



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: 3/5/2019

VisitType: Complaint Closure from
visit on 03/05/2019

Arrival: 2:25 PM

Departure: 5:25 PM

CCLC-2636

Oma's Learning Center and Daycare

1345 West Hill Ave. Valdosta, GA 31601 Lowndes County
(229) 247-2313 omaslearningctr@yahoo.com

Regional Consultant

Beth Houtz

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beth.houtz@dec.al.ga.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.
03/05/2019	Complaint Closure	Support	
03/05/2019	Complaint Investigation Follow Up	Deficient	
02/28/2019	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	

Comments

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.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)

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.

Jazmine Newsome, Program Official

Date

Beth Houtz , Consultant

Date



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Summary Report

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The following information is associated with a Complaint Closure:

Safety

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

Not Met

Finding Associated with Complaint

591-1-1-.36(4)(f)1. requires that all transported children be secured in a child passenger restraining system or seat safety belt in accordance with current state and federal laws and regulations and according to manufacturer's directions. It was determined based on the consultant's observation during after school pick up at S.L. Mason Elementary School, that on Monday, March 4, 2019 there were sixteen (16) children in a Ford van, tag number PBY4799, with a maximum seating capacity of thirteen (13) passengers. Additionally, the center had been cited on Thursday, February 28, 2019 due to three seat belts not being operable on the Ford van, tag number PBY4799, being used for pick up. During pick up on March 4, 2019 there were only ten operable seat belts on the vehicle resulting in six (6) children not to have a seat belt as required by state and federal law.

Correction Deadline: 3/5/2019**Finding Associated with Complaint**

591-1-1-.36(4)(f)2. requires that no vehicle shall exceed the manufacturer's rated seating capacity and that proof of the seating capacity is maintained on file. It was determined based on the consultant's observation during after school pick up at S.L. Mason Elementary school that on Monday, March 4, 2019 that there were sixteen (16) children in a Ford van, tag number PBY4799, with a maximum seating capacity of thirteen (13) passengers exceeding the manufacturer's rated seating capacity.

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Correction Deadline: 3/5/2019

Staff Records

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

Not Met

Finding Associated with Complaint

591-1-1-.31(13) prohibits Center Staff from committing any criminal act, as defined under Georgia law, in the presence of any child enrolled in the Center and requires Center staff to comply with all applicable laws and regulations. It was determined based on the consultant's observation during after school pick up at S.L. Mason Elementary School, that on Monday, March 4, 2019 the van driver allowed sixteen (16) children on a van with a maximum seating capacity of thirteen (13) passengers. Additionally, the center had been cited on Thursday, February 28, 2019 due to three seat belts not being operable on the van being used for pick up. On March 4, 2019 during pick up the van driver allowed six (6) children on the van not to have a seat belt even though a seat belt for each passenger is required by state and federal law.

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Correction Deadline: 3/5/2019