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

Name of Center: Lil' Cubs **Enrollment:** 133 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 18046

Street: 1120 S G AVE **City:** Nevada Iowa **Zip** 50201 **County:** Story

Mailing Address: 1120 S G AVE, Nevada, IA, 50201

Director's Name: Amy Coogler/Abbigail Buttry **Phone Number:** 515-382-3333

On-Site Supervisor(s): Ashleigh Glauner/Rebecca Snodgrass **E-Mail:** lilcubschildcare@gmail.com

Date(s) of Visit: 10-11-2023

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

LICENSING VISITS

New Application X **Re-Application** **NA**

Signed Application (470-0722) Received X **Yes** **No** **NA** **Date Signed:** 11-02-2022

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

Date Inspected: 11-16-2021

Comments :

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

Financial Type: X Profit 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	59	27	56	50	192
Summer					0

QRS Rating: 2

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

Licensing Consultant: Melinda Larson, Child Care Licensing Consultant **Date:** 11-20-2023

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

N/A.

II. IDENTIFY THE AREAS OBSERVED ON THE VISIT:

After being an in-home provider for years, Amy Coogler started a licensed preschool program in 2006. She saw there was a need for a child care center and was able to remodel a church and opened Lil Cubs Childcare on Sept. 8, 2014. Amy meets the requirements to be director. Abbigail Buttry is the co-director. Abbigail has a Bachelor's degree in Sociology and Human Services and worked at this daycare center for two years prior to becoming co-director. Rebecca Snodgrass is the On-Site Supervisors at the center. Rebecca has taken college courses and had four prior years experience at this center prior to becoming On-Site supervisor. Hours of operation are 6:00 am-6:00 pm. They serve infants through school age children.

In 2017, Amy completed an addition to the center, adding new rooms and completing some remodeling to the existing building. There are now seven enclosed classrooms. Recently, Amy split a large room in half, however they share the common area so the wall does not separate the entire room. This is for the older toddlers and twos. This does not change the capacity for the center and the fire marshal approved the half wall on 12/13/19. The split portion holds 8 children on each side and the shared/common area holds 10 children for capacity.

An unannounced visit was completed on 10/11/23 All areas subject to HHS licensing were reviewed. Mandatory postings are in place at the center's entrance. Handwashing posters are in place. Diaper changing posters are in place. Classrooms have schedules posted. The center uses Creative Curriculum. Each classroom has a monthly lesson plan.

Amy and Abby were present today. They assisted with the visit. The center has two infant classrooms. One room had four infants and two staff, the second room five infants with two staff working. There are three toddler classrooms. One room had five toddlers. One staff was working with this group. The second class had ten toddlers. Three staff were working with this group. The third toddler class had ten toddlers present. Three staff were working with this class. The 2's class had nine children present. There were two staff working in this classroom. A 3's classroom had twenty one children present. Three staff working in this class. The 4/5's class had twelve children in attendance. One staff was working with this group. The school age class wasn't in session during the visit. Children were observed during staff assisted activities and individual activities. Some classes were observed having lunch.

The center serves morning snack, lunch and afternoon snack. The center has a full kitchen. Menus reviewed showed the center is following CACFP requirements. Lunch served today was macaroni and cheese, green beans, peaches and milk.

The center has a fenced in playground. The center documents monthly playground checks.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

Amy feels a strength for the center is the ability to separate children according to their ages.

Amy has been in the field of child care for over thirty years. She feels she can offer a lot to the families that want a center setting rather than an in-home environment. She has hired staff who have previous experience working in other child care settings and they bring with them new ideas and enthusiasm.

The center has grown and enrollment is consistent.

The center has a good reputation in the community.

The staff work well together and the center is family based. The center also conducts family events. Each classroom sends out a newsletter once a month by email.

The center has a Facebook page as well as a website.

The center has a secured entrance. The center has video cameras in each room for extra security.

The director/owner is a certified CPR/First Aid instructor.

The rooms are set up well with a large variety of toys and equipment and center arrangement.

The center has many long term staff working at the center.

The center uses walkie talkie's for communication.

The management team works well together. They strive to show staff they are appreciated. They do contests which brings out creativity and engagement with the staff, such as door decorating contests with prizes. They have pot lucks and bring in food and treats. They give out gift cards if a staff does not call in for the month. At the end of the year, if a staff has five days of their 8 days of sick leave left, the staff is paid for a week of work as a bonus. They make the environment fun and fun place to work.

The owner put in new surfacing on the playground, with new mulch and underlayment; putting in $30,000 worth of mulch and surfacing materials.

The center staff and administrative team develop good relationships with the families and have strong communication. Families stay with the center.

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

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.
One staff needs to complete the skills section of CPR.
One staff needs to take Universal Precautions training.

V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:

The 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 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.