



**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: 8/10/2020 **VisitType:** Licensing Study **Arrival:** 1:30 PM **Departure:** 3:30 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

Brandi Mangino

Phone: (478) 314-9726

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brandi.mangino@dec.al.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.
08/10/2020	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
09/12/2019	Complaint Closure	Good Standing	
09/12/2019	Complaint Investigation & 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/0-12 mths		0	0	C	14	C	NA	NA		
Main	B/ 3years	Infants and One Year Olds	2	8	C	14	C	NA	NA	Floor Play,Outside	
Main	C/ 1 year	One Year Olds	2	8	C	19	C	NA	NA	Outside	
Main	D/ 2 year	Two Year Olds	2	15	C	21	C	NA	NA	Outside	
Main	E/ 3 years	Three Year Olds	3	16	C	16	C	NA	NA	Centers	
Main	F/ 4 year	Four Year Olds	2	8	C	19	C	NA	NA	Art	
Main	G/ 6-8 year		0	0	C	19	C	NA	NA		
Main	H/ 8-12 year		0	0	C	19	C	NA	NA		
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.:			133			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.:		0			Building @35 capacity limited by Fire Marshall Limitations
Total # Children this Date:			55			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.:		0			

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	A	10	C
Main	B	2	C
Main	C	32	C
Main	D	46	C

Comments

An Administrative Review was conducted on August 10, 2020. Staff files, children's files, training and background checks were all reviewed. A Virtual Inspection was conducted on August 18, 2020 with the Director. An in-person visit was not conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Compliance with the Executive Order issued July 15, 2020 was reviewed during the virtual inspection.

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.al.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@dec.al.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://dec.al.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.dec.al.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@dec.al.ga.gov

Jennifer Massey, Program Official

Date

Brandi Mangino, Consultant

Date



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Findings Report

Date: 8/10/2020 **VisitType:** Licensing Study **Arrival:** 1:30 PM **Departure:** 3:30 PM

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The following information is associated with a Licensing Study:

Activities and Equipment

591-1-1-.03 Activities

Not Evaluated

Comment

A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. This rule was unable to be evaluated and will be reviewed the next regulatory visit.

Correction Deadline: 8/10/2020

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

Defer

Defer

A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. This citation is deferred until the next regulatory visit when the rule correction can be observed in person.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will ensure that the identified equipment or furniture and any other such existing or future items are secured adequately and will have a system for checking these for stability.

Correction Deadline: 9/12/2019

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

Met

Comment

A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. This rule was unable to be evaluated and will be reviewed the next regulatory visit.

Correction Deadline: 8/10/2020

Children's Records

Records Reviewed: 5

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 0

Child # 1

Met

Records Reviewed: 5

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 0

Child # 2	Met
Child # 3	Met
Child # 4	Met
Child # 5	Met

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

Technical Assistance

Technical Assistance

Please ensure that all areas of enrollment application are completely filled out.

Correction Deadline: 8/10/2020

Facility

591-1-1-.06 Bathrooms

Not Evaluated

Comment

A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. This rule was unable to be evaluated and will be reviewed the next regulatory visit.

Correction Deadline: 9/9/2020

591-1-1-.19 License Capacity(CR)

Not Evaluated

Comment

A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. This rule was unable to be evaluated and will be reviewed the next regulatory visit.

Correction Deadline: 8/10/2020

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

Met

Comment

A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. This rule was unable to be evaluated and will be reviewed the next regulatory visit.

Correction Deadline: 9/9/2020

591-1-1-.25 Physical Plant-Structural/Mechanical

Met

Comment

A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. This rule was unable to be evaluated and will be reviewed the next regulatory visit.

Correction Deadline: 8/10/2020

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

Defer

Defer

A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. This citation is deferred until the next regulatory visit when the rule correction can be observed in person.

The director showed the playgrounds but due to connection issues the citations will be viewed in person.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will remove or repair equipment that is not anchored and will regularly inspect the equipment to ensure it remains anchored.

Correction Deadline: 9/22/2019

Defer

A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. This citation is deferred until the next regulatory visit when the rule correction can be observed in person.

The director showed the playgrounds but due to connection issues the citations will be viewed in person.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will add additional resilient surfacing to the fall zones where needed and check daily, adding resilient surfacing as needed to maintain adequate resiliency.

Correction Deadline: 9/22/2019

Food Service

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

Not Evaluated

Comment

A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. This rule was unable to be evaluated and will be reviewed the next regulatory visit.

Correction Deadline: 8/10/2020

591-1-1-.18 Kitchen Operations

Not Evaluated

Comment

A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. This rule was unable to be evaluated and will be reviewed the next regulatory visit.

