



Bright from the Start Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning
2 Martin Luther King Jr. Drive SE, 670 East Tower
Atlanta, GA 30334
 Phone: (404) 657-5562 WWW.DECAL.GA.GOV

Date: 9/29/2020 **VisitType:** Licensing Study **Arrival:** 9:00 AM **Departure:** 10:30 AM

CCLC-30916

Georgia Kids Academy

4336 Hwy. 53 Hoschton, GA 30548 Jackson County
 (706) 654-5437 jsteve2370@aol.com

Mailing Address

PO BOX 568
 Hoschton, GA 30548

Regional Consultant

Karyn Presley

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karyn.presley@dec.al.ga.gov

Quality Rated: ★ ★ ★

Compliance Zone Designation			Compliance Zone Designation - A summary measure of a program's 12 month monitoring history, as it pertains to child care health and safety rules. The three compliance zones are good standing, support, and deficient.
09/29/2020	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
10/15/2019	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
09/26/2019	Incident Investigation Closure	Good Standing	
			Good Standing - Program is demonstrating an acceptable level of performance in meeting the rules. Support - Program performance is demonstrating a need for improvement in meeting rules. Deficient - Program is not demonstrating an acceptable level of performance in meeting the rules.

Ratios/License Capacity

Building	Room	Age Group	Staff	Children	NC/C	Max 35 SF.	35 SF. Comp.	Max 25 SF.	25 SF. Comp.	Notes
Main	1R	Two Year Olds	1	7	C	17	C	NA	NA	Centers
Main	2R	Three Year Olds	1	8	C	13	C	NA	NA	Centers
Main	3R	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	1	10	C	18	C	NA	NA	Snack, Transitioning
Main	4R	PreK	2	20	C	19	NC	NA	NA	Centers
Main	D 1L	PreK	2	21	C	21	C	NA	NA	Story
Main	E 2L	PreK	2	21	C	21	C	NA	NA	Centers
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 109						Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0				
Total # Children this Date: 87						Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0				

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	PG Back	20	C
Main	PG Front	34	C

Comments

An Administrative Review was conducted on October 8, 2020. Staff files, children's files, training, and background checks were all reviewed. A virtual inspection was conducted on September 29, 2020 with the director. An in-person visit was not conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Compliance with the Executive Order issued on August 15, 2020 was reviewed during the virtual inspection.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 09/30/2020

Any rule violation which subjects a child to injury or life-threatening situation or any rule violations previously cited but not corrected, may result in the imposition of an adverse enforcement action. Serious or continued noncompliance may also jeopardize participation in one or more DECAL program(s).



Please refer to the website, <http://www.dec.state.ga.us/CCS/RuleAndRegulations.aspx>, for information regarding October 1, 2018 rule changes about Criminal Records Checks that may affect your facility. In summary,

- New records checks will be required to be completed if a staff member experiences a six month break in service from the child care industry
- New clearance is required at least once every five years
- Any staff member solely responsible for supervising children will be required to have completed a comprehensive background clearance
- All staff members are required to have completed at least a national fingerprint based clearance check
- Any staff member with only the national fingerprint based clearance, must be under constant and direct supervision of a staff member with a satisfactory comprehensive records check clearance
- Facilities are required to use DECAL KOALA for Criminal Records Checks, including to verify portability of an employee

O.C.G.A. Section 42.1.12(i)(2) requires Bright from the Start: Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning to notify licensed child care programs on accessing and retrieving from the Georgia Bureau of Investigation's (GBI) website a list of the names and addresses of all registered sexual offenders. Please see GBI's website located at <http://gbi.georgia.gov> to access the Georgia Sex Offender Registry.

Refutation Process:

You have the right to refute any of the citations noted in this report with which you disagree. To refute a citation(s), e-mail the following information to CCSRefutations@dec.state.ga.us.

- 1) Facility name, license number and visit date
- 2) Your name, title/relationship to the facility, e-mail address & up to two phone number(s) where you can be reached
- 3) Specific rule number(s) that you are refuting, along with your concerns or questions regarding the rule citation

Refutations must be submitted to Child Care Services (CCS) within 10 business days of the completion date.

