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

Name of Center: Little Sprouts Student Center **Enrollment:** 47 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 52264

Street: 206 W Main ST **City:** New Hampton Iowa **Zip** 50659 **County:** Chickasaw

Mailing Address: 206 W Main ST, New Hampton, IA, 50659

Director's Name: Amy Ameling **Phone Number:** 641-394-5840

On-Site Supervisor(s): Presley Kohlmeyer & Destiny Hard **E-Mail:** lscc.director.nh@gmail.com

Date(s) of Visit: 08-20-2024

Licensing Visit X **Unannounced Visit** X **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: 09-05-2023

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 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	0	0	25	25	50
Summer					0

QRS Rating: N/A

RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE:	
X	**FULL** license from 08-23-2023 to 09-01-2025
	PROVISIONAL license from
	DENIAL of initial application
	SUSPENSION of license
	REVOCATION of license

Licensing Consultant: Becky Frost **Date:** 08-26-2024

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

N/A

II. IDENTIFY THE AREAS OBSERVED ON THE VISIT:

On 08/20/24 I made an unannounced off year licensing visit to Little Sprouts Student Center in New Hampton. I met with Presley Kohlmeyer, an on-site supervisor. Ms. Kohlmeyer has been employed by Little Sprouts since August 2017. She has been the on-site supervisor for this site since it opened in August 2023. Ms. Kohlmeyer has completed NAC training. Destiny Hard is also an on-site supervisor. Ms. Hard was a teacher in the classroom during my visit. Ms. Hard has been employed with Little Sprouts since September 2021. She is a lead teacher in the classroom and Ms. Kohlmeyer's assistant in the office. She has been the on-site supervisor for this site since it opened in August 2023. Ms. Hard has her CDA. I also briefly met with Amy Ameling, the director. Ms. Ameling is also the director of Little Sprouts Children's Center. Ms. Ameling started with the Little Sprouts program as the director in August 2020. She has a BA in elementary education with an early childhood endorsement. She has a minor in speech and theater secondary education. She has previous childcare experience. Ms. Ameling is NAC certified. This site employs four staff members.

The program operates out of New Hampton Elementary School. They were given permission to open on 08/23/23. It operates Monday through Friday from 6:00 am until 5:30 pm. They serve children ages three through nine-years-old. There are currently 47 children enrolled.

The center operates out of two rooms. The Honeybees cares for children ages three through five-years-old. The Fireflies care for children ages five through nine-years-old. An inspection of each room was completed. Artificial lighting is used in both rooms. The rooms are decorated with pictures of the children's families, the children's art projects, and posters to assist the children with the learning process, such as the alphabet, shapes, colors and numbers. The children's birthdays were posted.

The centers observed on the day of the licensing visit include library, Lego/blocks, table toys, games, transportation, art, dramatic play, math and magnets. Centers were arranged in a manner that allowed easy movement between activities, but it also allowed for clear supervision by staff members. Materials were in good condition. The materials are located at child level, so they were easily accessible to the children. Secure the cord of the light table so that children do not have access to it. This was cited in last year's report also.

The program has three bathrooms that are in the Honeybees room. Each bathroom has one toilet and one sink and handwashing procedures were posted. There is an additional bathroom in the office area that has one toilet, one urinal and two sinks. Handwashing procedures were posted. There is also a staff bathroom near the office with one toilet and one sink and procedures were posted.

The program uses a variety of resources to develop lesson plans. Lesson plans were available for review during my visit. The center uses ProCare to communicate with parents.

There was a phone with emergency numbers in the classrooms. Emergency fire and tornado procedures and evacuation diagrams were posted by the main program doors and outdoor exits in both rooms. The rooms communicate with the office using a two-way radio. A daily schedule was posted for each room.

I reviewed documentation of monthly fire and tornado drills. I reviewed documentation of monthly playground inspections. A radon test was completed in September 2023 and is good for two years. The tests results were within EPA guidelines. A fuel burning inspection was completed and no concerns were noted. A carbon monoxide detector was on site in both rooms. Outlets were protected. The fire marshal inspection occurred on 09/05/23.

The program does not participate in the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) yet. The center provides the children with breakfast, lunch and a morning and afternoon snack. Snacks are provided by the center. The children eat snack in their rooms. Dishes from both rooms are washed in the Honey Bee room using the three step method. The parents purchase breakfast and lunch through the school. They eat breakfast and lunch in the cafeteria and go through the line cafeteria style. Trays and dishes are washed by the cafeteria staff. The school provides the center with a breakfast and lunch menu. The center makes a new snack menu each month. Menus were posted and were available for review.

The school provides breakfast and lunch during the summer months also.

There is a refrigerator in each classroom and thermometers were present. There is also a refrigerator in the storage room near the office and a thermometer was present. Snacks were stored according to NHSPS guidelines.

The program is using Odoban to sanitize the food tables. The product label does not include directions for food tables, so this product cannot be used on the food tables. You must use a product that is labeled for food tables. This was cited in last year's report also.

Mats are used to nap. They are sanitized daily.

The parent information is located on a bulletin board in the hallway outside of the classrooms. The mandatory reporter, childcare consultant and the handbook availability were posted. The license was conspicuously posted. A no-smoking sign was posted at the entrance.

The program uses the school playground.

Staff members have good communication between both rooms. This is necessary because children from the Fireflies room must use the bathrooms in the Honey Bees room. Staff members had good teamwork. They provided the children with good handwashing reminders. Staff members provided clear and easy to understand directions. They provided the children with praise and used positive redirection when necessary. They were flexible with their schedules. Staff members moved around the space to provide good supervision. The children appeared to enjoy their time in the program.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

Ms. Kohlmeyer states it is helpful and convenient being in the school. They use the school playground and gym and they receive breakfast and lunch from the school.

Ms. Kohlmeyer states they have a good relationship with the school. Them being in the school has helped with enrollment for them and the school.

Ms. Kohlmeyer states they are supported by the administration at Little Sprouts Children's Center.

Ms. Kohlmeyer states she and Ms. Hard have a good working relationship.

The program is in a secured building and there are cameras in the room. The childcare center has their own entrance.

Ms. Kohlmeyer states they plan to start working toward an IQ4K level 1.

The program uses Pro Care to communicate with parents.

The childcare program can use the school gym and the playground.

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

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.
Secure the cord of the light table so that children do not have access to it. This was cited in last year's report also. The program is using Odoban to sanitize the food tables. The product label does not include directions for food tables, so this product cannot be used on the food tables. You must use a product that is labeled for food tables. This was cited in last year's report also.

V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:

A full license is issued for the remainder of the licensing period. All DHS licensing standards and procedures must be maintained during the renewal period.

There are a couple repeat violations from last year. Please review the report carefully and make corrections.

*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.