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

Name of Center: Child Care Junction **Enrollment:** 99 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 16039

Street: 1111 S Linn ST **City:** Boone Iowa **Zip** 50036 **County:** Boone

Mailing Address: 1111 S Linn ST, Boone, IA, 50036

Director's Name: Brittany Johnson **Phone Number:** 515-432-3084

On-Site Supervisor(s): Janet Mittelstedter **E-Mail:** ccjdirector@childcarejunction.org

Date(s) of Visit: 11-08-2024

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:** 10-10-2024

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

Date Inspected: 10-14-2024

Comments : Boone Fire Marshal. Fire Marshal inspections are due at least every three years for licensing.

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 School-Age

Get-Well Evening Care Special Needs

SCHEDULE: X Year-round School-Year Summer Only

HOURS:	*Year-round*	*School-Year*	*Summary Only*

LICENSE CAPACITY	Infants	2 Years	Preschool	School-Age	Capacity
General	24	12	60	30	126
Summer					0

QRS Rating: N/A

RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE:	
X	**FULL** license from 12-01-2024 to 12-01-2026
	PROVISIONAL license from
	DENIAL of initial application
	SUSPENSION of license
	REVOCATION of license

Licensing Consultant: Nate Knepper **Date:** 11-12-2024

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

N/A.

II. IDENTIFY THE AREAS OBSERVED ON THE VISIT:

A licensing visit was conducted on 11/8/24. The director was present throughout the visit.

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.

Child Care Junction is located in the Goldthwaite-Garvey Family Resource Center in Boone, IA. Drake University - Boone Head Start is also located in this building along with another elderly agency. The center serves children six weeks old to 12 years in age and they utilize the Creative Learning Curriculum with children. There are a total of eight classrooms.

The center is overseen by a Board. The current director is Brittany Johnston. Brittany has an AA/CNA degrees, child care experience, and has taken a number of professional development courses to meet requirements for director. Janet Mittelstedter is the on-site supervisor. Janet has an AA degree, past experience working in child care, and has taken a number of professional development courses to meet requirements for on-site supervisor.

During the visit, children were observed having tummy time in the infant classrooms and being held. In other classrooms, children were observed washing their hands before sitting down for lunch and then after lunch as well. Staff were engaged with children and providing sufficient supervision. Children gave specific answers when questioned by this consultant on where they go for fire and tornado drills.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

The director is organized.

The Board is highly involved in the center's day to day operations and supportive.

Staff pictures are posted by the main parent board area. There is also a monthly staff recognition board to recognize good work and a "meet the teacher" board.

There is a secure entrance into the building.

Monthly staff meetings are held. Staff communication is highly stressed.

The center participates in the food program (CACFP).

The center employs a full-time cook/officer manager.

The center will provide a certain brand of formula for infants free of charge if parents request.

The center has their own website where additional information can be viewed about the center as well as a Facebook page.

The center utilizes the electronic Pro-Care system for staff and parents to use in signing into/out of the center, daily sheets, and other licensing tasks.

The center has good partnerships with other community businesses.

Enrollment has again increased within the past year.

The center utilizes CCR&R on a regular basis.

There is a nice break room for staff to use while on breaks.

ASQ's are completed on children quarterly (this is a social and emotional skills assessment).

The center has received some grant money within the past year to update/replace equipment.

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

109.10(9): First aid kit: The center shall ensure that a clearly labeled first aid kit that is sufficient to address minor injury or trauma is available and accessible to staff at all times when children are: In the center.- In the outdoor play area. On field trips.
Some first-aid bags needed to be labeled.

109.11(3)d: Record of monthly inspections of outdoor recreation area and equipment shall be kept.
The December 2023 inspection was not documented.

109.15(5)a: Sufficient refrigeration is provided appropriate to perishable food.
The seal on the refrigerator in one of the infant classrooms needs to be repaired. If it cannot be repaired, a new refrigerator will be needed.

V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:

Radon testing was last tested 11/23/22 - 11/28/22. All classrooms came back with radon levels below the 4.0 cutoff. Because levels were below 4.0, the center can move to testing for radon at least every five years now. So long as radon levels remain below 4.0, they can remain on a five year plan. If at the next testing, levels in any classroom come back 4.0 or higher, the center will have to have a mitigation plan, retest, and at least temporarily move back to testing every two years.

The current annual boiler inspection was completed on 10/21/24.

The center goes on field trips and contracts for transportation if they are not within walking distance. Children's emergency contacts and a first-aid kit are taken along for all field trips. Field trips are generally only taken during the summer months.

IQ4K and I-Power were again discussed at the visit. The center has recently started the IQ4K process. Staff should continue to upload their training certificates into I-Power and also keep hard copies of these certificates in individual staff files.

It was not checked at this year's inspection visit, but last year, it was noted that in the employee handbook, the number for the child abuse hotline still needs to be changed to the number listed on the main parent board's Mandatory Reporter posting.

Handwashing signs should be posted by both restroom sinks in the school-age classroom.

A new, full, two-year license is recommended.

*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.