



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: 8/2/2019 **VisitType:** Licensing Study **Arrival:** 8:30 AM **Departure:** 12:00 PM

CCLC-48968

Horizons Preschool

1794 East Park Avenue Valdosta, GA 31602 Lowndes County
 (229) 253-1296 cdavis0925@yahoo.com

Regional Consultant

Beth Houtz

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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.
08/02/2019	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
01/31/2019	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
07/10/2018	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	Room A - Older Infants	Infants	1	3	C	5	C	NA	NA	Feeding, Floor Play
Main	Room B - 2 year olds	Two Year Olds	2	15	C	15	C	NA	NA	Centers
Main	Room C - Toddlers	One Year Olds	2	4	C	12	C	NA	NA	Snack
Main	Room D - Infants	Infants	2	9	C	12	C	NA	NA	Nap, Floor Play, Feeding
Main	Room E - 1 year olds	One Year Olds	1	7	C	8	C	NA	NA	Diapering, Centers
Main	Room F - School-Age	Six Year Olds and Over	1	17	C	22	C	NA	NA	Outside
Main	Room G - 3 year olds	Three Year Olds	1	13	C	13	C	NA	NA	Centers
Main	Room H - 4 year olds	Four Year Olds and Five Year Olds	1	15	C	15	C	NA	NA	Centers

Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 102

Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0

Total # Children this Date: 83

Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 102

Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	Playground	78	C

Comments

The purpose of today's visit is a licensing study. This is the first visit of the fiscal year. The center does provide transportation before and after school during the school year and participates in field trips during the summer. All employee files were reviewed during the visit.

Plan of Improvement: No Plan Developed

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

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

Courtney Lane, Program Official

Date

Beth Houtz, Consultant

Date



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Findings Report

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The following information is associated with a Licensing Study:

Activities and Equipment

591-1-1-.03 Activities

Met

Comment

Please ensure lesson plans are updated regularly and posted in each classroom.

Correction Deadline: 8/2/2019

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

Not Met

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.12(2) - In classroom F the consultant observed a broken shelf in the white cube shelves. The center will repair, replace, or remove the broken shelf.

Correction Deadline: 8/2/2019

Finding

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. It was determined based on observation that in Classroom F there were two white shelves that were not secured but were of a height and weight that posed a falling hazard to children in care. Additionally, in Classroom G there were three white bin holder shelves that were not secured and were of a height and weight to pose a falling hazard to children in care.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The center will remove the shelves in Classroom F and replace them with shorter shelves. In Classroom G the center will secure the shelves to ensure they do not pose a falling hazard.

Correction Deadline: 8/2/2019

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

Met

Comment

Center does not provide swimming activities.

Children's Records

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.08(1) - Consultant discussed with the Center about ensuring all blanks are filled in with information or n/a if not applicable.

Correction Deadline: 8/2/2019

	Facility
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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****Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.25(11) - The consultant discussed with the Director about ensuring all play rugs and carpets are secured on the floor and not rolled up on the corners to ensure they do not pose a tripping hazard to children in care.

Correction Deadline: 9/1/2019

Finding

591-1-1-.25(3) requires the Center and surrounding premises to be kept clean, free of debris and in good repair. Hygienic measures such as, but not limited to, screened windows and proper waste disposal procedures shall be utilized to minimize the presence of rodents, flies, roaches and other vermin at the Center. It was determined based on observation that on the exterior side of the door leading from Classroom F to the playground there was a hole in the door that was rusted and sharp edges posing a hazard to children in care. The hole measured two inches wide and one and a half inches tall. Additionally, on the exterior side of the door leading from the hallway onto the playground there was a piece of rotten wood, measuring five inches tall and three inches wide, on the bottom right hand corner of the molding presenting a hazard to children in care.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The center will repair the hole and rotten wood to ensure the safety of the children in care.

Correction Deadline: 8/16/2019

Finding

591-1-1-.25(6) requires each child's personal items to be kept in individually labeled cubbies, lockers or racks separated from articles used by other children. The spaces shall be accessible to the children to whom they are assigned. It was determined based on observation that in Classroom F there were six lockers for children's personal items and then a shelf for children's personal items but no individual cubbies on the shelf.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will provide each child with individually labeled and accessible storage.

Correction Deadline: 9/1/2019

Finding

591-1-1-.25(7) requires that doors to rooms not approved for child care, other than the kitchen doors, be latched or locked so children cannot wander into those areas. Except in School-age Centers, interior Center door locks shall permit Personnel to open the locked room from outside of the room in an emergency. It was determined based on observation that in Classroom H the door leading to the back parking lot that is used by parents for drop off and pick up was ajar allowing children access to the back parking lot area.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will routinely check that doors to unapproved rooms remain latched or locked and that Staff can open the locked rooms in an emergency.

Correction Deadline: 8/2/2019

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

Comment

Discussed maintenance of resilient surface to ensure it does not collect at the edge of the fencing causing the fence to not measure the required 48 inches in height.

Correction Deadline: 2/10/2019

Corrected on 8/2/2019

.26(8) - This citation was observed to be corrected on this date. The center has removed the swings.

Food Service

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

Comment

Center menu meets USDA guidelines.

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

Comment

Kitchen appears clean and well organized.

Health and Hygiene

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

Comment

Proper diapering procedures observed.

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

Comment

Proper hand washing observed throughout the center.

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

Comment

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

Policies and Procedures

591-1-1-.21 Operational Policies & Procedures **Met**

Comment

Program observed complete emergency drills

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

Comment

Observed all required posted notices.

Safety

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

Comment

Center does not keep animals on premises.

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

Comment

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

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

Comment

Field trip documentation observed to be complete.

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

Comment

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

Comment

Paperwork, checklist, permission forms, annual inspection form and proper check of the vehicle after transportation were discussed with the director.

Comment

The vehicle had an approved fire extinguisher on this date. Please update the vehicle first aid kit. ensure expired items are removed and replaced.

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

591-1-1-.30 Safe Sleeping and Resting Requirements(CR) **Not Met**

Comment

Discussed SIDS and infant sleeping position.

Finding

591-1-1-.30(1)(a)2 requires that a crib mattress is firm, tight-fitting without gaps, at least 2 inches thick and covered with a waterproof, washable material. Before a change of occupant, each mattress shall be cleaned with a disinfectant. It was determined based on observation that in Classroom A one of five crib mattresses had a tear on the underside exposing the foam and preventing the mattress from being waterproof and washable as required. Additionally, in Classroom D four of twelve crib mattresses had quilting on the mattresses preventing them from being washable.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The center ordered new mattresses during the visit to replace the mattresses that were not in compliance.

Correction Deadline: 8/2/2019

Staff Records

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

Comment

Criminal record checks were observed to be complete.

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

Comment

Evidence observed of 50% 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

Discussed that all lead staff must enroll in an approved education program within 6 months of hire and complete degree within 18 months.

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)

Met

Comment

Center observed to maintain appropriate staff:child ratios.