A sample form for submitting a refutation can be found at: <http://dec.state.ga.us/ChildCareServices/RefutationInformation.aspx>

Your refutation will be forwarded to the appropriate CCS manager, who will follow up with you about your concerns. If you have any questions about this process, contact our office at 404-657-5562.

Bright from the Start recommends that all licensed child care providers carry liability insurance coverage sufficient to protect its clients. If you do not have this liability insurance, you are required to post a notice with ½ inch letters in a conspicuous location in the program, notify the parent or guardian of each child in care in writing, obtain their signature to acknowledge receipt and maintain this written acknowledgment on file at the program at all times while the child attends the program and for 12 months after the child's last date of attendance. (O.C.G.A. Section 20-1A-4)



Important New Deadlines:

Your program must be Quality Rated by December 31, 2020 in order to continue to receive Childcare and Parent Services (CAPS).

Get started today! Sign up by completing a short online application: <https://qualityrated.dec.state.ga.us/>
Request free technical assistance to help you earn your star rating by contacting the Quality Rated help desk at 855-800-7747 or qualityrated@dec.state.ga.us

Jamie Stevens, Program Official

Date

Karyn Presley, Consultant

Date



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Findings Report

Date: 9/29/2020 **VisitType:** Licensing Study

Arrival: 9:00 AM

Departure: 10:30 AM

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The following information is associated with a Licensing Study:

Activities and Equipment

591-1-1-.12 Equipment & Toys(CR)

Met

Comment

A variety of equipment and toys were observed throughout the center.

591-1-1-.35 Swimming Pools & Water-related Activities(CR)

Met

Comment

Center does not provide swimming activities.

Children's Records

Records Reviewed: 5

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 0

Child # 1	Met
Child # 2	Met
Child # 3	Met
Child # 4	Met
Child # 5	Met

591-1-1-.08 Children's Records

Met

Comment

Records were observed to be complete and well organized.

Facility

591-1-1-.06 Bathrooms	Met
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Comment

Bathrooms observed to be clean and well maintained.

591-1-1-.19 License Capacity(CR)	Met
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Comment

Licensed capacity observed to be routinely met by center.

591-1-1-.25 Physical Plant - Safe Environment(CR)	Met
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Comment

No hazards observed accessible to children on this date.

591-1-1-.26 Playgrounds(CR)	Met
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Comment

Playground observed to be clean and in good repair.

Food Service

591-1-1-.18 Kitchen Operations	Met
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Comment

Kitchen appears clean and well organized.

Health and Hygiene

591-1-1-.10 Diapering Areas & Practices(CR)	Met
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Comment

Staff state proper knowledge of diapering procedures.

591-1-1-.17 Hygiene(CR)	Met
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Comment

Staff were observed to remind children to wash hands.

591-1-1-.20 Medications(CR)	Met
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Comment

Documentation for medication dispensing observed complete.

Policies and Procedures

591-1-1-.27 Posted Notices	Met
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Comment

Observed all required posted notices.

Safety

591-1-1-.11 Discipline(CR)	Met
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Comment

Staff were observed to maintain a positive learning environment on this date.

591-1-1-.13 Field Trips(CR)	Met
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Comment

Center does not participate in field trips at this time.

591-1-1-.36 Transportation(CR)**Met****Comment**

A current/completed inspection was observed for all vehicles used in transporting children this date.

Comment

Complete documentation of transportation observed.

Comment

The vehicle had an approved fire extinguisher and first aid kit on this date.

Sleeping & Resting Equipment**591-1-1-.30 Safe Sleeping and Resting Requirements(CR)****Met****Comment**

Pleasant naptime environment observed.

