Health and Human Services

Iowa Department of Health And Human Services

CHILD CARE CENTER ANNUAL EVALUATION

Name of Center: Kids Connection-Timber Ridge Elementary

Provider No.: 42080

Address: 7370 NW 54th Ave, Johnston, IA, 50131

County: Polk

Director's Name: Steve Conlan

On-Site Supervisor: Megan Davis

Phone Number: 5152528490

E-Mail: sconlan@johnston.k12.ia.us

HHS Visit Date: 02/03/2026

Licensing Period: 03/01/2025 to 03/01/2027

Fire Inspection:

Date Inspected: 08/11/2025

Comments: Johnston/Grimes Fire Marshal. Inspections are due at least every three years for licensing.

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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HOURS:	*Year-round*	*School-Year*	*Summer Only*
Sunday			
Monday	6:30 AM to 6:00 PM		
Tuesday	6:30 AM to 6:00 PM		
Wednesday	6:30 AM to 6:00 PM		
Thursday	6:30 AM to 6:00 PM		
Friday	6:30 AM to 6:00 PM		
Saturday			

Program Population Served:

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

LICENSE CAPACITY	Infants	2 Years	Preschool	School-Aged	Capacity
General	0	0	0	300	300
Summer					0

1. Basic Overview

An off-year inspection was conducted on 2/3/26. The director and the on-site supervisor were both present throughout this inspection.

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.

Kids Connection Timber Ridge Elementary is one of five Kids Connection programs. Children who attend this school attend this program. The program is open year round. During the school year, children can attend 6:30 am - 8:30 am and/or 3:35 pm - 6:00 pm. During the summer months and no school days, children attend 6:30 am 6:00 pm. The program uses their own learning curriculum in their teachings. The current child enrollment is 106 children.

Steve Conlan is the director of this program and the other four Kids Connection programs. Steve has a BS degree in Elementary Education and Specialized Social Studies. He has worked for Kids Connection for a number of years. Megan Davis is the on-site supervisor as of 8/2022. Megan has a BS degree as well as past experience working in child care.

This program uses primarily the gym, cafeteria, and playground, but they also have access to two music rooms (currently only use one music room). All areas are within close proximity of each other.

During the inspection, children were divided up between the gym and the cafeteria. In the gym, children were engaged in a large motor game (dodgeball). Staff were facilitating fair play and spaced out in the gym. In the cafeteria, staff were again

spaced out and interacting with the different groups of children. Children were observed playing with dramatic play toys, playing board games, and doing art work. Children gave specific answers as to where they relocate to for monthly fire and tornado drills. All toys and other items are being sanitized daily.

NUTRITION: The school provides breakfast to children year-round. During the school year and summer months, the center provides the PM snack. During summer months, children are responsible for bringing in their own lunches. The food menu met CACFP requirements. All food storage was sufficient.

TRANSPORTATION/FIELD TRIPS: The center contracts with the school district to take a school bus driver and school bus for all field trips. Field trips are mostly planned during the summer months. Children's emergency contacts and a first-aid kit are taken along for all field trips.

PLAYGROUND: The playground is very large and has several climbing structures, swings, ball pit, blacktop for basketball and other games. There is a field turf area for other games and poured in place rubber is used for surfacing around the climbing structures and swings. Monthly playground checks are being conducted.

2. Identify Observed Strengths of the program

The center provides a wide range of activities and opportunities for the children, which includes getting homework done if any assigned.

The center has a strong working relationship with the school and partners well with the school. The on-site supervisor was previously a school associate so she has connections throughout the school.

The staff work well together per the on-site supervisor. They are tight knit group.

Walkie-talkies are used by staff to communicate with each other. There is also a staff "greeter" by the main parent board for children coming and going.

Staff members are wearing center shirts that make them more easily identifiable.

The center has a website through the school district.

Staff members go to the specific hallways of classrooms to get children and bring them to the gym/cafeteria/music room at the end of the school day.

Staff pictures are posted near the main entrance.

There is a secure entrance into the program.

The director of these five programs has quarterly meetings with directors of other school district before and after school programs. In addition, on-site supervisors of these five programs meet with the director for meetings every other week. Then individual centers have all-staff meetings roughly ever other month.

The center sends out a monthly newsletter.

The Kids Connection programs take care of their employees which include, but are not limited to higher wages, potential opportunities for benefits, incentive programs, recognition events, etc.

The Kids Connection programs have good community supports from other businesses, local colleges, etc. There is a real sense of partnership.

The Kids Connection programs have several staff that were once children in these programs themselves. There is also a good mix of tenured and new staff.

Enrollment remains steady.

CHILD CARE CENTER ANNUAL EVALUATION

The playground is very spacious with a lot of different large motor activities for children to participate in. The entire playground is fenced in. Within the past year, the playground has also been remodeled with new equipment and surfacing.

3. Identify the aspects that fall below the standard

No below standards were identified at this year's inspection.

4. Any corrective action plans, provisional license, and safety plans-steps to get into compliance

N/A.

5. Special Notes/Recommendations

The center is exempt from environmental tested as they are located within a school building and only serve school-age children. However, the center still does radon testing.

I-Power was discussed at the visit. Staff appear to have I - Power profiles but will need to consistently upload these trainings to their profiles. Any staff who are no longer with the center should have their I - Power profiles removed from this center.

Date: 02/04/2026

HHS Licensing Consultant: Nate Knepper

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**.