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

Name of Center: Learn and Play PS & DCC - Cedar Falls **Enrollment:** 60 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 36290

Street: 4710 Cedar Heights DR **City:** Cedar Falls Iowa **Zip** 50613 **County:** Black Hawk

Mailing Address: 4710 Cedar Heights DR, Cedar Falls, IA, 50613

Director's Name: Mary Sires & Autumn Rubino **Phone Number:** 319-266-7944

On-Site Supervisor(s): Justina Brown, Jennifer Holstad & Kayla Begley **E-Mail:** sires_mary@yahoo.com

Date(s) of Visit: 07-07-2020

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

Date Inspected: 01-15-2020

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 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	20	12	32	0	64
Summer					0

QRS Rating: 5

RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE:	
X	**FULL** license from 08-01-2019 to 08-01-2021
	PROVISIONAL license from
	DENIAL of initial application
	SUSPENSION of license
	REVOCATION of license

Licensing Consultant: Becky Frost **Date:** 07-16-2020

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

N/A

II. IDENTIFY THE AREAS OBSERVED ON THE VISIT:

On 07/07/20 I made an announced visit to Learn and Play Preschool and Daycare Center in Cedar Falls. Licensing visits are currently announced due to the Covid 19 pandemic. The center opened in August 2011. I met with Autumn Rubino, the co-director for the center. Ms. Rubino has been with the program since it opened in August 2011 and worked at the Learn and Play Preschool and Daycare in Evansdale prior to that. Mary Sires is the co-director and owner of the center. Justina Brown is an on-site supervisor. She has been with the program since April 2012. Jennifer Holstad is also an on-supervisor. She has been with the program since August 2011. Kayla Begley is the third on-site supervisor. She started in August 2012. There are seventeen staff members employed by the center.

The program operates out of a free standing building. The program typically operates Monday through Friday from 6:30 am until 5:30 pm and serves infants through preschool aged children. Due to Covid, the program is currently closing at 4:30 pm. There are currently 60 children enrolled.

The center operates out of the following rooms: infant room (Bunnies), toddler room, two-year-old room (Crickets), three-year-old room (Dinosaurs) and preschool room. An inspection of each room was completed. Windows provide natural lighting. The rooms are decorated with pictures of the children, 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. There is an area for circle time in the rooms for the older children. The hallways are also decorated with the children's art work, pictures of the children and pictures of the staff members.

The centers observed on the day of the licensing visit include library, blocks, table toys, games, puzzles, transportation, art, dramatic play, play dough, science, puppets, writing, math, woodworking, sensory table and music. 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.

There are two bathrooms in the hallway. One bathroom has two toilets and one sink. The other bathroom has one toilet, one urinal and one sink. Handwashing procedures were posted in both locations.

The center uses a variety of resources to develop lesson plans. Activities are based upon weekly themes. Each teacher prepares their own lesson plans. Lesson plans were available for review.

The center uses the Kinderlime app for their daily sheets and to communicate with parents for all the classrooms. There is not an area to document the child's disposition. This is mandated for all children under the age of two-years-old. I would recommend putting it under the notes section.

There was a phone with emergency numbers in the classrooms. Emergency fire and tornado procedures and diagrams were posted by the main program and outdoor exits. Daily schedules were posted.

I reviewed documentation of monthly fire and tornado drills. I reviewed documentation of monthly playground inspections.

A radon test was completed in May 2019 and is good for two years. Three of the rooms tested higher than EPA guidelines. The program conducted long term tests to re-test the rooms and they were sent in October 2019. The results of the long term tests were within the recommended EPA guidelines. The center put in a new furnace and duct work in November 2013. The fuel burning inspection was completed and no concerns were noted. The carbon monoxide is located in the utility room. Outlets were protected. The fire marshal inspection occurred on 01/15/20.

The center participates in the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP). The center serves the children breakfast, lunch and an afternoon snack. The program typically serves a morning and afternoon snack, but they have currently shortened their hours of operation so both snacks are not necessary. Autumn Rubino is the primary cook. Meals are served in the rooms. They were previously served family style for the older children and assistance is given to the younger children, but currently all children are being served their food. The center uses a four week rotation of menus. Dishes from all rooms are returned to the kitchen where they are put through the dishwasher. Menus and allergies were posted. Food items were stored according to NHSPS guidelines. There were thermometers present in all of the refrigerators and freezers.

The center provides the infants formula, baby food and cereal. If parents prefer a different brand they must supply their own.

The center uses Purell Professional Surface Disinfectant to sanitize the food tables and disinfect the changing tables. They use bleach to sanitize the toys or put toys through the dishwasher.

The parent information is located on a bulletin board inside the entrance. There is a resource shelf available in this area as well. The mandatory reporter, child care consultant and the handbook availability were posted. The license was conspicuously hung. A no-smoking sign was posted at the entrance.

During this pandemic, the program is taking the temperature of every child who enters the center. Parents are not allowed to walk through the center, but bring the child inside the entrance. The center has a thorough cleaning and sanitizing schedule. There are no plush items in the center. Children are not allowed to bring any items from home into the center.

Cots are used to nap and according to Ms. Rubino the bedding was being washed daily. However, after talking with staff members it is determined the bedding was being washed daily at one time, but they have reverted to washing it one time each week. Ms. Rubino was unaware that staff members went back to once a week and states they will resume washing the bedding daily. I advised her they also need to wash the dramatic play clothing daily and any pillows used in the quiet areas daily or remove these items.

Staff members were observed to interact with the children at their level. Even though some center items are unavailable due to the pandemic, the program still offers a variety of activities for the children. Staff used positive redirection when necessary and were observed singing and playing with the children. The children seemed to enjoy and feel comfortable in the program.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

The program has a Quality Rating System (QRS) level of 5 that expires on 01/31/22.

There are cameras in each of the rooms.

There are timers by each of the sinks so that children know how long they must wash their hands.

Owlets are being used in the infant room.

There are pictures of the staff members in the entrance and there are pictures of the children in the hallways. There is a resource table for parents in the entrance.

Ms. Rubino states they painted each of the rooms and put new carpet in the hallway and the preschool room.

The teachers assess the children a minimum of three times each year using the ASQ Assessment tool for children ages six weeks through 48 months and the Creative Curriculum GOLD assessments for children who are four and five-years-old.

The program works with Central Rivers AEA and the local school district.

The program does parent surveys twice each year.

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

109.9(4): Daily written records are maintained for each child under two years of age and include time periods slept, amount of/time food consumed, time/irregularities of elimination patterns, general disposition, and general summary of activities. You must document the child's disposition on daily sheets (in the Kinderlime app) for all children under the age of two-years-old.

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.

*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.