



**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: 9/12/2019 **VisitType:** Monitoring Visit **Arrival:** 9:45 AM **Departure:** 12:15 PM

CCLC-22146

Big Apple Learning Center #2

326 North Hospital Road Sandersville, GA 31082 Washington County
(478) 240-9125 bigapplelearning2@yahoo.com

Regional Consultant

Laura Johnson

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Mailing Address

P. O. Box 4344
Dublin, GA 31040

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.
09/12/2019	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
05/02/2019	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
12/06/2018	Monitoring Visit	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-Left	One Year Olds	1	4	C	14	C	NA	NA	Centers
Main	B-Center	Two Year Olds	1	5	C	19	C	NA	NA	Centers
Main	C-Right		0	0	C	14	C	NA	NA	
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.:			47			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0				
Total # Children this Date: 9			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 47			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0				

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	Playground	105	C

Comments

The purpose of today's visit is to complete a Monitoring Visit. This is the first visit of the fiscal year.

The director stated that they do not provide routine transportation, medications, or swimming activities.

All criminal record checks were observed complete.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 09/12/2019

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.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

Cynthia Andrews, Program Official

Date

Laura Johnson, Consultant

Date



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Findings Report

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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) **N/A**

Comment

Center does not provide swimming activities.

Facility

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) **Met**

Comment

Center appears clean and well maintained.

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

Correction Deadline: 5/16/2019

Corrected on 9/12/2019

.25(10) - This citation was corrected on this date. The center had a working fire extinguisher in every classroom.

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 observation that the following fence hazards were observed:

- On the right side of the playground eight fence panels were not attached at the bottom.
- Five fence panels along the back of the playground were not secure at the bottom.
- The fifth and sixth fence panels on the right side of the playground had a five-inch gap at the bottom posing a potential entrapment hazard.
- Three fence panels on the back of the playground had a five-inch gap at the bottom posing a potential entrapment hazard.

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: 9/30/2019

Recited on 9/12/2019

Finding

591-1-1-.26(6) requires that playground equipment provide an opportunity for the children to engage in a variety of experiences and shall be age-appropriate. For example, toddlers shall not be permitted to swing in swings designed for School-age Children. The outdoor equipment shall be free of lead-based paint, sharp corners and shall be regularly maintained in such a way as to be free of rust and splinters that could pose significant safety hazard to the children. All equipment shall be arranged so as not to obstruct supervision of children. It was determined based on the consultant's observation that the following equipment on the playground presented hazards:

- The yellow metal train tunnel was chipping paint.
- The metal four seating see saw was chipping paint.
- The stationary tricycle was chipping paint.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will provide a variety of age-appropriate equipment that is arranged so as not to obstruct supervision of children. Staff will check the equipment daily to ensure that the equipment is free of hazards, rust and splinters.

Correction Deadline: 9/30/2019

Recited on 9/12/2019

Finding

591-1-1-.26(8) requires climbing and swinging equipment to have a resilient surface beneath the equipment and the fall zone from such equipment must be adequately maintained by the Center to assure continuing resiliency. It was determined based on observation that the playground had a stand-up roundabout that was two-feet and ten-inches tall with only two-inches of resilient surfacing underneath. Additionally, the center had a metal stationary car stored within the fall zone for the roundabout.

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. The director will also move equipment out of the fall zone of the roundabout.

Correction Deadline: 9/30/2019

Food Service

Finding

591-1-1-.15(1) requires that meals and snacks are served, with serving sizes dependent upon the age of the child, that meet nutritional guidelines as established by the United States Department of Agriculture Child and Adult Care Food Program. Meals and snacks shall be varied daily, and additional servings of nutritious food shall be offered to children over and above the required daily minimum, if not contraindicated by special diets. It was determined based on observation and staff statements that one-year-old children are being served unflavored low-fat milk and not unflavored whole milk as required by the USDA guidelines.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

Center Staff will prepare menus and/or serve foods that meet the USDA guidelines and will offer and serve seconds to children. A copy of the USDA Child and Adult Meal Patterns Flyer was left with the director on this date.

Correction Deadline: 9/13/2019

Recited on 9/12/2019

Health and Hygiene

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

Met

Correction Deadline: 5/2/2019

Corrected on 9/12/2019

.07(5) - This citation was corrected on this date. No pacifiers or other hazardous items were observed around any children's necks or attached to their clothing.

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

Met

Comment

Hand washing requirements for diapering were discussed with the director on this date.

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

Met

Comment

Staff were observed to remind children to wash hands.

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

N/A

Comment

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

Safety

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

Met

Comment

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

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

N/A

Comment

Center does not provide routine transportation.

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

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 four out of six crib mattresses were torn with exposed foam and not waterproof as required.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The center will ensure that a crib mattress is firm, tight-fitting without gaps, at least two inches thick and covered with a waterproof, washable material.

Correction Deadline: 9/26/2019

Finding

591-1-1-.30(1)(b)1 requires that cots and mats are of sound construction and of sufficient size to accommodate comfortably the size and weight of the child; and that mats are in good repair, washable, covered with a waterproof material and at least two inches (2") thick. It was determined based on the consultant's observation that in classroom C 10 out of 14 cots had tears in them with fraying material exposed making them not in sound condition.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will ensure that cots and mats are of sound construction and of sufficient size to accommodate the size and weight of the child and mats are in good repair, washable, covered with a waterproof material and is at least two inches thick.

Correction Deadline: 9/26/2019

Recited on 9/12/2019

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.30(2) - The consultant spoke with the director about ensuring that children are not allowed to sleep in a crib with a blanket. Blankets were removed from the cribs during the visit and no infants were present. It was explained that crib rules must be maintained anytime a child is placed to sleep in a crib.

Correction Deadline: 9/12/2019

Staff Records

Records Reviewed: 4

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 0

Staff # 1	Met
Date of Hire: 06/16/2008	
Staff # 2	Met
Date of Hire: 05/01/2017	
Staff # 3	Met
Date of Hire: 04/23/2012	
Staff # 4	Met
Date of Hire: 10/04/2016	

Staff Credentials Reviewed: 7

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

Correction Deadline: 5/2/2019**Corrected on 9/12/2019**

.09(1)(a) - This citation was corrected on this date. All staff present had a satisfactory comprehensive records check on file.

Correction Deadline: 5/2/2019**Corrected on 9/12/2019**

.09(1)(c) - This citation was corrected on this date. All staff present had a satisfactory comprehensive records check on file.

591-1-1-.14 First Aid & CPR**Met****Correction Deadline: 6/1/2019****Corrected on 9/12/2019**

.14(2) - This citation was corrected on this date. All staff had evidence of completing first aid and CPR training.

591-1-1-.33 Staff Training**Met****Correction Deadline: 6/1/2019****Corrected on 9/12/2019**

.33(3) - This citation was corrected on this date. All staff obtained health and safety orientation during their first 90 days of hire.

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)**Met****Comment**

Center observed to maintain appropriate staff:child ratios.

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

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