



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: 10/10/2019 **VisitType:** Licensing Study

Arrival: 9:00 AM

Departure: 2:30 PM

CCLC-32822

Little Angels Pre-School & Child Care Center

512 N. Forrest St. Valdosta, GA 31601 Lowndes County
 (229) 253-0083 little_angels@bellsouth.net

Regional Consultant

Beth Houtz

Phone: (229) 238-2130

Fax: (229) 238-2955

beth.houtz@decal.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.
10/10/2019	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
06/26/2019	Complaint Investigation by Phone	Good Standing	
05/17/2019	Monitoring Visit	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	Room A - 1s	One Year Olds	2	10	C	0	NC	NA	NA	Transitioning, Breakfast
Main	Room B - 1s	One Year Olds	1	6	C	11	C	NA	NA	Centers
Main	Room C	Two Year Olds	2	16	C	16	C	NA	NA	Centers, Clean Up
Main	Room D	Two Year Olds	2	14	C	18	C	NA	NA	Centers
Main	Room E	Infants and One Year Olds	3	11	C	13	C	NA	NA	Diapering, Floor Play
Main	Room F	PreK	2	20	C	34	C	47	C	Story
Main	Room G	Three Year Olds	2	12	C	17	C	23	C	Centers
Main	Room H	Three Year Olds	2	6	C	23	C	32	C	Outside

Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 132

Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 160

Total # Children this Date: 95

Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 132

Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 160

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	Playground A	31	C
Main	Playground B	25	C
Main	Playground C	61	C

Comments

The purpose of today's visit is a licensing study. This is the first visit of the fiscal year. All employee files were reviewed during the visit. The facility provides before and after school transportation. The consultant discussed with the director about updating the 25 square foot request to reflect the correct classrooms.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 10/10/2019

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/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.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

Chanita Irvin, Program Official

Date

Beth Houtz, Consultant

Date



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Findings Report

Date: 10/10/2019 VisitType: Licensing Study

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The following information is associated with a Licensing Study:

Activities and Equipment

591-1-1-.12 Equipment & Toys(CR)

Not Met

Finding

591-1-1-.12(2) requires that all equipment and furniture be free from hazardous conditions such as, but not limited to, sharp rough edges or toxic paint; and be kept clean. It was determined based on observation that the following equipment and/or furniture posed a potential hazard to children in care.

-In classroom A, a blue vinyl chair was torn at the seam preventing it from being waterproof and washable as required.

-In classroom B a red plastic sink in the play kitchen was cracked presenting a pinching and scratching hazard.

-In classroom B a black vinyl couch and ottoman was torn preventing it from being waterproof and washable as required.

-In classroom H a blue vinyl couch was torn on the back preventing it from being waterproof and washable as required.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will ensure that equipment and furniture are used by the age-appropriate group of children.

Correction Deadline: 10/10/2019

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

Met

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.

Correction Deadline: 7/6/2019

Corrected on 10/10/2019

.08(2) - This citation was observed to be corrected on this date. The center has 100% compliance with the Health Department.

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)

Not Met

Finding

591-1-1-.25(13) requires that potentially hazardous equipment, materials and supplies be stored in a locked area inaccessible to children. It was determined based on observation that in classroom C in an unlocked cabinet under the handwashing sink there was two cans of Hot Shot bug spray accessible to children in care. Additionally, in the Pre-K classroom, room F, the following hazards were present and accessible to children in care: a teacher's purse on the floor under the desk, two staplers on the desk, two tape dispensers on the desk, and power cords behind the desks posing a tripping hazard.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will identify all hazardous items and keep them in a locked area inaccessible to children. The Center will inform all Staff about hazardous items and the safe storage of those items.

Correction Deadline: 10/10/2019

Recited on 10/10/2019

Correction Deadline: 5/17/2019

Corrected on 10/10/2019

.25(8) - This citation was observed to be corrected on this date. All outlets were covered.

591-1-1-.26 Playgrounds(CR)

Not Met

Comment

Discussed maintenance of resilient surface. Please fluff and redistribute.

Resilient surface materials may be uniform or loose fill materials. Uniform materials are rubber mats/surfaces or similar materials held in place by a binder. Test data must be obtained from the manufacturer of the material when it is used. The test data should include the ASTM International (ASTM) Standard Specifications and should be maintained on file at the center. Examples of acceptable loose fill materials include sand, pea gravel, wood chips, wood mulch, and shredded rubber. Resilient surface materials should not include sharp jagged edges, splintered wood, large pieces, etc.

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.26(4) - The consultant observed a gap between the two back gates that measured five inches in width. The consultant discussed with the director about closing the gap to ensure children cannot fit in between the gap.

Correction Deadline: 10/10/2019

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 based on observation that on the Step 2 play set on the middle playground there were three bolts that extended out presenting a protrusion hazard to children in care. Additionally, the folding cafeteria table stored on the right side playground presents an entrapment hazard to children in care.

