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

Name of Center: Kids Connection-Holy Trinity School **Enrollment:** 65 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 34523

Street: 2922 Beaver Ave **City:** Des Moines Iowa **Zip** 50310 **County:** Polk

Mailing Address: 2922 Beaver Ave, Des Moines, IA, 50310

Director's Name: Jenith Burry **Phone Number:** 515-255-3162

On-Site Supervisor(s): Quentin Abraham **E-Mail:** jburry@htschool.org

Date(s) of Visit: 10-18-2023

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

LICENSING VISITS

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

Signed Application (470-0722) Received X **Yes** **No** **NA** **Date Signed:** 08-26-2021

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

Date Inspected: 09-01-2023

Comments : Fire 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: Infants (0-23 mo.) 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*	*Summary Only*

LICENSE CAPACITY	Infants	2 Years	Preschool	School-Age	Capacity
General	0	0	58	75	133
Summer					0

QRS Rating: N/A

RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE:	
X	**FULL** license from 09-01-2023 to 09-01-2025
	PROVISIONAL license from
	DENIAL of initial application
	SUSPENSION of license
	REVOCATION of license

Licensing Consultant: Maggie Gibson, SWIV **Date:** 10-18-2023

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

N/A.

II. IDENTIFY THE AREAS OBSERVED ON THE VISIT:

An unannounced, full licensing visit was completed on 10-18-23. Director, Jennith Burry was present through the entire visit; On-Site Supervisor Quentin Abraham was present at times as well.

Kids Connection - Holy Trinity School has been in business for many years. Holy Trinity offers school for pre-school through 8th grade students. Kids Connection offers child care for pre-school through school age and current enrollment is about 65. Kids Connection is located/operates from the Holy Trinity School. During the school year, there is a before and after school component in addition to wrap around care (referred to as extended learning) for preschool age children. There is full-day programming during the summer months. Children who attend Holy Trinity can attend this center.

During the summer months the hours of the program are 6:45 am to 5:30 pm. During the school year the hours of operation are 6:30 am to 5:45 pm.

The center is overseen by a Board. Jenith Burry is the director of this center and has been since 2006. Quentin Abraham is the on-site supervisor, beginning in this role in October of 2021. Quentin has several years experience in school-age licensed programs Both Jenith and Quentin meet the qualifications for their positions.

All areas of the program were observed. These areas observed consisted of classroom observations and activities, nutritional practices, health and safety practices, playground observation, field trip and transportation practices, and administrative review.

Room Observations: The center has two rooms offering wrap around (referred to as extended learners) for ages 3 and 4 all day; and two additional rooms operating for school age before and after school/summer/no school days. The center uses a variety of different learning curriculum in their teachings and partners with Holy Trinity School and their voluntary preschool program teacher. The center does not have an application, communicating directly with parents. The On-Site Supervisor devises and plans themes monthly for programming and weekly for programming during the summer. The rooms were observed to have good center set up with a variety of age/developmentally appropriate centers. The staff were engaged with the children in the classrooms and were maintaining structure in the room. The rooms were in ratio. Proper handwashing signs were posted; handwashing was not observed due to the children already having been at lunch and the other group in a staff-lead group activity. There is ready access to restroom facilities; which are maintained by the school.

Nutrition Practices: The on-site kitchen is operated and maintained by the school. Dedicated school kitchen staff prepare meals that are served cafeteria-style in the lunchroom, which the center has access and the school maintains. The center does have designated storage areas in the school kitchen for snacks that center staff are serving to the children. Center staff supervise the children while at lunch. The center is not on the food program and the menus rotate; and are written by the school. In the summer, the children bring their own lunches.

Health and Safety: Medication is stored and secured in the nurse's office of the school when school is in session. When summer session is on-going, medications are securely stored in the director's office; The director and on-site supervisor are

medication administration certified and administer medications. Handwashing poster are present in the pre-school classrooms and in the restrooms on the first level where the school-age children's program is operated. The center has available first aid kits in each classroom. Fire/Tornado emergency plans are posted in the classrooms and there were documented monthly practice drills completed. The HVAC system is comprised of a boiler system and is inspected school/professionally on an annual basis. Radon testing had been completed in July of 2021, where all readings were noted to be less then the maximum safe level <4.0. Radon testing is due every five years after readings have verified levels are below 4.0. The program spaces were clean and organized. Shared space was kept tidy. The center has a secured entrance, parents have key-cards that operate only when the program is running.

Playground: There are two playgrounds, separated by age. The playground for younger children (pre-school) is enclosed by chain link fencing. This area was in good condition; the children were present and appeared interested in the structures on the playground. Staff were attentive to the children and spread over the area to maintain good lines of sight for supervision. Both playground areas are surfaced by woodchips. The playground for older children had a variety of structures to entertain and challenge the children. The director noted that the center has possession of new steel platforms to be installed on the center connecting to a bridge; the school offers maintenance staff to assist with repairs as the playground is utilized the majority of the time by school age-students. There had been maintenance staff turnover, so the new plat forms had not yet been installed.

Transportation/Field trips: there is not transportation provided during the school year; in the summer session there are field trips offered and the center contracts with Durham bussing for a bus that includes a professional bus driver.

Administrative Review: The center has posted information regarding Mandatory Reporter; handbook accessibility; consultant contact; license along with several posting for the emergency exit plans and non-smoking signs. Five child files were reviewed; the only missing information was emergency dentist name/contact information for one. Three Employee files were reviewed and no required information was missing or outdated.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

The director has meetings with other center directors in the Diocese regularly.

Staff team meetings are held every other month.

The director and the on-site supervisor work well together and are very organized.

The director has her NAC certification.

The center has a camera system in place and the center has a secure entrance. Parents have key-cards that are operational during program hours.

There is good communication between staff and parents.

The center has a strong working relationship with the school. There is no disconnect between the school and the program. The center communicates daily during the school year with teachers and the principal.

Enrollment has been stable and the center had recently added more programming space.

The center has a new slide and a new bridge on the playground. The children constructed a presentation to the PTO regarding additions to the playground and for which fundraising has assisted to further purchase.

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 dental: 1

Emergency information for Dentist Name/contact information is required; The director indicated inquiry would be made with the parent to put this information on file.

V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:

The center last completed radon testing in July of 2021 and all rooms tested fell below the 4.0 cutoff. After testing indicates levels <4.0, testing then is completed every five years.

The boiler is inspected every August and is maintained by the school/church.

*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.