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

Name of Center: Safe Care Learning Center LLC **Enrollment:** 74 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 48045

Street: 118 S Barclay ST **City:** Waterloo Iowa **Zip** 50703 **County:** Black Hawk

Mailing Address: 118 S Barclay ST, Waterloo, IA, 50703

Director's Name: Kimberly Kemp **Phone Number:** 319-233-0889

On-Site Supervisor(s): Kalaziah Bruce **E-Mail:** safecarelearningcenter@gmail.com

Date(s) of Visit: 01-13-2023

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:** 01-05-2023

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

Date Inspected: 11-21-2022

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: X Infants (0-23 mo.) X 2 Years X Preschool-Age X School-Age

Get-Well X Evening Care X 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	15	14	19	22	70
Summer					0

QRS Rating: N/A

RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE:	
X	**FULL** license from 02-01-2023 to 02-01-2025
	PROVISIONAL license from
	DENIAL of initial application
	SUSPENSION of license
	REVOCATION of license

Licensing Consultant: Becky Frost **Date:** 01-26-2023

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

N/A

II. IDENTIFY THE AREAS OBSERVED ON THE VISIT:

On 01/13/23 I made an unannounced licensing visit to Safe Care Leaning Center, LLC in Waterloo. I met with Kimberly Kemp, the owner and director of the program. Ms. Kemp has an AAS in business administration and management. She owned a non-registered childcare home for one year and a registered childcare home for seven years. Kalaziah Bruce is the on-site supervisor. She has worked with Ms. Kemp since she had a childcare home. The program currently employs 18 staff members.

Safe Care Learning Center operates out of a free-standing building that was once part of the Quakerdale residential treatment program. The program was given permission to open on 11/01/16. It operates Monday through Sunday for 24 hours each day. It serves infants through school-aged children. There are currently 74 children enrolled.

The program has the following classrooms: infant room, 18 month and two-year-old room, three-year-old room, four-year-old room and school-age room. There is also a rec room that is used by all the children, but primarily the school-aged children. Currently the program is only operating out of two rooms and the rec room area. An inspection of each room was completed. Windows provide natural lighting in the rooms. The rooms are decorated with the children's art projects, and posters to assist the children with the learning process, such as the alphabet.

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

Cots are used to nap. Mats are used for the older infants. It is reported that bedding is washed each day and mats are sanitized daily.

This program is open 24 hours each day Monday through Sunday. Please be aware that you must provide separate, private space for school-aged boys and girls for restroom and bedtime activities. Both the female and male room must have supervision while the children sleep.

The program uses The Safeway Curriculum-Scholars Achieving Future Entrepreneurs to develop lesson plans. A lesson plan was available for review in the classroom used for children two through five-years-old. The center is also using the Character Counts Curriculum.

There is a phone in the kitchen area and the office and emergency numbers, and the program's address and phone number were posted. Emergency fire and tornado procedures and evacuation diagrams were posted near some of the main program doors and outdoor exits. You must post the evacuation diagram near all the doors in each of the program rooms and the kitchen.

Daily schedules were not posted in any of the rooms. Please post a daily schedule in each room. This was cited last year

also.

There is a bathroom on each end of the hallway, and they have two toilets and two sinks. Handwashing procedures were posted in both locations. There is a bathroom in the two-year-old room that has one toilet, one sink and a changing table. Handwashing and diaper changing procedures were posted. There is a bathroom in the infant room with one toilet and one sink and handwashing procedures were posted. There is one changing table in the infant room and diaper changing procedures were posted. The mat used on the changing table is torn so it cannot be properly disinfected. The mat must be removed or replaced. There is also a sink inside the infant room and procedures were posted.

The three-year-old classroom, the four-year-old classroom and the room on the east side of the building was not in use during my visit.

The school-age children are cared for in the rec room area in the mornings prior to school. After school they are cared for at Ms. Kemp's second childcare site, Safe Care Kids Center, which is in a building directly next door.

I reviewed documentation of monthly fire and tornado drills. Because you are open 24 hours each day you must also practice separate drills for the night and weekend children so that all children are practicing drills once each month. This has been cited in the last two years' reports and must be corrected. You must have the evening and weekend children practice drills.

The program received playground equipment from the former Expo High School and a closed Waterloo elementary school. They have not had the opportunity to purchase and install fall surfacing, so the equipment is not being used. Once you are using the playground area you must complete monthly playground inspections and have them available for review during licensing visits. The program plans to fence in two separate playground areas: one in front of the center and one behind the center. Quakerdale is going to purchase the fencing for the program. The Quakerdale Foundation is going to help the program with grants to assist in purchasing items. Currently, the children play on a grassy area, and they have use of a gym on Quakerdale campus.

A radon test was completed in January 2022 and must be repeated in two years. Results were within EPA guidelines. The annual fuel burning inspection was completed and no concerns were noted. A carbon monoxide detector was on site in the kitchen. Outlets were protected. The fire marshal inspection occurred on 11/21/22.

The center does not participate in the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP), but it does follow the guidelines. Ms. Kemp has completed the Serv Safe training and states the program is close to being on the CACFP program. The program serves breakfast, lunch, supper and a morning and afternoon snack. The program has a two-month rotation of menus. The school-aged children eat in the dining room area and the other children eat in their classrooms.