Correction Deadline: 8/10/2020

Health and Hygiene

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

Not Evaluated

Comment

A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. This rule was unable to be evaluated and will be reviewed the next regulatory visit.

Correction Deadline: 8/10/2020

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

Met

Comment

A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Handwashing requirements were discussed with the Director on this date. This rule was unable to be evaluated and will be reviewed the next regulatory visit.

Correction Deadline: 8/10/2020

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

Defer

Defer

A Virtual Visit was conducted on August 17, 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. This citation is deferred until the next regulatory visit when the rule correction can be observed in person.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will train Staff on required handwashing for children and Staff will ensure children's hands are washed when required. The Director will monitor for compliance.

Correction Deadline: 9/12/2019

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

Documentation for medication dispensing observed complete.

Organization

591-1-1-.04 Admission and Enrollment**Not Evaluated****Comment**

A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. This rule was unable to be evaluated and will be reviewed the next regulatory visit.

Correction Deadline: 8/10/2020

591-1-1-.38 Enforcement**Not Evaluated****Comment**

A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. This rule was unable to be evaluated and will be reviewed the next regulatory visit.

Correction Deadline: 8/10/2020

591-1-1-.16 Governing Body & License**Not Evaluated****Comment**

A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. This rule was unable to be evaluated and will be reviewed the next regulatory visit.

Correction Deadline: 8/24/2020

591-1-1-.37 Inspections & Investigations**Not Evaluated****Comment**

A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. This rule was unable to be evaluated and will be reviewed the next regulatory visit.

Correction Deadline: 8/10/2020

Policies and Procedures

591-1-1-.21 Operational Policies & Procedures**Not Evaluated****Comment**

A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. This rule was unable to be evaluated and will be reviewed the next regulatory visit.

Correction Deadline: 8/15/2020

591-1-1-.22 Parental Access**Not Evaluated****Comment**

A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. This rule was unable to be evaluated and will be reviewed the next regulatory visit.

Correction Deadline: 8/10/2020

591-1-1-.27 Posted Notices**Not Evaluated****Comment**

A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. This rule was unable to be evaluated and will be reviewed the next regulatory visit.

Correction Deadline: 8/10/2020

591-1-1-.29 Required Reporting**Not Evaluated****Comment**

A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. This rule was unable to be evaluated and will be reviewed the next regulatory visit.

Correction Deadline: 8/10/2020

Safety

591-1-1-.05 Animals**Not Evaluated****Comment**

A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. This rule was unable to be evaluated and will be reviewed the next regulatory visit.

Correction Deadline: 8/10/2020

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

A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Discipline was not directly observed during the virtual walk through. Regulations regarding discipline were discussed with the Director on the virtual visit. This rule was unable to be evaluated and will be reviewed the next regulatory visit.

Correction Deadline: 8/10/2020

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

A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. This rule was unable to be evaluated and will be reviewed the next regulatory visit.

Correction Deadline: 8/10/2020

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

A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. This citation is deferred until the next regulatory visit when the rule correction can be observed in person. The center has not provided transportation since March and does not plan on providing transportation the upcoming school year.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will ensure that the Director, Center Staff, and any person responsible for the transportation of children has completed the required transportation training.

Correction Deadline: 9/22/2019**Defer**

A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. This citation is deferred until the next regulatory visit when the rule correction can be observed in person. The center has not provided transportation since March and does not plan on providing transportation the upcoming school year.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The driver/other designated person will immediately document in writing with a check/mark/symbol each time a child gets on and off the vehicle.

Correction Deadline: 9/13/2019**Defer**

A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. This citation is deferred until the next regulatory visit when the rule correction can be observed in person. The center has not provided transportation since March and does not plan on providing transportation the upcoming school year.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will ensure that each time of arrival and departure is documented by the driver or designated person with training, review and monitoring.

Correction Deadline: 9/13/2019

Defer

A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. This citation is deferred until the next regulatory visit when the rule correction can be observed in person. The center has not provided transportation since March and does not plan on providing transportation the upcoming school year.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will train Staff who are or may be involved in transporting children in how to thoroughly inspect a vehicle and properly complete transportation documentation. The Center will review and monitor.

Correction Deadline: 9/13/2019

Defer

A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. This citation is deferred until the next regulatory visit when the rule correction can be observed in person. The center has not provided transportation since March and does not plan on providing transportation the upcoming school year.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will train Staff who are or may be involved in transporting children in how to thoroughly inspect a vehicle and properly complete transportation documentation. The Center will review and monitor.

