



**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:** 12/18/2019 **VisitType:** Licensing Study

**Arrival:** 8:55 AM

**Departure:** 1:40 PM

**CCLC-31511**

**Mountain Academy for Kids**

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

**Regional Consultant**

Colleen Covey

Phone: (706) 256-7245

Fax: (706) 256-7244

colleen.covey@decal.ga.gov

**Mailing Address**

Same

**Quality Rated:** No

<b>Compliance Zone Designation</b>			<b>Compliance Zone Designation</b> - 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.  <b>Good Standing</b> - Program is demonstrating an acceptable level of performance in meeting the rules. <b>Support</b> - Program performance is demonstrating a need for improvement in meeting rules. <b>Deficient</b> - Program is not demonstrating an acceptable level of performance in meeting the rules.
12/18/2019	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
05/22/2019	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
12/27/2018	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	A-(Left, 1st LF)	Two Year Olds	1	10	C	15	C	NA	NA	Free Play
Main	B-Left, 2nd LF)	Three Year Olds	1	9	C	18	C	NA	NA	Music
Main	C-(Left, 2nd RT)	Infants and One Year Olds	2	7	C	14	C	NA	NA	Diapering, Nap, Free Play
Main	D-(Left, 1st RT/Right Side)		0	0	C	10	C	NA	NA	
Main	D-(LF, 1st RT, Left Side)	One Year Olds	1	8	C	10	C	NA	NA	Free Play
Main	E-(Right 1st RT)	Four Year Olds and Five Year Olds	1	9	C	20	C	NA	NA	Centers
Main	F-(Right Side End Room)	PreK	3	15	C	49	C	NA	NA	Story
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 136						Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0				
Total # Children this Date: 58						Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 136				
						Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0				

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

Follow up to the previous Monitoring Visit that was conducted on May 22, 2019 was completed on this date.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 12/18/2019

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.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](mailto: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](mailto:qualityrated@dec.al.ga.gov)

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Tammy Ledford, Program Official

Date

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Colleen Covey, 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.

**Comment**

Equipment and furniture observed to be properly secured, as applicable.

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

**N/A**

**Comment**

Center does not provide swimming activities.

### Children's Records

**Records Reviewed: 5**

**Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 0**

Child # 1	Met
Child # 2	Met
Child # 3	Met
Child # 4	Met
Child # 5	Met

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

**Met**

**Comment**

Records were observed to be complete and well organized.

**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**

Center appears clean and well maintained.

**591-1-1-.26 Playgrounds(CR)** Met**Correction Deadline: 6/1/2019****Corrected on 12/18/2019****.26(6) - The slide was observed to be repaired.****Food Service****591-1-1-.15 Food Service & Nutrition** Met**Comment**

Center menu meets USDA guidelines.

**591-1-1-.18 Kitchen Operations** Met**Comment**

Kitchen appears clean and well organized.

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

Proper diapering procedures observed.

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

Proper hand washing observed throughout the center.

**591-1-1-.20 Medications(CR)** Not Evaluated**Comment**

The Director stated that no medication has been administered since the previous visit was conducted on May 22, 2019. (This rule was not evaluated on this date).

**Safety****591-1-1-.05 Animals** N/A**Comment**

Center does not keep animals on premises.

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

**Comment**

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

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**591-1-1-.13 Field Trips(CR)** **N/A**

**Comment**

Center does not participate in field trips at this time.

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

**Comment**

Complete documentation of transportation observed.  
Annual vehicle inspection was completed on July 17, 2019.

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**Sleeping & Resting Equipment**

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

**Comment**

Discussed SIDS and infant sleeping position.

**Correction Deadline: 5/22/2019**

**Corrected on 12/18/2019**

**.30(2) - Infants were observed sleeping according to the safe sleep policy.**

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**Staff Records**

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**Records Reviewed: 17**

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

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Staff # 1	Met
Date of Hire: 05/28/2018	
Staff # 2	Met
Date of Hire: 04/12/2012	
Staff # 3	Met
Date of Hire: 12/01/2018	
Staff # 4	Met
Date of Hire: 12/12/2012	
Staff # 5	Met
Date of Hire: 11/06/2017	
Staff # 6	Met
Date of Hire: 10/01/2010	
Staff # 7	Not Met
Date of Hire: 07/28/2019	

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.14(2)-CPR missing,.14(2)-First Aid Missing

**Records Reviewed: 17****Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 1**

Staff # 8 Date of Hire: 08/23/2004	Met
Staff # 9 Date of Hire: 05/28/2019	Met
Staff # 10 Date of Hire: 03/25/2019	Met
Staff # 11 Date of Hire: 09/19/2019	Met
Staff # 12 Date of Hire: 12/03/2018	Met
Staff # 13 Date of Hire: 05/28/2019	Met
Staff # 14 Date of Hire: 10/17/2018	Met
Staff # 15 Date of Hire: 02/03/2013	Met
Staff # 16 Date of Hire: 10/10/2019	Met
Staff # 17 Date of Hire: 11/05/2004	Met

**Staff Credentials Reviewed: 5**

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

Criminal record checks were observed to be complete.

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**591-1-1-.14 First Aid & CPR** **Met****Comment**

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

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**591-1-1-.33 Staff Training** **Met****Comment**

Documentation observed of required staff training for the 2018 year.

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**591-1-1-.31 Staff(CR)** **Met****Comment**

Staff observed to be compliant with applicable laws and regulations.

## Staffing and Supervision

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### 591-1-1-.32 Staff:Child Ratios and Group Size(CR)

Met

#### Comment

Center observed to maintain appropriate staff:child ratios.

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### 591-1-1-.32 Supervision(CR)

Met

#### Comment

Adequate supervision observed on this date.