



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: 6/27/2019 **VisitType:** Incident Investigation
 Closure from visit on
 05/21/2019

Arrival: 9:50 AM

Departure: 3:45 PM

CCLC-10983

Noah's Ark Child Care & Learning Center

293 Knight Trail Thomaston, GA 30286 Upson County
 (706) 648-6353 noahsarkdaycare@windstream.net

Regional Consultant

Sherri Thompson

Phone: (770) 357-7038

Fax: (770) 357-7037

sherri.thompson@decals.ga.gov

Mailing Address
 Same

Quality Rated: ★ ★

Compliance Zone Designation		
06/27/2019	Incident Investigation Closure	Good Standing
05/21/2019	Incident Investigation & Follow Up	Good Standing
02/14/2019	Licensing Study	Good Standing

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.

Comments

The purpose of the today's visit was to conduct follow-up from the visit conducted on 2/ 14/2019 and to conduct an incident investigation. The incident investigation is ongoing at this time. Once the investigation is completed a copy will be sent and reviewed with the provider.


Findings were determined on June 27, 2019 and were sent to the provider and reviewed via phone with the center's Program director.

Advisement of Potential for Repeated Rule Violations during Pending Investigations

This report shall serve as official notice of potential rule violations. These potential rule violations have been detailed in this report and discussed with you by the consultant. The department shall conduct a thorough investigation to determine if in fact the alleged rule violation(s) should or should not be substantiated. Please be aware that the investigation may take some time to be finalized to ensure fairness and accuracy. During this investigation period, any violations of an identical rule or rules will require the department to treat any and all substantiated rule violations identified in the investigation as repeated rule violation(s).

Further, from time to time the department discovers additional rule violations during the course of an investigation. If there are new rule violation(s), your consultant shall inform you of the violation(s) as soon as possible. However, as stated above, any violations of identical rule(s) will require the department to treat any and all additional rule violations identified in the investigation as repeated rule violations.

All rule violations found in relation to a complaint or incident investigation will be associated with the date the investigation was closed.



Please refer to the website, <http://www.decals.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@decals.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://decals.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)

I have read and understand the Rules and Regulations for Child Care Learning Centers, 591-1-1. I acknowledge that the items noted in this report have been discussed with me and I have agreed to a Plan of Improvement (POI) as indicated in this report. I understand that correction of these deficiencies, while required, will not necessarily prevent DECAL from taking adverse action against this facility. I understand that if I disagree with any of the deficiencies cited, I have the right to refute them on this report or any other form that I choose to send to Child Care Services.

Jennifer Massey, Program Official

Date

Sherri Thompson, Consultant

Date



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Summary Report

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The following information is associated with a Incident Investigation Closure:

	Facility
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591-1-1-.25 Physical Plant - Safe Environment(CR)

Not Met

Finding Associated with Complaint

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 review of staff statements and interview, parent statement, photos, video footage, and the required report that was submitted by the center to the Department, a eleven-month-old child sustained a burn to their leg due to the accessibility of a nearby bottle warmer on May 16, 2019. The child was in the infant classroom and seated in a high chair next to a table where the bottle warmer was located. The child was able to pull over a bottle warmer, containing hot water, onto themselves causing a burn on their leg that required professional medical attention.

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. The center has moved and marked where high chairs can be placed. Bottles warmers will not be left on when not in use and will not be used in the infant classroom unless requested by the parent for young infants.

Correction Deadline: 6/28/2019

	Health and Hygiene
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591-1-1-.07 Children's Health

Not Met

Finding Associated with Complaint

591-1-1-.07(4) requires the Center to have a written plan which outlines how emergency medical services will be obtained, including place(s) the child will be taken for emergency care. When a medical emergency arises involving a child, the Center Staff shall seek prompt emergency medical treatment and provide any certified or licensed emergency medical persons with immediate access to the child. It was determined the center failed to call 911 as indicated in their parent handbook when a serious injury had occurred. An eleven-month-old child sustained a burn requiring professional medical treatment and the parent called 911 upon arrival at the center on May 16, 2019.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will complete a written medical emergency plan. and train Center Staff to identify when emergency medical treatment is needed, how and where to obtain it, and to allow emergency medical personnel access to the child.

Correction Deadline: 5/21/2019