



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: 8/13/2019 **VisitType:** Licensing Study

Arrival: 10:00 AM

Departure: 1:30 PM

CCLC-32944

Ball Ground Academy

200 Valley Street Ball Ground, GA 30107 Cherokee County
 (678) 454-5437 bgacademy@yahoo.com

Mailing Address
 Same

Regional Consultant

Elim Tekie

Phone: (404) 478-8088

Fax: (404) 478-8094

elim.tekie@decal.ga.gov

Joint with: Candace Gilbert

Quality Rated: No

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.
08/13/2019	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
02/11/2019	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
08/31/2018	Licensing Study	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	1st Left Room	Infants	1	7	C	15	C	NA	NA	Free Play
Main	2nd Lt. Infant	Infants	2	9	C	13	C	NA	NA	Transitioning
Main	2nd Right Four Year Olds	Four Year Olds	2	22	C	24	C	NA	NA	Centers
Main	First Right	Two Year Olds	1	8	C	16	C	NA	NA	Free Play
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 68					Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					
Total # Children this Date: 46					Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	3 Year old Front Playground	17	C
Main	4 Year old Rear Playground	14	C
Main	Infant Toddler Playground	12	C

Comments

The purpose of this visit was to conduct a Licensing visit and to follow-up on previous citations. Provider was informed about the webinar on the Decal website, with updated rule changes.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 08/13/2019

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

Virginia Smith, Program Official

Date

Elim Tekie, Consultant

Date

Candace Gilbert, Consultant

Date



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Findings Report

Date: 8/13/2019 **VisitType:** Licensing Study

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The following information is associated with a Licensing Study:

Activities and Equipment

591-1-1-.03 Activities

Technical Assistance

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.03(6) - At 10:30am, Consultant observed six children, sitting in the bucket seats, at the table. There were two toys available for the six children. The children were sitting in the bucket seats for ten minutes. When Consultant questioned the staff member why they were sitting in the seats, Staff member stated that they were waiting for lunch, which comes at 11:00am. Consultant recommended taking them out of the confined seating, for they cannot remain confined for 30 min. Consultant exited classroom to observe other parts of the building and returned ten minutes later, to find the children still confined to bucket seats. Consultant discussed further with Director and Director immediately addressed it.

Correction Deadline: 8/13/2019

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

Met

Comment

A variety of equipment and toys were observed throughout the center. Consultant discussed making sure chairs are placed on the floor, un-stacked, after cleaning and sanitizing.

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

Met

Comment

Center does not provide swimming activities.

Children's Records

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

Met

Comment

Records were observed to be complete and well organized.

Facility

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)	Not Met
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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 Consultant's observation, the fence on both the younger and older playground does not meet the four feet requirement. The fence around the perimeter of both playgrounds was between 43-46 inches high.

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: 8/13/2019

Health and Hygiene

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

Staff state proper knowledge of diapering procedures. Consultant observed low hanging bags over the changing table. Consultant recommended moving the bags to another area, during diaper changing. Consultant did not observe a risk.

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

Staff were observed to remind children to wash hands in the Pre-K and two/ three year old classrooms.

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

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication. Consultant observed complete documentation on this date.

Policies and Procedures

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

Consultant observed complete emergency drills. Consultant observed last emergency drill conducted on July 14, 2019, at 9:45am.

Safety

591-1-1-.05 Animals	Met
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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. Consultant observed pleasant tones of voice. Great redirection throughout the building.

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

Center does not participate in field trips at this time. Provider stated, No field trip provided since previous visit.

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

Center does not provide routine transportation.

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

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

Discussed SIDS and infant sleeping position. Consultant reminded staff member to transition child from the bouncy seat, as soon as they fall asleep.

Staff Records

Records Reviewed: 10**Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 3**

Staff # 2

Not Met

Date of Hire: 10/15/2018

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.14(2)-CPR missing,.14(2)-First Aid Missing

Staff # 7

Not Met

Date of Hire: 07/25/2018

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.14(2)-CPR missing,.14(2)-First Aid Missing

Staff # 10

Not Met

Date of Hire: 10/25/2013

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(5)-10 Hrs. Annual Training,.14(2)-CPR missing,.14(2)-First Aid Missing

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

Criminal record checks were observed to be complete. Consultant observed nine out of nine complete Criminal Background Checks.

591-1-1-.14 First Aid & CPR**Not Met****Comment**

Complete first aid kits observed in center, in every classroom.

Comment

Evidence observed of 50% of center staff certified in First Aid and CPR.

Finding

591-1-1-.14(2) requires a Staff member who is trained in CPR and first aid to be on the premises and on any field trip whenever any child is present. In addition, Staff who provide direct care to children must satisfactorily obtain certification in first aid and CPR by December 29, 2016 if employed prior to September 30, 2016 and within 90 days of their hire date if employed after September 30, 2016. It was determined based on review of records, one out of nine staff members did not have a current CPR and First Aid training completed.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will develop a schedule to ensure there is always a staff person with current first aid and CPR training present and will develop and implement a plan to ensure all staff members have satisfactorily completed first aid and CPR training by the specified date.

Correction Deadline: 9/12/2019

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.

Staffing and Supervision

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

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

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

Center observed to maintain appropriate staff:child ratios.