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

Name of Center: Stay N Play Childcare **Enrollment:** 39 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 18567

Street: 1811 27th Ave S **City:** Clinton Iowa **Zip** 52732 **County:** Clinton

Mailing Address: 1811 27th Ave S, Clinton, IA, 52732

Director's Name: Megan Comstock **Phone Number:** 563-242-1214

On-Site Supervisor(s): none **E-Mail:** snp@staynplay.org

Date(s) of Visit: 04-17-2024

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

Date Inspected: 05-04-2023

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 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	6	6	40		52
Summer					0

QRS Rating: 1

RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE:	
X	**FULL** license from 12-01-2024 to 12-01-2026
	PROVISIONAL license from
	DENIAL of initial application
	SUSPENSION of license
	REVOCATION of license

Licensing Consultant: Heidi Hungate **Date:** 04-26-2024

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 4/17/24. The center director, Megan Comstock, was present along with other staff. Megan is qualified and has worked at the center for many years prior to becoming the center director. This program is non-profit and is owned and operated by the Clinton Housing Authority. There is a well-defined organizational structure. The program is governed by a voluntary board of directors that is appointed by the mayor. The program operates on the main level of its own building. The center currently provides care to children age two through 12 years. The center does participate in the Iowa Voluntary Preschool Grant program.

The center consists of three separate program rooms; four/five year old room (main room), three year old room (back room), and two year old room (side room). A separate eating area is adjacent to the three year old room. The director advises that school age children would typically be grouped with the four/five year old children but would use the three year old area in the summer and on non school days. The computer area in the three year old room is used for school age children and staff. The pre-k room continues to be set up with activity centers. It is noted that the three year old group and four year old group switch rooms at a certain point of the preschool morning to allow both groups access to the materials in each room. The two year old room typically includes an adequate amount of accessible materials to support program needs, however, staff noted it is currently only being used for nap. Program rooms and materials are organized and are well-maintained. Both preschool rooms have a restroom area adjacent and a hand washing sink within the program room. There is also a hand washing sink located within the lunch room area. The two year old room includes an appropriate diapering station and hand washing sink. All program space was observed.

The center serves breakfast, morning snack, lunch, and afternoon snack, all prepared on site by the cook who has been employed at the center for many years. The kitchen area continues to be very organized. The center does participate in the CACFP. All children currently eat meals and snacks together in the lunchroom area that is adjacent to the kitchen and three year old room.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

The center continues to be very well managed by a qualified director who has worked at the center for many years. The staff appear to work quite well together. The center continues at IQ4K level one rating. The staff were once again observed to be highly engaged with the children in activities, and the children appeared to be enjoying their preschool/childcare experience. The program does offer scholarship grants in conjunction with empowerment grants for many of the three year old children who attend. The program routinely partners with a nearby substance abuse facility where mothers and children reside to enable the mothers to attend counseling, find and maintain work, and attend necessary appointments. Program rooms are bright with windows and are colorfully decorated with the children's projects and other various postings. New rubber fall surfacing has been added to the outdoor play area. Staff and child files and other licensing information continue to be highly organized at this center.

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

N/A

V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:

Children of various ages are generally combined together at other various times of the day including at meals and snacks. The center was reminded of allowable age combinations. Two year old children may not be combined with four year old children, and three year old children may not be combined with school age children unless under the very specific rule 109.8(2)h for the very beginning and/or end of the day with only the number of children and staff present at the center as defined by the rule. It is noted that the center has been approved for an Exception to Policy through April 2025 to allow children age two through 12 to be combined at various times of the day.

The center will continue with a full license. Please address the concerns noted in the report so that corrections are obvious and ensure that items remain in compliance. 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.