Staff Records**Records Reviewed: 20****Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 1**

Staff # 1	Not Met
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Date of Hire: 08/07/2015

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.09-Criminal Records Check Missing

Staff # 2	Met
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Staff # 3	Met
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Date of Hire: 08/07/2015

Staff # 4	Met
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Date of Hire: 05/15/2017

Staff # 5	Met
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Date of Hire: 09/23/2018

Staff # 6	Met
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Date of Hire: 07/19/2010

Staff # 7	Met
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Date of Hire: 08/26/2018

Staff # 8	Met
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Date of Hire: 08/31/2020

Staff # 9	Met
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Date of Hire: 05/15/2019

Staff # 10	Met
Date of Hire: 12/10/2012	
Staff # 11	Met
Date of Hire: 08/03/2020	
Staff # 12	Met
Date of Hire: 08/24/2020	
Staff # 13	Met
Date of Hire: 07/21/2020	
Staff # 14	Met
Date of Hire: 07/10/2010	
Staff # 15	Met
Date of Hire: 09/09/2020	
Staff # 16	Met
Date of Hire: 07/19/2010	
Staff # 17	Met
Date of Hire: 08/03/2020	
Staff # 18	Met
Date of Hire: 03/31/2013	
Staff # 19	Met
Date of Hire: 08/06/2019	
Staff # 20	Met
Date of Hire: 06/05/2017	

Staff Credentials Reviewed: 11**591-1-1-.09 Criminal Records and Comprehensive Background Checks(CR)****Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.09(1)(c) requires the Center to ensure that every Employee has a valid and current satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination on file prior to being present at the Center while any child is present for care or before an individual age 17 or older resides in the Center. The Comprehensive Records Check Determination must have a Records Check Clearance Date that is no older than the preceding 12 months of the hire date; provided, however, if the Employee has had a lapse of employment from the child care industry that lasted for 180 days (6 months) or longer, a new satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination is required. It was determined based on review of records and observation that one staff member in the second left classroom had an fingerprint that expired on August 27, 2020.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

IMMEDIATE CORRECTION - The Center will ensure that every Employee has a valid and current satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination on file prior to being present at the Center while any child is present for care or before an individual age 17 or older resides in the Center. The Comprehensive Records Check Determination must have a Records Check Clearance Date that is no older than the preceding 12 months of the hire date; provided, however, if the Employee has had a lapse of employment from the child care industry that lasted for 180 days (6 months) or longer, a new satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination is required. The program's owner or an officer/member of the corporation must view the A to Z Background Check video units pertaining to this records check rule and return the signed affidavit within one week from this visit date. The center will ensure the CRC rules are maintained.

The Center had sent the staff to re fingerprint and the staff had scanned fingerprints on July 25, 2020, but no application was completed to DECAL therefore the staff did not receive an updated fingerprint letter.

Correction Deadline: 9/30/2020

Finding

591-1-1-.09(1)(l)3. requires the Center to immediately require a new Comprehensive Records Check Determination for a Director, Employee or Provisional Employee at least once every five years. It was determined based on review of records and observation that a staff member in the second left classroom had a fingerprint that expired on August 27, 2020.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

IMMEDIATE CORRECTION - The Center will ensure that each Director, Employee and Provisional Employee has a Comprehensive Records Check Determination on file that has been issued within the past five years. The program's owner or an officer/member of the corporation must view the A to Z Background Check video units pertaining to this records check rule and return the signed affidavit within one week from this visit date. The Center will ensure CRC rules are maintained.

The Center had sent the staff to re fingerprint and the staff had scanned fingerprints on July 25, 2020, but no application was completed to DECAL therefore the staff did not receive an updated fingerprint letter.

Correction Deadline: 9/30/2020

591-1-1-.14 First Aid & CPR	Met
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Comment

Complete first aid kits observed in center and on vehicles.

Comment

Evidence observed of 100% of center staff certified in First Aid and CPR.

591-1-1-.33 Staff Training	Met
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Comment

Documentation observed of required staff training.

591-1-1-.31 Staff(CR)	Met
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Comment

Staff observed to be compliant with applicable laws and regulations.

Additional cleaning and sanitizing requirements due to the COVID-19 pandemic were discussed and observed during a virtual walk through on this date. The program was in compliance with the Executive Order issued on August 15, 2020.

Staffing and Supervision

591-1-1-.32 Staff:Child Ratios and Group Size(CR)	Met
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Comment

Center observed to maintain appropriate staff:child ratios.

Comment

Staff observed to provide direct supervision and be attentive to children's needs.