Health and Human Services

Iowa Department of Health And Human Services

CHILD CARE CENTER ANNUAL EVALUATION

Name of Center: KCE Champions LLC @ Dunkerton

Provider No.: 52954

Address: 509 Canfield, Dunkerton, IA, 50626

County: Black Hawk

Director's Name: Bethany "Bree" Hogue

On-Site Supervisor: Molly Finder

Phone Number: 3194323608

E-Mail: Bree.Hogue@discoverchampions.com
SSous@discoverchampions.com

HHS Visit Date: 08/31/2026

Licensing Period: 08/25/2025 to 09/01/2027

Fire Inspection:

Date Inspected: 08/06/2025

Comments:

Report Visit Type:

- [ ] PTO
- [X] Licensing Visit
- [ ] Drop In
- [ ] Administrative Change

License Type:

- [X] Full
- [ ] Provisional

Quality initiative:

- [ ] Accrediation

Program Duration:

- [X] Year-Round
- [ ] School Year
- [ ] Summer Only

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Program Population Served:

- [ ] Infant(0-<24 Months)
- [ ] Toddler
- [X] PreSchool
- [X] School Age
- [ ] All Ages

LICENSE CAPACITY	Infants	2 Years	Preschool	School-Aged	Capacity
General	0	0	20	56	76
Summer					0

1. Basic Overview

On 08/31/26 I made an unannounced off year licensing visit to KCE Champions LLC, Dunkerton in Dunkerton. Bethany "Bree" Hogue is the director/area manager. She was not present during my visit. Ms. Hogue has an AA in early childhood. She has several years of experience working in childcare programs. Ms. Hogue started with Champions in March 2022 and is the area manager for multiple sites and has been at the Dunkerton site since they opened in August 2025. Molly Finder is the on-site supervisor. Ms. Finder was hired in July 2025. She was previously a paraeducator at a school for two years. She has a certificate in early childhood from Hawkeye Community College. There are three additional staff members employed by the program. Julie Rottinghaus will be in charge when Ms. Finder goes on maternity leave this fall.

The program was given permission to open on 08/25/25. It operates inside Dunkerton Elementary. The program serves preschool and school age children. The childcare program operates from 6:30-8:05 am and 3:30-5:30 pm. On Monday's children are provided with childcare all day because the school does not have a preschool class on this day. There are also several Mondays that are professional development days for school teachers and school age children are present on Mondays. The program will be open on no school days. They will be open for breaks if they have ten children attending. They will close on inclement weather days. They will be open for the summer if they have enough interest. There are twelve children currently enrolled.

The program primarily operates out of two classrooms and they have a gross motor room. They have a total capacity of 70 children. Room 154 has a capacity of 25 children; room 156 has a capacity for 13 children; the gross motor room has a capacity of 32 children.

The rooms have natural lighting. They also use the outside playground area. The centers observed include art, blocks/Legos, games, table toys, puzzles, Play-Doh, puppets, music, transportation, dramatic play, magnets, science, math, writing, and library. 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 are easily accessible to the children.

The children use a bathroom across from the primary program room. The bathroom has one toilet and one sink and handwashing procedures were posted. There is a mat in the bathroom in case a diaper change is necessary and procedures were posted. There are additional bathrooms down the hall that the program also uses. The girl's bathroom has five toilets and three sinks. The boy's bathroom has two toilets, three urinals and three sinks. Handwashing procedures were posted in both bathrooms. There are additional bathrooms located in the school. There is a sink in the gross motor room. Post handwashing procedures near the sink.

Mats are used to nap for the preschool children. They are sanitized daily.

The program has a cell phone. There is a landline phone in one of the classrooms. You must post emergency numbers with the program's address and phone number near all landline phones. This was cited in last year's report also. Emergency fire and tornado procedures and an evacuation diagram were posted near exits in the classrooms and the gross motor room.

For curriculum the program uses Kinder Care Education for school age children and they modify it for the preschool children. Kinder Care Education has books for each season. They also have Early Foundations Preschool and Creating Connections Curriculum. Ms. Finder states she does units for two weeks at a time. There is an Epson projector in the room. A daily schedule and lesson plan were posted on the parent board.

