



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: 11/18/2020 **VisitType:** Complaint Investigation by Phone **Arrival:** 10:00 AM **Departure:** 11:00 AM

CCLC-32380

Woodlawn Preschool & Child Development

2220 Walton Way Augusta, GA 30904 Richmond County
(706) 738-2546 woodlawnaugustaumc@gmail.com

Regional Consultant

Melyn Smith

Phone: (706) 855-3455

Fax: (706) 434-7640

melyn.smith@dec.al.ga.gov

Mailing Address
Same

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. 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.
11/18/2020	Complaint Investigation by Phone	Good Standing	
07/29/2020	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
02/24/2020	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	

Ratios/License Capacity

Comments

A virtual incident investigation was conducted on November 18, 2020 with the Director. An in-person visit was not conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic and the Executive Order issued on November 16, 2020. Investigative findings were not concluded on November 18, 2020. Investigative findings were concluded on December 1, 2020.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 11/18/2020

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.al.ga.gov/CCS/RulesAndRegulations.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.al.ga.gov.

- 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.al.ga.gov/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.al.ga.gov/>
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.al.ga.gov

Elaine Cupp, Program Official

Date

Melyn Smith, Consultant

Date



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Findings Report

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The following information is associated with a Complaint Investigation by Phone:

Activities and Equipment

591-1-1-.03 Activities

Not Met

Finding

591-1-1-.03(9) requires center staff to refrain from engaging in, or allowing children or other adults to engage in, activities that could be detrimental to a child's health or well-being, such as but not limited to, horse play, rough play, wrestling, and picking up a child in a manner that could cause injury. It was determined, based on investigation, that a staff member was observed to roughly handle children in the three-year-old classroom by pulling them and lifting them by one arm on the playground and in the classroom.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will review requirements with Staff to ensure that appropriate activities are conducted with children.

Correction Deadline: 11/30/2020

Safety

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

Not Met

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.11(1) - The consultant discussed with the director to ensure that children were limited to one minute per year of their age for time-out, as one three-year-old child was observed to remain in time-out for over three minutes on the playground.

Correction Deadline: 11/18/2020

Finding Associated with Complaint

591-1-1-.11(2) requires that Personnel not: physically or sexually abuse a child or engage or permit others to engage in sexually overt conduct in the presence of any child enrolled in the Center; inflict corporal/physical punishment upon a child; shake, jerk, pinch or handle a child roughly; verbally abuse or humiliate a child which includes, but is not limited to, the use of threats, profanity or belittling remarks about a child or his family; isolate a child in a dark room, closet or unsupervised area; use mechanical or physical restraints or devices to discipline children; use medication to discipline or control children's behavior without written medical authorization issued by a licensed professional and given with the parent's written consent; restrict unreasonably a child from going to the bathroom; punish toileting accidents; force-feed a child or withhold feeding a child regularly scheduled meals and/or snacks; force or withhold naps; allow children to discipline or humiliate other children; or confine a child for disciplinary purposes to a swing, highchair, infant carrier, walker or jump seat. It was determined, based staff statements, video footage, and documentation during a complaint investigation, that multiple occurrences of inappropriate discipline occurred in the three-year-old classroom, including:

- The staff member used inappropriate discipline in the three-year-old classroom when the staff member was observed to lift a child by one arm and move the child to another place for time-out on the playground.
- The staff member was also observed to hit a child on the left shoulder during lunch and use their foot to push the child's chair in closer to the table roughly.
- During nap, the staff member was observed to kick and move a child's arm which was resting on the floor. The child was observed to flinch and place their arms under their body before turning to the side and cradling their arm.
- In the hallway as the children were going to the bathroom, the staff member was observed to jerk and yank three children from the right side of the hallway to the left side and roughly pull two children down the hallway by one arm. The staff member was also observed to roughly grab and yank a child in line in the hallway. The staff member's hands were observed on the upper part of the child's body but it was unclear where on the body.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will take immediate action to ensure the action/conduct has ceased; train/review appropriate child guidance techniques with center staff; and have a system in place to monitor and identify inappropriate actions.

Correction Deadline: 11/30/2020

591-1-1-.36 Transportation(CR)

Defer

Defer

591-1-1-.36(7)(c)2.- A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. This rule will be reviewed during the next regulatory visit.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The driver/other designated person will immediately document in writing with a check/mark/symbol each time a child gets on and off the vehicle.

Correction Deadline: 2/24/2020

Defer

591-1-1-.36(7)(d)1.- A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. This rule will be reviewed during the next regulatory visit.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will train Staff who are or may be involved in transporting children in how to thoroughly inspect a vehicle and properly complete transportation documentation. The Center will review and monitor.

Correction Deadline: 2/24/2020

Defer

591-1-1-.36(7)(d)2.- A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. This rule will be reviewed during the next regulatory visit.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will train Staff who are or may be involved in transporting children in how to thoroughly inspect a vehicle and properly complete transportation documentation. The Center will review and monitor.

Correction Deadline: 2/24/2020

Staffing and Supervision

591-1-1-.32 Supervision(CR)

Technical Assistance

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.32(7) - The consultant discussed with the director to ensure that direct supervision and watchful oversight was provided at all times, as lack of supervision was observed on video footage on the playground and in the classroom.

Correction Deadline: 11/18/2020