



**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: 9/14/2022 **VisitType:** Licensing Study **Arrival:** 9:15 AM **Departure:** 11:30 AM

CCLC-31511

Mountain Academy for Kids

1523 Old Hwy 5 North Ellijay, GA 30540 Gilmer County
(706) 636-4881 cindyhall@ellijay.com

Regional Consultant

Stephanie Clark

Phone: (770) 357-1712

Fax: (770) 357-1715

stephanie.clark@decals.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. |
|------------------------------------|------------------|---------------|--|
| 09/14/2022 | Licensing Study | Good Standing | |
| 05/25/2022 | Monitoring Visit | Good Standing | |
| 12/09/2021 | 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 |
|-----------------------------|-------------|-------------------------------|--------------|-----------------------------|-------------|-------------------|---------------------|-------------------|---------------------|--------------|
| Total # Children this Date: | | Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 0 | | Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: | | | | | | |

| Building | Playground | Playground Occupancy | Playground Compliance |
|-----------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------------|
| Main | Playground (Preschool) | 32 | C |
| Main | Playground (School AGe Rt Side) | 44 | C |
| Main | Playground (Infant Toddler) | 26 | C |

Comments

An in person visit was conducted on this date.

Plan of Improvement: No Plan Developed

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), do the following:

- 1) Log into DECAL KOALA www.decalkoala.com with the userid for your program
- 2) On the home page scroll down to the Inspection Reports and select 'Refute Citation' for the visit report in dispute
- 3) Select the specific rule number(s) that you are refuting, add the reason for disagreement regarding the rule citation, and upload supporting documentation
- 4) Submit the refutation in DECAL KOALA to Child Care Services (CCS) within 10 business days of the completion date.

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 Quality Rated/CAPS Update:

As January 1, 2022, child care providers must be Quality Rated to receive Childcare and Parent Services (CAPS). Newly licensed, or new to CAPS providers may be eligible for the new CAPS/QR Provisional Status, allowing for scholarships while working toward a star rating.

Contact the Quality Rated help desk at 1 855-800-7747 or qualityrated@dec.state.ga.us for more information. Free technical assistance is available!

Tammy Ledford, Program Official

Date

Stephanie Clark, Consultant

Date



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Findings Report

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The following information is associated with a Licensing Study:

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)

Met

Comment

Center does not provide swimming activities.

Facility

591-1-1-.06 Bathrooms

Met

Comment

Bathrooms observed to be clean and well maintained.

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

No hazards observed accessible to children on this date.

Comment

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

591-1-1-.26 Playgrounds(CR)**Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.26(9) requires the playground to be kept clean, free from litter and free of hazards, such as but not limited to rocks, exposed tree roots and exposed sharp edges of concrete. It was determined based on observation the following items below:

- The rubber padding on the playground had several deep cracks that risk a tripping hazard.
- The picnic tables on the playground have sharp edges from cracked areas.
- Climbing ropes need to be removed from the playscape area.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will remove any litter and fix or remove hazards from the playground and will routinely monitor the playground and remove litter and hazards.

Correction Deadline: 9/30/2022**Recited on 9/14/2022**

| |
|---------------------------|
| Health and Hygiene |
|---------------------------|

591-1-1-.07 Children's Health**Met****Correction Deadline: 5/25/2022****Corrected on 9/14/2022****.07(5) - This citation was observed to be corrected on this date.**

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**

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

Center does not participate in field trips at this time.

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

A current/completed inspection was observed for all vehicles used in transporting children this date.

Comment

Complete documentation of transportation observed.

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

Please ensure that cribs/cots are labeled for individual use.

Comment

The correct number of mats, sheets and blankets were observed on this date. Cleaning and disinfecting of mats was discussed with the director on this date.

Staff Records

One or more parameters were not specified for the subreport, 'StaffMissingRequirements_CBC', located at:
~~myKealaPDECreationConsole.Reports.RDLC.StaffMissingRequirements_CBC.rdlc~~

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

Met

Comment

Criminal record checks were observed to be complete.

591-1-1-.14 First Aid & CPR

Met

Comment

Evidence observed of 50% of center staff certified in First Aid and CPR.

591-1-1-.33 Staff Training

Met

Comment

Documentation observed of required staff training.

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

Met

Comment

Discussed that all lead staff must enroll in an approved education program within 6 months of hire and complete degree within 18 months.

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

Adequate supervision observed on this date.