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

Radon testing has not occurred and it has been over one year. The program purchased an AEG radon monitor off of Amazon; however, this does not meet the requirements for radon test devices. All test devices used for determining if mitigation is warranted shall be devices that are listed by the National Radon Proficiency Program (NRPP) or the National Radon Safety Board (NRSB). Ms. Finder has contacted the childcare nurse consultant to obtain a radon test for each program room.

The fuel burning inspection was completed and no concerns were noted. A carbon monoxide detector was on site in both classrooms. In the ICN room the carbon monoxide detector is on the south wall. In the classroom off the office the carbon monoxide detector is on the ceiling. Outlets were protected. The fire marshal inspection occurred on 08/06/25.

The program is not on the Child and Adult care Food Program (CACFP) but follows the guidelines. Tuesday through Friday the program does not provide breakfast to the children. The children are released to school for breakfast. The after school children are provided with an afternoon snack. The afternoon snack is purchased by Champions from the school. They eat the afternoon snack in the classroom.

On Mondays the children who are in care all day are provided with breakfast lunch and an afternoon snack. They eat in their classroom. Everything is provided by the school. The school provide a new menu to the program each month.

When there is no school and during the summer, the children are provided with breakfast, lunch and an afternoon snack. Champions staff members make the meals and snacks using the school kitchen.

The program uses Purell Professional Surface Disinfectant to sanitize the food tables and to disinfect the diaper changing mat.

The parent information is at the entrance. 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.

The program has access to the school playground. The area is partially fenced in. Not all the equipment is appropriate for preschool children so the children must be closely monitored in this space. Woodchips are used in most areas. There is a large piece of climbing equipment for school age children that has slides, rings, monkey bars and a climbing wall. There is also a balance beam and climbing dome. There are swings on the playground. Rubber tiles are used under a climbing wall tunnel/cave. This piece of equipment is fine for use by preschool children. There is a grassy area and there are benches available for the children to rest. Outside of the fence is a shade shelter with picnic tables.

2. Identify Observed Strengths of the program

There were two staff members with ten children on the day of my visit. Ms. Finder was training a new staff member and she was doing great. She maintained the schedule, while also being flexible with me there. Staff members were patient and used positive redirection when necessary. They got down to the children's level to solve problems with the children. They reminded the children of the rules. They maintained positive conversation with the children.

Ms. Finder states the school age children participated in several field trips this summer. They typically had a field trip once each week. They use the Dunkerton School bus for transportation.

Ms. Finder states all the children walked to the public library every Wednesday during the summer for story time.

Ms. Finder states they work hard to create a safe environment for the children. They want the children to feel like they can tell them anything.

Ms. Finder states they keep a structured environment to avoid behaviors.

Ms. Finder states the children are great and they could not be here without them.

The program is in a secure building.

Ms. Finder states she has virtual meetings with Ms. Hogue every Tuesday and they communicate daily.

Champions encourage families to complete Family Engagement Surveys. They are interested in learning what parents would like to see improved and what they see as strengths.

3. Identify the aspects that fall below the standard

109.11(8)b: Centers at ground level that use basement area as program space, or have a basement beneath program space: Testing and plan for remedy of radon is conducted.
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4. Any corrective action plans, provisional license, and safety plans-steps to get into compliance

N/A

5. Special Notes/Recommendations

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

Targeted Assessment: Behavior Management:
I discussed with Ms. Finder her oversight of behavior management related to helping childcare staff: 1) Understand expectations, 2) managing frustrations, 3) monitor performance. Ms. Finder states she models for staff members in the classroom how she expects them to handle situations. They are given options to deal with behaviors. They are mindful of children with behaviors so they can provide extra supervision. Staff members communicate with one another. Ms. Finder states she has not had the discussion with staff members about taking a break if they are feeling frustrated but states she would so they are comfortable asking for help if they need it.

She monitors the situation because she is always present in the room. She actively watches how staff members handle situations.

Date: 09/01/2026

HHS Licensing Consultant: Becky Frost

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Non-compliance with any of the mandated regulatory requirements listed above may lead to the cancellation or revocation of your Child Care License. Please take steps necessary to completely address each of the violations noted above.

Child Care Resource and Referral is an excellent resource for providers to access training options and support in your area. You can reach Child Care Resource and Referral at **https://iowaccrr.org**.