In the kitchen there is a refrigerator and thermometers were present. Food items were stored according to NHSPS guidelines. Allergies were posted. Dishes are washed using the three-step method.

In the infant room there are two refrigerators. You must add thermometers. Parents provide the formula, and the center provides baby food and cereal. Bottles are sent to the kitchen to be washed.

The center uses Member's Mark sanitizer (a Sam's Club brand) to sanitize the food tables and uses bleach and water to disinfect the changing tables. The Member's Mark sanitizer has a dwell time of one minute.

I discussed the diaper changing procedures with staff members in both operating rooms and proper procedures are being followed.

In the infant room the electrical cords for the television in the room need to be secured so children do not have access to them.

The parent information is located on a bulletin board inside the entrance. The mandatory reporter, childcare consultant and the handbook availability were posted. The license must be posted also. A no-smoking sign was posted at the entrance.

Staff and children files were reviewed at the time of the licensing visit. I reviewed twelve children files. Files must contain emergency contact information for the doctor and dentist of each child. The doctor and dentist's name, phone number and complete street address must be provided. Three files did not provide any dental emergency contact. There were two missing physicals and three outdated physicals. There was one invalid immunization certificate because it was not signed or dated by medical personnel. There was not a pattern of disregard so this will not be cited.

I reviewed four staff files. SING checks are due on two of the staff members right now. The names were given to administration. One of the physicals was not on the mandated Department of Health and Human Services form, but the center has faxed the physician to correct this. There was an outdated fingerprint that was last completed in January 2017

and a staff member who did not have fingerprints who started in February 2022. Both staff members have had fingerprints mailed in, but they are both grossly overdue.

I reviewed policy and procedures, staff and parent handbooks. The necessary written emergency procedures and policies were present. Emergency Preparedness Plans have been completed.

Staff members were observed to have great interaction with the children. In the room for the children ages two and older the staff members were enthusiastic and encouraging. During circle time the lead staff member included each child. The children exercised and danced. They also did "calming" exercises. The children were offered choices. Repetition was used to teach. In the infant room the staff member was on the floor interacting with the children. She was nurturing and provided each child attention. She was enthusiastic and had good knowledge about the licensing rules.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

Ms. Kemp has painted each of the program rooms a separate color and tables, chairs, cots and tubs were bought to match the color of each room. The rooms look great.

Each room has a lot more center activities for the children. This has been a big improvement.

The center is going to use the Brightwheel app through the Shared Services project. Someone has been meeting with staff members, either in person or by Zoom, to help teach them about the program. This partnership will continue for a year. The program has bought tablets for each classroom. The center is already using the app for billing. Ms. Kemp states she has seen the app cut down on their administrative tasks already and she is excited about it. They are working on getting the parents on board with using the app now. They will use the app to communicate with parents.

The program is in a secured building and there are surveillance cameras in each room. The center just increased their internet so they can install cameras that record.

The center has an extensive Covid 19 policy, and everyone is required to wear masks.

Ms. Kemp states they are going to apply for IQ4K. She has contacted Child Care Resource and Referral.

The center is a bus stop for Lowell and Cunningham schools. The center has vans to transport to other schools. The program serves children from eight different schools.

Ms. Kemp states they are all part of a large family, the Safe Care family. She states they support one another, and bounce ideas off one another. It is important to provide safe care to the children.

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

109.9(1)b: All files contain:A signed copy of DHS criminal history record check or any other permission form approved by the Department of public Safety for conducting an Iowa or national criminal history check. A copy of Request for Child Abuse Information.Copies of the results of Iowa records checks conducted.Copies of national criminal history check results.Any Department-issued documents sent to the center related to records check.
Number not in compliance: 2
SING checks are due on two of the staff members right now. The names were given to administration. There was an outdated fingerprint that was last completed in January 2017 and a staff member who did not have fingerprints who started in February 2022. Both staff members have had fingerprints mailed in, but they are both grossly overdue.

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 dental: 3
Information lacking: Files must contain emergency contact information for the doctor and dentist of each child. The doctor and dentist's name, phone number and complete street address must be provided. Three files did not provide any dental emergency contact.

109.10(1)a: Preschool (for children five years and younger not enrolled in school): Physical exam report submitted within 30 days of admission, was obtained no more than 12 months prior to admission, is signed by a licensed MD, DO, PA, or ARNP, and contains health history; present health status including allergies, medications, and acute/chronic conditions; and recommendations for continued care if necessary.

Number not in compliance: 5
There were two missing physicals and three outdated physicals.

109.10(15)b: Emergency instructions, phone numbers, and diagrams for fire, tornado, and flood shall be visibly posted and documented at least once a month for fire and tornado. Records shall be maintained for current and previous year.
Because you are open 24 hours each day you must also practice separate drills for the night and weekend children so that all children are practicing drills once each month. This has been cited in the last two years' reports and must be corrected. You must have the evening and weekend children practice drills. You must post the evacuation diagram near all the doors in each of the program rooms and the kitchen.

109.12(1): Program structure that uses developmentally appropriate practices and written program of activities planned to the developmental needs of children served.Program complements but does not duplicate school curriculum.Schedule of program is posted in a place visible to parents.
Daily schedules were not posted in any of the rooms. Please post a daily schedule in each room. This was cited last year also.

V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:

A full license is issued. 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.