented.
April reported that the building has all electric appliances.
Bleach/water is used for sanitizing - 3 tsp. to 24 oz of water - I thought this sounded like too much bleach to water ratio. Please refer to your specific bottle of bleach for mixing instructions, if the directions aren't on the bottle go to the website listed on the bottle for mixing instructions. If you are using bleach/water for disinfecting please make sure you are mixing correctly - follow the same instructions for locating the mixing instructions as listed above. If you are using Oxivir Tb is used for disinfecting, you can also use it for sanitizing. The three step bottle procedure is used for sanitizing and disinfecting 1. Soap/water for cleaning, 2. Water for rinsing and 3. Your EPA approved product for disinfecting and sanitizing product. Refer to the specific bottle of bleach you are using for mixing instructions or the website listed on the bottle of bleach. Please review your bleach to water mixing ratio from your product bottle in 2023 you reported using 1 teaspoon to 20 ounces of water for sanitizing.

Six radon tests were completed in November 2022, all test scores were under 4.0 pCi/L. Radon testing is required every two years and the radon test score must me under a 4.0 pCi/L. Please contact your local health department for radon test kits or you can order them, they are approximately $15.00 each, and this should include the reading of the test. Radon testing will be due in November 2024.

Playground:
There is a playground for the school age children and the other side has a playground for the preschool and toddler age children. There is a playground for the infant age children.
Monthly playground inspections were completed.

Transportation:
The program doesn't provide daily transportation services.

Administrative records:
Staff files were read - Tracy E needs a current physical on the required DHHS form, Selena needs a staff physical on the DHHS required form. Please review all staff files to make sure all staff meet their annual training requirement.
Child files were read and were in good order.
The center provides a monthly newsletter. Staff meetings are held monthly.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

The center is an excellent resource for the community.
April continues to work hard to learn the DHS rules, she is very helpful and enthusiastic about the program.
Staff were attentive to the needs of the children.
The center continues to receive equipment and supplies from grants.
IQ4K level 3.

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.
Tracy E needs a current physical on the required DHHS form, Selena needs a staff physical on the DHHS required form.

109.9(1)e: All files contain documentation to indicate that ongoing staff training requirements are met, including current certifications in first aid/CPR and mandatory child abuse training.
Staff files were read - Please review all staff files to make sure all staff meet their annual training requirement.

109.11(3)a: Center shall ensure that: Facility and premises are sanitary, safe, and hazard free. Adequate indoor and outdoor space is provided. The outdoor area shall include safe play equipment and area of shade. Sufficient space provided for dining. Sufficient lighting shall be provided. Sufficient ventilation. Sufficient heating. sufficient cooling. Sufficient bathroom and diapering facilities. Equipment, including kitchen appliances, are maintained so as not to result in burns, shock, or injury to children. 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.
A staff persons purse was accessible to the children in the two/three year old room - this is a health and safety hazard. Please have staff places their purses and personal belongings somewhere not accessible to the children.
Bleach/water is used for sanitizing - 3 tsp. to 24 oz of water - I thought this sounded like too much bleach to water ratio. Please refer to your specific bottle of bleach for mixing instructions, if the directions aren't on the bottle go to the website listed on the bottle for mixing instructions. If you are using bleach/water for disinfecting please make sure you are mixing correctly - follow the same instructions for locating the mixing instructions as listed above. If you are using Oxivir Tb is used for disinfecting, you can also use it for sanitizing. The three step bottle procedure is used for sanitizing and disinfecting 1. Soap/water for cleaning, 2. Water for rinsing and 3. Your EPA approved product for disinfecting and sanitizing product. Refer to the specific bottle of bleach you are using for mixing instructions or the website listed on the bottle of bleach. Please review your bleach to water mixing ratio from your product bottle in 2023 you reported using 1 teaspoon to 20 ounces of water for sanitizing.

V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:

A full license is recommended for 8-1-2024 to 8-1-2026.
The last approved fire marshal inspection I have is dated 11-1-2021, they are due every three years. An approved fire marshal inspection will be due 11-1-2024. If you have an approved fire marshal inspection after dated 11-1-2021 please email a copy to me.

*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.