



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

Cover Sheet

Date: 6/23/2021 **VisitType:** Monitoring Visit

Arrival: 9:00 AM

Departure: 10:00 AM

CCLC-25695

Little Geniuses Daycare

400 East Hill Street Thomson, GA 30824 McDuffie County
 (706) 843-1014 crawfchildcare@yahoo.com

Mailing Address

P.O. Box 1291
 Thomson, GA 30824

Regional Consultant

Rebekah Mullinax

Phone: (770) 357-7056

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rebekah.mullinax@decal.ga.gov

Joint with: Carrie Spangler

Quality Rated: ★ ★ ★

<u>Compliance Zone Designation</u>			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.
06/23/2021	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
01/26/2021	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
12/16/2019	Licensing Study	Good Standing	

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	Back		0	0	C	13	C	NA	NA	
Main	Left Room	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	1	6	C	29	C	NA	NA	Circle Time
Main	Right Side	Two Year Olds	1	3	C	25	C	NA	NA	Circle Time
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 67			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0							
Total # Children this Date: 9			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 67							
			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0							

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	Large	132	C
Main	Toddler	10	C

Comments

A virtual inspection was conducted on June 23, 2021 with the Director. An in-person visit was not conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Compliance with the Executive Order issued on May 28, 2021, was reviewed during the virtual inspection.

On this date consultant discussed rule changes effective October 1, 2020.

Consultant requested to view all Criminal Record checks for employees hired after last visit. Director stated that there have been no new hires since last visit.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 06/23/2021

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/Regulations.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



Important New Deadlines:

Due to the ongoing COVID restrictions, the deadline to become Quality Rated for programs who want to continue to receive Childcare and Parent Services (CAPS), has been extended to at least December 31, 2021.

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

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)

Louise Crawford, Program Official	Date
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Carrie Spangler, Consultant	Date
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Rebekah Mullinax, Consultant	Date
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Findings Report

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The following information is associated with a Monitoring Visit:

Activities and Equipment

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

Technical Assistance

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.12(4) - requires that equipment and furniture is secured if it is of a weight or mass that could cause injury from tipping, falling, or being pulled or pushed over. Please ensure that the book shelf located in the Right Side classroom is secured to prevent tipping or falling.

Correction Deadline: 6/23/2021

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

N/A

Comment

Center does not provide swimming activities.

Children's Records

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

Met

Correction Deadline: 1/26/2021

Corrected on 6/23/2021

.08(1) - Previous citation corrected in that the Consultant observed:

-One of three children's files with the complete parental home and work address.

-One of three children's files with the child's primary source of health care information.

Facility

591-1-1-.06 Bathrooms

Met

Comment

Bathrooms observed to be clean and well maintained.

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

Licensed capacity observed to be routinely met by center.

591-1-1-.25 Physical Plant - Safe Environment(CR)**Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.25(13) requires that potentially hazardous equipment, materials and supplies be stored in a locked area inaccessible to children. It was determined based on the Consultant's observation that in the Left classroom a glue gun located on top of a small bookshelf, bleach cleaning supplies located on the counter top of the sink and a vacuum cleaner located at the entrance of the classroom were all accessible to children on this date.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will identify all hazardous items and keep them in a locked area inaccessible to children. The Center will inform all Staff about hazardous items and the safe storage of those items.

Correction Deadline: 6/23/2021

591-1-1-.26 Playgrounds(CR)**Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.26(4) requires that playgrounds be protected from traffic or other hazards by a (4) four foot high fence or other barrier approved by this Department. Fencing material shall not present a hazard to children and shall be maintained so as to prevent children from leaving the playground area by any means other than through an approved access route. Fence gates shall be kept closed except when persons are entering or exiting the area. It was determined based on the Consultant's observation that the fencing on the left and back side was not secured in the ground. It was further determined that the fence bar between the fourth of fifth section of the back side fence was disconnected and needs repair.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will routinely check the fence to determine if it is in good repair and remains at least 4 feet high, and will repair any hazards. The Center will train Staff to identify and report any fence hazards and to keep the fence gates closed when not in use.

