



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: 5/23/2019 **VisitType:** Monitoring Visit **Arrival:** 11:00 AM **Departure:** 1:30 PM

CCLC-26917

Sweetwater Academy

35 Florence Road Douglasville, GA 30134 Paulding County
 (770) 942-7233 sweetwateracademy1@gmail.com

Mailing Address
 Same

Regional Consultant

Karyn Presley

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karyn.presley@dec.al.ga.gov

Joint with: Ebony Kern

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.
05/23/2019	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
11/26/2018	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
05/02/2018	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	First Back	PreK	2	18	C	25	C	NA	NA	Outside
Main	First Left	One Year Olds and Two Year Olds	1	13	C	14	C	NA	NA	Outside
Main	First Right	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	2	20	C	27	C	NA	NA	Lunch
Main	Fourth Left(Right)	PreK	2	18	C	26	C	NA	NA	Outside
Main	Second Left	Infants and One Year Olds	2	9	C	23	C	NA	NA	Free Play, Transitioning, Floor Play
Main	Second Right (Left)	PreK	2	18	C	26	C	NA	NA	Transitioning
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 141			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0							
Total # Children this Date: 96			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 141							
			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0							

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	Playground A	184	C
Main	Playground B	96	C

Comments

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 05/23/2019

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/RuleAndRegulations.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

Date _____

Date

Date



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Findings Report

Date: 5/23/2019 **VisitType:** Monitoring Visit

Arrival: 11:00 AM

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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)

Defer

Defer

591-1-1-.35(3)-Previous citation was deferred due to the provider having not completed any swimming since the previous citation. Program will be swimming starting on June 3, 2019.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will ensure that adequate numbers of Staff are available to maintain the required Staff:child ratios. Staff will determine each child's swimming ability by performing a swim test and document the results of the test or will obtain copies of certificates from recognized water safety instructors for children not tested at the Center. A certified lifeguard will be present at the pool during swimming activities.

Correction Deadline: 11/26/2018

Facility

591-1-1-.06 Bathrooms

Met

Comment

Please secure cleaning tools (i.e., broom, plunger) out of reach of children.

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

Please be mindful to keep items that pose a hazard inaccessible to children.
Discussed maintenance of the building and flooring.

Comment

Discussed the following rule with the provider 591-1-1-.25(7) requires that doors to rooms not approved for child care, other than the kitchen doors, be latched or locked so children cannot wander into those areas. Except in School-age Centers, interior Center door locks shall permit Personnel to open the locked room from outside of the room in an emergency.

Correction Deadline: 5/23/2019

591-1-1-.26 Playgrounds(CR)**Met****Comment**

Discussed maintenance of the fence with the provider

Correction Deadline: 12/10/2018

Corrected on 5/23/2019

.26(8) - Previous citation was observed to be corrected in that three inches of wood chips was observed under the playground equipment on this date.

Health and Hygiene

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

Staff state proper knowledge of diapering procedures.

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

Staff were observed to remind children to wash hands.

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

Documentation for medication dispensing observed complete.

Safety

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

Age-appropriate discussion and/or redirection observed.

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

Paperwork, checklist, permission forms, annual inspection form and proper check of the vehicle after transportation were discussed with the director.

Comment

The vehicle had an approved fire extinguisher and first aid kit on this date.

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

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

Pleasant naptime environment observed.
Discussed passie attachment

Staff Records

Staff # 1 Date of Hire: 08/02/2016	Met
Staff # 2 Date of Hire: 05/21/2019 <u>"Missing/Incomplete Components"</u> .09-Criminal Records Check Missing	Not Met
Staff # 3 Date of Hire: 10/16/2017	Met
Staff # 4 Date of Hire: 01/10/2017	Met
Staff # 5 Date of Hire: 01/23/1995	Met
Staff # 6 Date of Hire: 08/13/2018	Met
Staff # 7 Date of Hire: 12/28/2016	Met
Staff # 8 Date of Hire: 05/29/2013	Met
Staff # 9 Date of Hire: 01/01/2013	Met
Staff # 10 Date of Hire: 08/20/2018	Met
Staff # 11 Date of Hire: 01/01/2012	Met
Staff # 12 Date of Hire: 08/17/2015	Met
Staff # 13 Date of Hire: 09/06/2017	Met
Staff # 14 Date of Hire: 08/16/2010	Met
Staff # 15	Met

Records Reviewed: 18**Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 1**

Date of Hire: 06/22/2017

Staff # 16

Met

Date of Hire: 03/19/2019

Staff # 17

Met

Date of Hire: 09/13/2018

Staff # 18

Met

Date of Hire: 03/10/2006

Staff Credentials Reviewed: 18**591-1-1-.09 Criminal Records and Comprehensive Background Checks(CR)****Not Met****Comment**

Director provided [] file(s) for employees hired since last visit.

Finding

591-1-1-.09(1)(j) requires that for portability for Directors, Employees and Provisional Employees, excluding Students-in-Training, only the most recently issued determination letter is eligible for portability and must be ported electronically. A Center may accept a satisfactory Fingerprint Records Check Determination letter or a satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination letter issued by the Department if the Records Check Clearance Date is within the preceding 12 months from the hire date, the individual has not had a lapse of employment from the child care industry that lasted for 180 days (6 months) or longer, and the Center does not know or reasonably should not know that the individual's satisfactory status has changed. It was determined based on consultant's review of records staff member number two was rehired by the Center on May 21, 2019, the staff member had a fingerprint from January 25, 2017, but the staff member had been unemployed in childcare for approximately one year, therefore the staff member needed to be re fingerprinted.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

IMMEDIATE CORRECTION - The Center will ensure that only the most recently issued determination letter is electronically ported for Directors, Employees and Provisional Employees, excluding Students-in-Training. A Center may accept a satisfactory Fingerprint Records Check Determination letter or a satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination letter issued by the Department if the Records Check Clearance Date is within the preceding 12 months from the hire date, the individual has not had a lapse of employment from the child care industry that lasted for 180 days (6 months) or longer, and the Center does not know or reasonably should not know that the individual's satisfactory status has changed. 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 ensure CRC rules are maintained. A one day letter was left and signed by the program, the consultant assisted the employee with the fingerprinting process and read the CRC script with the program. The consultant also discussed and left an affidavit CRC training video document with the program.

Correction Deadline: 5/23/2019**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)****Not Met**

Finding

591-1-1-.32(2) requires the Center maintain Staff:child ratios in mixed-age groups based on the age of the youngest group of children that includes more than twenty percent of the total number of children in the mixed-age group. It was determined based on consultants observation the first left classroom had a 1:13 ratio on the playground because the second staff member was inside preparing lunch, the staff should have been a 1:8 ratio due to the class having four one-year-olds and nine two-year-olds present.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will provide adequate staff when there is a mixed-age group.

Correction Deadline: 5/23/2019

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

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