

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

Name of Center: Lil Scholars Too **Enrollment:** 168 **License ID No. (Reapplications):** 47066

Street: 1300 8th ST Suite #2 **City:** West Des Moines **Iowa Zip:** 50265 **County:** Polk

Mailing Address: 1300 8th ST Suite #2, West Des Moines, IA, 50265

Director's Name: Kellie Johnson **Phone Number:** 515-223-0008

On-Site Supervisor(s): Joelly Scheef **E-Mail:** lilscholarstoo@gmail.com

Date(s) of Visit: 01-29-2020

X **Licensing Visit** X **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:** 01-20-2020

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

Date Inspected: 05-07-2019

Comments :

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

Financial Type: X **Profit** **Non-Profit** **NA**

Accreditation: **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:	<u>Year-round</u>	<u>School-Year</u>	<u>Summer Only</u>		
LICENSE CAPACITY	Infants	2 Years	Preschool	School-Age	Capacity
General	48	26	98	58	230
Summer					0

QRS Rating: N/A

RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE:	
X	FULL license from 03-01-2020 to 03-01-2022
	PROVISIONAL license from
	DENIAL of initial application
	SUSPENSION of license
	REVOCAION of license

Licensing Consultant: Melinda Larson, Child Care Licensing Consultant

Date: 02-03-2020

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

II. IDENTIFY THE AREAS OBSERVED ON THE VISIT:

Lil Scholars Too opened in May 2016. This is a single standing building. The center serves children ages infancy through school age. Marci Johnston is the owner. Marci also owns Lil Scholars, which is located in downtown Des Moines. Marci has a BA in Elementary Education. She has a Master's degree in Special Education. Marci was a teacher for eleven years prior to opening up Lil Scholars. Kellie Johnson is the director. Kellie was a director in other child care centers prior to coming to Lil Scholars Too. Joelly Scheef is the assistant director. Joelly started in this role in March 2018.

An unannounced visit was completed on today's date. Kellie and Joelly were both present today and assisted with the visit. All classrooms were observed today. The school age classroom wasn't in operation but the room was observed. Children were observed doing various activities in their classrooms. Some children were eating lunch. Some children were napping. Staff were providing supervision and assistance as needed. Staff were observed leading group learning activities and assisting children getting ready to nap.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

Kim has owned and directed daycare centers for several years. Kellie has previous experience being a director prior to coming to this center. The center benefits from their leadership and experience. This center participates in QRS and has earned a four star rating. Classrooms are well furnished with age appropriate supplies and toys.

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

V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:

This center does many things to support and maintain their staff who have been committed to being employed at the center. The center is involved in the TEACH and WAGES Program, which helps staff further their education. The center has annual raises. They have holiday parties, potlucks. They have a fun committee that organizes different ways to show appreciation to staff. At staffs' three year anniversary, the owner takes staff on a trip.

*Note: If you are the Child Care Center Director and you feel something is unclear or unjustly cited, please contact me (phone 515-362-7823; email mlarson@dhs.state.ia.us) so that we may discuss the issue. If necessary, I can make a notation in your record. You may also send a letter that will be included in your licensing file noting any disagreement you may have with this report. If you have the need for any additional information discussed during my visit, please contact me and I will forward the information to you. Thank you.

*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.

*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.

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