Correction Deadline: 6/23/2021**Finding**

591-1-1-.26(6) requires that playground equipment provide an opportunity for the children to engage in a variety of experiences and shall be age-appropriate. For example, toddlers shall not be permitted to swing in swings designed for School-age Children. The outdoor equipment shall be free of lead-based paint, sharp corners and shall be regularly maintained in such a way as to be free of rust and splinters that could pose significant safety hazard to the children. All equipment shall be arranged so as not to obstruct supervision of children. It was determined based on the Consultant's observation that the following hazardous equipment were located on the Large playground:

- Chipping paint on the seats of the trike go round
- Chipping paint on the four way bouncer
- Chipping paint on the slide climber

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will provide a variety of age-appropriate equipment that is arranged so as not to obstruct supervision of children. Staff will check the equipment daily to ensure that the equipment is free of hazards, rust and splinters.

Correction Deadline: 7/3/2021

Food Service

591-1-1-.15 Food Service & Nutrition**Met****Comment**

591-1-1-.15(7) - Discussed new revision to restricted food rule which states: Foods that are associated with young children's choking incidents, such as, but not limited to, peanuts, hot dogs, raw carrots, popcorn, fish with bones, cheese cubes, grapes and any other food that is of similar shape and size of the trachea/windpipe shall not be served to the children less than four (4) years of age. Children older than four (4) years of age may be served these foods provided that the foods are cut in such a way as to minimize choking.

Correction Deadline: 6/23/2021

Health and Hygiene**591-1-1-.10 Diapering Areas & Practices(CR)****Met****Comment**

Staff state proper knowledge of diapering procedures.

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

Proper hand washing of children and staff was discussed with the director on this date.

591-1-1-.20 Medications(CR)**N/A****Comment**

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

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

The center's discipline policy was reviewed on this date. Regulations regarding proper discipline were discussed with the director on this date.

591-1-1-.36 Transportation(CR)**N/A****Comment**

Center does not provide routine transportation.

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

591-1-1-.30(4) - Consultant observed cots covered with a sheet and inaccessible to children on this date.

Correction Deadline: 6/23/2021

Staff Records**Records Reviewed: 2****Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 1**

Staff # 1

Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(4)-Food Prep Training Missing 4 hrs.

Staff # 2

Met

591-1-1-.09 Criminal Records and Comprehensive Background Checks(CR) **Met****Comment**

Consultant requested to view all Criminal Record checks for employees hired after last visit. Director stated that there have been no new hires since last visit

Comment

Criminal record checks were observed to be complete.

Correction Deadline: 2/9/2021

Corrected on 6/23/2021

.09(1)(c) - Previous citation corrected in that the staff member is no longer employed at the Center on this date.

Correction Deadline: 1/26/2021

Corrected on 6/23/2021

.09(1)(l)2. - Previous citation corrected in that the staff member is no longer employed at the Center on this date.

591-1-1-.33 Staff Training **Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.33(4) requires within the first year of employment, the Director and person with primary responsibility for food preparation shall have four clock hours of training in food nutrition planning, preparation, serving, proper dish washing and food storage. It was determined, based on observation of records, that the director lacked one hour of food training.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will schedule food preparation training, as required, and follow up to ensure the training is completed.

Correction Deadline: 7/23/2021

Recited on 6/23/2021

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

Staff observed to be compliant with applicable laws and regulations.

Staffing and Supervision

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

Center observed to maintain appropriate staff:child ratios.

591-1-1-.32 Supervision(CR) **Technical Assistance****Comment**

Discussed new revision to the supervision rule which states: Staff shall be attentive and participating with all children during mealtimes and shall be seated within an arm's length away from children thirty-six (36) months of age and younger.

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.32(7) - equires that children be supervised at all times appropriate to the individual age, needs and capabilities of each child. Such supervision must include, but not be limited to, indoor and outdoor activities, mealtimes, naptime, transportation, field trips, and transitions between activities. "Supervision" means that the appropriate number of Staff members are physically present in the area where children are being cared for and are providing watchful oversight to the children, volunteers and Students-in-Training. The persons supervising in the child care area must be alert, positioned to maximize their ability to hear and see the children at all times, and able to respond promptly to the needs and actions of the children being supervised, as well as the actions of the volunteers and Students-in-Training, and provide timely attention to the children's actions and needs. Staff shall be attentive and participating with all children during mealtimes and shall be seated within an arm's length away from children thirty-six (36) months of age and younger. Please ensure that a staff member is physically present in the Right classroom during the preparation of meals.

Correction Deadline: 6/23/2021