



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: 7/23/2019 **VisitType:** Monitoring Visit **Arrival:** 8:50 AM **Departure:** 12:30 PM

CCLC-9098

Higher Excellence Learning Center

1465 Burton Avenue Macon, GA 31204 Bibb County
 (478) 751-2308 helc.learn@gmail.com

Regional Consultant

Yolanda Marable
 Phone: (770) 357-9953
 Fax: (678) 302-2432
 yolanda.marable@decal.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. |
|------------------------------------|------------------|---------------|--|
| 07/23/2019 | Monitoring Visit | Good Standing | |
| 06/20/2019 | Monitoring Visit | Support | |
| 10/30/2018 | 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 | A(2L) Infants- 2 Years | | 0 | 0 | C | 10 | C | NA | NA | | |
| Main | B (1L) two years | | 0 | 0 | C | 10 | C | NA | NA | | |
| Main | C (1R) 3-5 Years | Infants and One Year Olds and Two Year Olds and Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds and Six Year Olds and Over | 2 | 19 | NC | 23 | C | NA | NA | TV | |
| Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: | | | 43 | | | Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: | | | 0 | | |
| Total # Children this Date: | | | 19 | | | Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: | | | 43 | | |
| | | | | | | Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: | | | 0 | | |

| Building | Playground | Playground Occupancy | Playground Compliance |
|----------|--------------|----------------------|-----------------------|
| Main | Playground A | 20 | C |
| Main | Playground B | 24 | C |

Comments

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 07/23/2019

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.decal.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@decal.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://decal.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.decal.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@decal.ga.gov

JaJuandraula Green, Program Official

Date

Yolanda Marable, Consultant

Date



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

Findings Report

Date: 7/23/2019 **VisitType:** Monitoring Visit **Arrival:** 8:50 AM **Departure:** 12:30 PM

CCLC-9098**Higher Excellence Learning Center**

1465 Burton Avenue Macon, GA 31204 Bibb County
(478) 751-2308 helc.learn@gmail.com

Mailing Address
Same

Regional Consultant

Yolanda Marable
Phone: (770) 357-9953
Fax: (678) 302-2432
yolanda.marable@decal.ga.gov

The following information is associated with a Monitoring Visit:

| |
|---------------------------------|
| 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.

| |
|-----------------|
| 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 by consultants observation that hazardous material was accessible to children in classroom A,B, and C.

Room A (2L):

- Dial hand soap (keep out of reach of children)

Room B (1L):

- Plastic baby wipe container (keep out of reach of children)
- Hand sanitizer (keep out of reach of children)
- Dial hand soap (keep out of reach of children)
- Teacher keys

Room C (1R):

- Hand sanitizer (keep out of reach of children)
- Toilet plunger
- Teacher personal bag

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: 7/23/2019

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

Playground observed to be clean and in good repair.

| |
|---------------------------|
| Health and Hygiene |
|---------------------------|

591-1-1-.10 Diapering Areas & Practices(CR)**Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.10(4) requires that if diapers are changed on a diaper changing surface, the surface shall be smooth, nonporous, and equipped with a guard or rails to prevent falls. Between each diaper change, the diaper changing surface shall be cleaned with a disinfectant and dried with a single-use disposable towel. It was determined by consultants observation that classroom B has two holes on the top right side of the changing mat making it nonporous.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will ensure there is a smooth, nonporous changing surface that has a guard or rails for safety in each classroom that houses children wearing diapers. Center Staff will be trained and have adequate supplies to properly clean the diaper changing surface between each diaper change.

Correction Deadline: 7/23/2019

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

Proper hand washing observed throughout the center.

591-1-1-.20 Medications(CR)**Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.20(4) requires the Center to keep medication in a cabinet or container that is locked or otherwise not accessible to the children and to be stored separate from cleaning chemicals, supplies or poisons. Medications requiring refrigeration shall be placed in a leak-proof container in a refrigerator that is not accessible to the children. It was determined by consultants observation that antibiotic ointment, allergy relief and benedryl medications, which stated keep out of reach of children, were observed in a child's bag inside a cubby in classroom B.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will train Staff on the safe and proper storage of medication and monitor to ensure that the rule is met.

Correction Deadline: 7/23/2019

| |
|---------------|
| Safety |
|---------------|

591-1-1-.05 Animals**Met****Comment**

Center does not keep animals on premises.

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

Age-appropriate discussion and/or redirection observed.

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

Center does not participate in field trips at this time.

591-1-1-.36 Transportation(CR)**Met****Correction Deadline: 6/20/2019****Corrected on 7/23/2019**

.36(7)(d)1. - Previous citation corrected on this date. Provider stated that they are not providing transportation.

Correction Deadline: 6/20/2019**Corrected on 7/23/2019**

.36(7)(d)2. - Previous citation corrected on this date. Provider stated that they are not providing transportation.

| |
|---|
| Sleeping & Resting Equipment |
|---|

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

Discussed SIDS and infant sleeping position.

| |
|----------------------|
| Staff Records |
|----------------------|

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

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

Comment

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

591-1-1-.33 Staff Training Met

Comment

Documentation observed of required staff training.

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) Not Met

Finding

591-1-1-.32(2) requires the Center maintain Staff:child ratios in mixed-age groups based on the age of the youngest group of children that includes more than twenty percent of the total number of children in the mixed-age group. It was determined based on consultant's observed that upon arrival, classroom C had children younger than three (one four-month-old, six one-year-olds, six two-year-olds) mixed with older children (two three-year-olds, two ?? (you have two year olds again_ and two seven-year-old outside of the hour upon opening/closing of the center's operating hours.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will provide adequate staff when there is a mixed-age group.

Correction Deadline: 7/23/2019

Finding

591-1-1-.32(4) requires that children under three years old be housed in separate physical areas from older children and cannot be mixed with older children except at specified times and circumstances. It was determined based on consultant's observed that upon arrival, classroom C had children younger than three (one four-month-old, six one-year-olds, six two-year-olds) mixed with older children (two three-year-olds, two ?? (you have two year olds again_ and two seven-year-old outside of the hour upon opening/closing of the center's operating hours.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will maintain separation of these children under three years old.

Correction Deadline: 7/23/2019

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

Comment

Discussed combining children of mixed ages with provider to ensure adequate supervision.