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

Name of Center: LINK Grinnell **Enrollment:** 154 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 50749

Street: 1333 Sunset Street **City:** Grinnell Iowa **Zip** 50112 **County:** Poweshiek

Mailing Address: PO Box 284, Grinnell, IA, 50112

Director's Name: Ashley Risting **Phone Number:** 641-260-3026

On-Site Supervisor(s): Jordan Loiselle **E-Mail:** director@linkgrinnell.org

Date(s) of Visit: 06-26-2025

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:** 04-21-2025

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

Date Inspected: 09-26-2023

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.) 2 Years 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				150	150
Summer					0

QRS Rating: N/A

RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE:	
X	**FULL** license from 06-01-2025 to 06-01-2027
	PROVISIONAL license from
	DENIAL of initial application
	SUSPENSION of license
	REVOCATION of license

Licensing Consultant: Melinda Larson, Child Care Licensing Consultant **Date:** 07-01-2025

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

II. IDENTIFY THE AREAS OBSERVED ON THE VISIT:

LINK Grinnell opened in September 2019. LINK is a non-profit organization in Grinnell. This daycare is one program of LINK. The center is located in Grinnell High School for summer programming . The center is open 7:30 am - 5:30 pm during the summer. The center is open 3:00 - 6:00 pm during the school year. The center is using several classrooms and the gym for summer programming. The center is using Lyons Park and Bailey Park Elementary for playgrounds. The center serves school age children and is open on a year round basis. Ashley Risting is the director. Ashley has a BS in Secondary Education. Ashley has been employed with LINK since 2021. Ashley was an assistant director prior to becoming director. Jordan Loiselle is the on site supervisor.

An unannounced visit was completed on today's date. All areas subject to HHS licensing rules were reviewed. The center had a summer schedule available. This week's lesson plan, Taste and See, was also available for viewing. The center is using eight classrooms in the high school. They also use the gym occasionally. The classrooms are well supplied with age appropriate toys and learning supplies.

Ashley Risting assisted with today's visit. There were eleven staff working today. Fifty six children were present today. Children were observed outdoors, in the cafeteria and in program rooms. The children were just arriving at the school at the beginning of the visit as they had an off site visit earlier in the day. Lunch time, large motor games and transition times were observed. Staff were playing alongside the children and providing support and guidance to the children.

The high school is a free meal site for Grinnell. Breakfast and lunch is served as part of this program. The center provides morning and afternoon snacks. Menus reflect the snacks are in compliance with CACFP standards.

The center is using Lyons Park and Bailey Elementary School's playground this summer.

The center uses their own two buses for transportation to field trips.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

LINK has been providing child care for school age children for many years. This center has a good supply of age appropriate games and toys for the children. There are volunteers from Iowa Corp who provide additional support and interaction for the children. Large motor play activities are offered daily with the use of the gym and playground.

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

There were no licensing violations cited during this visit.

V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:

This center has a full license.

*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 melinda.larson@hhs.iowa.gov) so that we may discuss the issue.

*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.