The consultant also discussed monitoring the painted metal equipment for rust and chipping paint.

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.

Correction Deadline: 10/20/2019

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-.07 Children's Health **Technical Assistance**

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.07(5) requires Center Staff to not permit children to wear around their necks or attach to their clothing pacifiers or other hazardous items.

The consultant observed a child in classroom C to have on dog tag type necklace and a child in classroom G to have on a necklace. The consultant discussed with the director how these necklaces could be strangulation hazards to children in care.

Correction Deadline: 10/10/2019

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

Comment

Proper diapering procedures observed.

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

Comment

Please ensure lids remain on trash containing organic waste.

Comment

Proper hand washing observed throughout the center.

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

Comment

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

Policies and Procedures

591-1-1-.21 Operational Policies & Procedures **Met**

Comment

Program observed complete emergency drills

591-1-1-.27 Posted Notices **Met**

Comment

Please make sure that all required signs are posted and up to date. Please update the DECAL BFTS rule book that is posted.

Safety

591-1-1-.05 Animals **Met**

Comment

Center does not keep animals on premises.

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) **Not Met**

Comment

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

Comment

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

Finding

591-1-1-.36(7)(b) requires that an emergency medical information record be maintained in the vehicle for each child being transported. The emergency medical information record for each child shall include a listing of the child's full name, date of birth, allergies, special medical needs and conditions, current prescribed medications that the child is required to take on a daily basis for a chronic condition, the name and telephone number of the child's doctor, the local medical facility that the Center uses in the area where the Center is located and the telephone numbers where the Parents can be reached. It was determined based on a review of records that three of five emergency medical information records did not have the name or phone number of the child's physician. Additionally, five of five records reviewed did not have a person to notify in an emergency if the parent cannot be reached.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will obtain a complete emergency medical information record for each child that is transported and maintain a copy on the vehicle.

Correction Deadline: 10/11/2019

Finding

591-1-1-.36(7)(d)2. requires that the second designated Staff person conduct a check of the vehicle immediately upon the completion of the first check of the vehicle. The responsible person shall physically walk through the entire vehicle; visually inspect all seat surfaces, under all seats and in all compartments or recesses in the vehicle's interior; and sign the passenger transportation checklist(s), indicating all of the children have exited the vehicle. There shall be continuous watchful oversight of the vehicle between the first check and second check. It was determined based on a review of records that on the September 30, 2019 - October 4, 2019 transportation checklist for J.L. Lomax A.M. and P.M. pick up there was no second signature documented, as required, indicating that the vehicle had been checked and that all children had exited the vehicle for Thursday, October 3, 2019, A.M. and P.M. transportation and Friday, October 4, 2019 A.M. transportation.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will train Staff who are or may be involved in transporting children in how to thoroughly inspect a vehicle and properly complete transportation documentation. The Center will review and monitor.

Correction Deadline: 10/10/2019

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

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

Not Met

Comment

Discussed SIDS and infant sleeping position.

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.

Correction Deadline: 5/17/2019

Corrected on 10/10/2019

.30(1)(d) - This citation was observed to be corrected on this date. Proper sleep arrangements were observed.

Finding

591-1-1-.30(4). requires that if cots and mats are stored in the children's activity room or area, they shall be stored to prevent children's access to them and to allow maximum use of play space. When storage is available and used for the storage of cots and mats that allows the cots, mats and any bedding to be stored without touching any other cots, mats or bedding, the bedding may be left on the cot or mat. When such storage is not available for the cots and mats, each child's bedding shall be kept separate from other children's bedding and stored in containers marked for individual use, such as, but not limited to, bins, cubbies, or bags. It was determined based on observation that in classrooms A, B, and F the rest cots were stored in the classroom but were not covered to prevent children's access to them.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will store cots and mats so children do not have access to them and they don't take up play space and will store them so each child's bedding is separate from the others.

Correction Deadline: 10/10/2019

Staff Records

Records Reviewed: 14

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 0

Staff # 1 Date of Hire: 06/30/2019	Met
Staff # 2 Date of Hire: 04/01/2012	Met
Staff # 3 Date of Hire: 08/01/2017	Met
Staff # 4 Date of Hire: 08/27/2015	Met
Staff # 5 Date of Hire: 05/11/2015	Met
Staff # 6 Date of Hire: 05/15/2017	Met
Staff # 7 Date of Hire: 09/05/2017	Met
Staff # 8 Date of Hire: 09/09/2011	Met
Staff # 9 Date of Hire: 09/02/2019	Met
Staff # 10 Date of Hire: 03/03/2016	Met

Records Reviewed: 14

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 0

Staff # 11 Date of Hire: 04/01/2010	Met
Staff # 12 Date of Hire: 09/01/2019	Met
Staff # 13 Date of Hire: 12/30/2016	Met
Staff # 14	Met

Staff Credentials Reviewed: 9

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