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

Name of Center: Lil' Wildcat Education Center **Enrollment:** 35 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 51865

Street: 616 N Idaho St **City:** Glidden Iowa **Zip** 51443 **County:** Carroll

Mailing Address: PO Box 76, Glidden, IA, 51443

Director's Name: Jordan Lawson **Phone Number:** 712-497-1069

On-Site Supervisor(s): Anna Schultes **E-Mail:** lilwildcatchildcare@gmail.com

Date(s) of Visit: 07-13-2023

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

LICENSING VISITS

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

Signed Application (470-0722) Received X **Yes** **No** **NA** **Date Signed:** 07-01-2022

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

Date Inspected: 06-27-2022

Comments : State Fire Marshal inspections are due at least every three years.

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: 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	16	12	27	15	70
Summer					0

QRS Rating: N/A

RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE:	
X	**FULL** license from 08-01-2022 to 08-01-2024
	PROVISIONAL license from
	DENIAL of initial application
	SUSPENSION of license
	REVOCATION of license

Licensing Consultant: Nate Knepper **Date:** 07-14-2023

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

N/A.

II. IDENTIFY THE AREAS OBSERVED ON THE VISIT:

An off-year visit was conducted on 7/13/23. The director and on-site supervisor were present for the entire visit as was a representative from the Family Resource Center.

All areas of the program were observed. These areas observed consisted of classroom observations and activities, ratios, nutritional practices, health and safety practices, playground observation, field trip and transportation practices, and administrative review. The most recent COVID updates were also reviewed.

Lil' Wildcat Education Center is a newer center located in Glidden, IA that was given permission to open by DHS on 8/1/22. The center is open year-round and serves children six weeks in age through 12 years is age using the Creative Learning Curriculum. Capacity of the infant classroom is eight children. Capacity of the toddler classroom is also eight children. Capacity of the two year old classroom is 12 children. Capacity of the three year old classroom is 15 children. Capacity of the four/five year old classroom is 12 children. Capacity of the school-age classroom is 15 children.

The center is overseen by a Board. The director of this center as of 3/2023 is Jordan Lawson. Jordan has a BA degree as well as past experience working in child care. Jordan is also pursuing her Master's degree in Clinical Mental Health. The on-site supervisor of this center as of 12/2022 is Anna Schultes. Anna has an Early Childhood diploma and past experience working in child care.

During the visit, children were observed in a variety of activities that included napping in cribs, playing at the different learning stations set up in classrooms, and playing outside on the playground. Children discussed proper handwashing with this consultant as well as where they go specifically for monthly fire and tornado drills. Staff were involved in all children's activities and also provided good redirection and guidance to one child having a more difficult time at one point.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

This is a newer center and meets a need in the community. Enrollment is steady.

The new director is very well organized. The director is pursing her Master's degree. The on-site supervisor is also organized.

The center utilizes CCR&R, the Family Resource Center, AEA, and their nurse consultant regularly.

The center was very clean and had good lighting throughout.

The center is also a pickup/drop off site with the school.

There is a secure entrance into the building.

The center uses the smart phone app, Brightwheels, to further communicate with parents and to log activities, payments, etc.

Monthly staff meetings are being incorporated. An emphasis is placed on good communication for staff as well as staff members having good mental health.

Good redirection and guidance of a child having a difficult time was observed during the visit.

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

109.9(2)b: All files contain sufficient information and authorization to allow the center to secure emergency medical and dental services at any time child is in center's care.
Number not in compliance for medical: 0
Number not in compliance for dental: 1
Information lacking: All children, regardless of age, need to have a doctor and a dentist listed. The information should include the names, addresses, and phone numbers.

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.
Some of the bolts will need to have an extra nut put on them or cut down so there are not gaps between the caps/nuts and actual bolt. One bolt needs to be cut/capped.

109.15(5)b: Sanitary and safe methods in food preparation, serving, and storage sufficient to prevent transmission of disease, infestation, and spoilage are followed.
There was an issue with dry food storage. Food not entirely consumed such as cereal, crackers, etc. should be stored in sealable containers while in storage.

V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:

At this time, the only field trips that are being taken are walking field trips to the surrounding areas.

Radon testing was completed 2/24/23 - 2/27/23. Some classrooms came back with radon levels below the 4.0 cutoff and some came back above the 4.0 cutoff. All classrooms will need to be retested and a mitigation plan established from a radon specialist. Levels need to be below 4.0 in all classrooms. At this time, the center will remain on an every two year plan for radon testing once this new test is completed and the levels are below 4.0.

The annual fuel-burning appliance inspection is scheduled for 8/30/23.

The carbon monoxide detector is built into the building.

I-Power and IQ4K were again discussed at the visit.

Last year, this consultant reviewed the center's staff and parent handbooks. The new director is still working on the below things from an email sent by this consultant:

STAFF HANDBOOK:

1. In regards to ratios section, just a reminder some of these will be changing Oct. 1, 2022 that we talked about so you will have to change that some then.
2. In regards to required staff trainings, they have to have the initial things done now (CPR, First-Aid, Universal Precautions, Mandatory Reporter, and Essentials all done within first 90 days of employment rather than just stating within first year.
3. Under Guidance Strategies to use with children, I want you to also include what is not allowed for discipline which you can just cut/paste from the attached manual and page 134 (the A-D). I see you have it in your parent handbook/ but I'd put in in staff handbook as well.
4. Under Sanitizing and Disinfecting section, you are detailed which is fine, but you could also just state staff should follow manufacturer's instructions on how to use (i.e. mixing, diluting, dwell times, etc. as some products EPA products are a bit different).

PARENT HANDBOOK:
1. You kind of state this, but I would also put the language, "unless restricted by a court order" under the Custody/visitation agreement section as it pertains to parents visiting/dropping off/etc. Maybe a statement before A-E?

*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.