



**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: 5/22/2019 **VisitType:** Monitoring Visit **Arrival:** 9:10 AM **Departure:** 1:35 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
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colleen.covey@decal.ga.gov

Mailing Address
Same

Quality Rated: No

Compliance Zone Designation		
05/22/2019	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing
12/27/2018	Licensing Study	Good Standing
04/16/2018	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing

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.

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	5	C	15	C	NA	NA	Outside					
Main	B-Left, 2nd LF)	Three Year Olds	1	10	C	18	C	NA	NA	Outside					
Main	C-(Left, 2nd RT)	Infants	1	4	C	14	C	NA	NA	Nap					
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	Transitioning					
Main	E-(Right 1st RT)	Four Year Olds	1	17	C	20	C	NA	NA	Centers					
Main	F-(Right Side End Room)	PreK	2	19	C	49	C	NA	NA	Circle Time					
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 136						Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0									
Total # Children this Date: 63						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 Licensing Study that was conducted on December 27, 2018 was completed on this date.

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

Tammy Ledford, Program Official

Date

Colleen Covey, 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

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.

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

No hazards observed accessible to children on this date.

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

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 by consultant's observation that on the far left side, the infant playground, the Little Tikes Green/Pink slide had a three and one fourth crack on the blue base.

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.

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

Proper hand washing observed throughout the center.

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

Comment

Discussed proper medication documentation and procedures.

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) **Met**

Comment

Complete documentation of transportation observed.

Annual vehicle inspection was observed completed on July 23, 2018.

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

591-1-1-.30 Safe Sleeping and Resting Requirements(CR) **Not Met**

Finding

591-1-1-.30(2) requires the Center to provide a safe sleep environment in accordance with American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP), Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) and American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM) recommendations as listed in these rules for all infants. Center Staff shall place an infant to sleep on the infant's back in a crib unless the Center has been provided a physician's written statement authorizing another sleep position for that particular infant that includes how the infant shall be placed to sleep and a time frame that the instructions are to be followed. When an infant can easily turn over from back to front and back again, Staff shall continue to put the infant to sleep initially on the infant's back but allow the infant to roll over into his or her preferred position and not re-position the infant. Sleepers, sleep sacks and wearable blankets that fit according to the commercial manufacturer's guidelines and will not slide up around the infant's face may be used when necessary for the comfort of the sleeping infant. Swaddling shall not be used unless the Center has been provided a physician's written statement authorizing its use for a particular infant that includes instructions and a time frame for swaddling the infant. Center Staff shall not place objects or allow objects to be placed in or on the crib with an infant such as but not limited to toys, pillows, quilts, comforters, bumper pads, sheepskins, stuffed toys, or other soft items and shall not attach objects or allow objects to be attached to a crib with a sleeping infant, such as, but not limited to, crib gyms, toys, mirrors and mobiles. It was determined by consultant's observation that an infant was asleep in a crib with a blanket.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will take all steps necessary to provide a safe sleep environment for infants as listed in these rules; will train Staff to follow these rules; and will monitor for compliance.

Staff Records

Records Reviewed: 18

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 0

Staff # 1 Date of Hire: 05/13/2019	Met
Staff # 2 Date of Hire: 05/13/2019	Met
Staff # 3 Date of Hire: 05/13/2019	Met
Staff # 4 Date of Hire: 12/03/2018	Met
Staff # 5 Date of Hire: 05/28/2018	Met
Staff # 6 Date of Hire: 04/12/2012	Met
Staff # 7 Date of Hire: 10/01/2010	Met
Staff # 8 Date of Hire: 09/30/2015	Met
Staff # 9 Date of Hire: 04/10/2018	Met
Staff # 10 Date of Hire: 12/12/2012	Met
Staff # 11 Date of Hire: 06/01/2013	Met
Staff # 12 Date of Hire: 10/17/2018	Met
Staff # 13 Date of Hire: 02/28/2019	Met
Staff # 14 Date of Hire: 08/09/2018	Met

Records Reviewed: 18

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 0

Staff # 15 Date of Hire: 11/05/2004	Met
Staff # 16 Date of Hire: 08/23/2004	Met
Staff # 17 Date of Hire: 03/13/2013	Met
Staff # 18 Date of Hire: 11/06/2017	Met

Staff Credentials Reviewed: 18

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

Comment

Director provided four files for employees hired since last visit on December 27, 2018. Satisfactory record checks were observed for all eighteen staff members employed on this date.

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

Correction Deadline: 1/26/2019

Corrected on 5/22/2019

.33(6) - The Director completed annual training for the 2018 year.

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

Adequate supervision observed on this date.