Correction Deadline: 9/12/2019

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

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

Not Evaluated

Comment

A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. This rule was unable to be evaluated and will be reviewed the next regulatory visit.

Correction Deadline: 8/20/2020

Staff Records

Records Reviewed: 19

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 0

Staff # 1	Met
Date of Hire: 06/03/2019	
Staff # 2	Met
Staff # 3	Met
Date of Hire: 05/16/2019	
Staff # 4	Met
Date of Hire: 07/28/2006	
Staff # 5	Met
Date of Hire: 09/18/2015	

Records Reviewed: 19

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 0

Staff # 6 Date of Hire: 12/28/2018	Met
Staff # 7 Date of Hire: 11/24/2003	Met
Staff # 8 Date of Hire: 11/19/2019	Met
Staff # 9 Date of Hire: 06/14/2014	Met
Staff # 10 Date of Hire: 06/14/2014	Met
Staff # 11 Date of Hire: 05/20/2019	Met
Staff # 12 Date of Hire: 09/12/2019	Met
Staff # 13 Date of Hire: 05/08/2017	Met
Staff # 14 Date of Hire: 11/02/2017	Met
Staff # 15 Date of Hire: 09/10/2019	Met
Staff # 16 Date of Hire: 06/23/2016	Met
Staff # 17	Met
Staff # 18 Date of Hire: 07/30/2020	Met
Staff # 19 Date of Hire: 06/03/2019	Met

Staff Credentials Reviewed: 3

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

Not Met

Finding

591-1-1-.09(1)(c) requires the Center to ensure that every Employee has a valid and current satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination on file prior to being present at the Center while any child is present for care or before an individual age 17 or older resides in the Center. The Comprehensive Records Check Determination must have a Records Check Clearance Date that is no older than the preceding 12 months of the hire date; provided, however, if the Employee has had a lapse of employment from the child care industry that lasted for 180 days (6 months) or longer, a new satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination is required. It was determined based on a review of records that a staff member hired in May 2019 left the center in June 2019 and returned in June 2020 the Employee has had a lapse of employment from the child care industry that lasted for 180 days (6 months) or longer, a new satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination was not completed prior to employment.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

IMMEDIATE CORRECTION - The Center will ensure to maintain all criminal record checks to ensure that every Employee has a valid and current satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination on file prior to being present at the Center while any child is present for care or before an individual age 17 or older resides in the Center. The Comprehensive Records Check Determination must have a Records Check Clearance Date that is no older than the preceding 12 months of the hire date; provided, however, if the Employee has had a lapse of employment from the child care industry that lasted for 180 days (6 months) or longer, a new satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination is required. The program's owner or an officer/member of the corporation must view the A to Z Background Check video units pertaining to this records check rule and return the signed affidavit within one week from this visit date. The center will maintain all criminal record checks to ensure the CRC rules are maintained.

Correction Deadline: 8/10/2020

Finding

591-1-1-.09(1)(l)2. requires the Center to immediately require a new Comprehensive Records Check Determination for a Director, Employee or Provisional Employee when there has been a lapse of employment from the child care industry that lasted for 180 calendar days (6 months) or longer. It was determined based on a review of records that a staff member hired in May 2019 left the center in June 2019 and returned in June 2020 the Employee has had a lapse of employment from the child care industry that lasted for 180 days (6 months) or longer, a new satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination was not completed prior to employment.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

IMMEDIATE CORRECTION - The Center will maintain all criminal record checks and immediately require a new Comprehensive Records Check Determination for Directors, Employees or Provisional Employees Employee's when there has been a lapse of employment from the child care industry that lasted for 180 calendar days (6 months) or longer. The program's owner or an officer/member of the corporation must view the A to Z Background Check video units pertaining to this records check rule and return the signed affidavit within one week from this visit date. The Center will maintain all criminal record checks to ensure CRC rules are maintained.

Correction Deadline: 8/10/2020

591-1-1-.33 Staff Training

Met

Correction Deadline: 10/12/2019

Corrected on 8/10/2020

.33(3) - Citation observed to be corrected.

591-1-1-.31 Staff(CR)

Met

Comment

Additional cleaning and sanitizing requirements due to COVID-19 pandemic were discussed during the virtual walk through. The program was in compliance with the Executive Order issued July 15, 2020.

Staffing and Supervision

591-1-1-.32 Staff:Child Ratios and Group Size(CR)**Not Evaluated****Comment**

A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. This rule was unable to be evaluated and will be reviewed the next regulatory visit.

Correction Deadline: 8/10/2020

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

A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. This rule was unable to be evaluated and will be reviewed the next regulatory visit.

Correction Deadline: 8/10/2020