



**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: 7/28/2021 **VisitType:** Monitoring Visit **Arrival:** 11:00 AM **Departure:** 12:00 PM

CCLC-38863

Pea-N-A Pod Learning Center

1115 Brown Avenue Columbus, GA 31906 Muscogee County
(706) 984-0842 berthanewsome@yahoo.com

Regional Consultant

Penny Svenson

Phone: (470) 346-1037

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penny.svenson@dec.al.gov

Mailing Address

1115 Brown Ave
Columbus, GA 31906

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. |
|------------------------------------|------------------|---------------|--|
| 07/28/2021 | Monitoring Visit | Good Standing | |
| 03/24/2021 | Licensing Study | Good Standing | |
| 09/29/2020 | 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 | A | Two Year Olds | 1 | 3 | C | 13 | C | NA | NA | Lunch |
| Main | B | | 0 | 0 | C | 17 | C | NA | NA | |
| Main | C | Infants | 1 | 4 | C | 10 | C | NA | NA | Nap,Floor Play |
| Main | D | | 0 | 0 | C | 21 | C | NA | NA | |
| Main | E | | 0 | 0 | C | 15 | C | NA | NA | |
| Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 76 | | | | | | Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0 | | | | |
| Total # Children this Date: 7 | | | Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 76 | | | Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0 | | | | |

| Building | Playground | Playground Occupancy | Playground Compliance |
|----------|------------|----------------------|-----------------------|
| Main | Playground | 73 | C |

Comments

July 28, 2021--A virtual visit was conducted due to COVID-19 Pandemic.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 07/28/2021

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

Bertha Smith, Program Official

Date

Penny Svenson, 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

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-.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.

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

Met

Comment

Playground not observed on this date due to loss of connectivity during the virtual visit that was conducted due to COVID-19 Pandemic. The Consultant discussed with the person in charge that the playground should be checked for possible hazards, such as gaps in the fence greater than 3 inches, ant beds, weeds, rust on playground equipment. etc.,and make any necessary repairs.

Food Service

Technical Assistance

The Consultant discussed with the Director the new revision to restricted food rule which states: Foods that are associated with young children's choking incidents, such as, but not limited to, peanuts, hot dogs, raw carrots, popcorn, fish and bones, cheese cubes, grapes and any other food that is of similar shape and size of the trachea/windpipe shall not be served to the children less than four (4) years of age. Children older than four (4) years of age may be served these foods provided that the foods are cut in such a way as to minimize choking.

Correction Deadline: 7/28/2021

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

Technical Assistance

The Consultant discussed the steps for diapering: wash hands; identify the child to be changed, gather the supplies, to include the amount of wipes needed, and place diaper cream on a paper towel, if needed; talk to the child during the change as you remove the child's clothing and diaper; clean the child, one wipe per swipe; place new diaper on child and dress the child; wash the child's hands and return them to a safe area; clean and sanitize the table, as required; wash your hands.

Technical Assistance

The Consultant reviewed each time children were required to wash hands: children wash their hands with liquid soap and warm running water upon arrival for care, when moving from one child care group to another, upon re-entering the child care area after outside play, before and after eating meals and snacks, handling or touching food, playing in water; after toileting and diapering, playing in sand, touching animals or pets, and contact with bodily fluids and after contamination by any other means.

Correction Deadline: 7/28/2021

Comment

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

| |
|---------------|
| Safety |
|---------------|

Comment

Age-appropriate discussion and/or redirection observed.

Comment

Center does not provide routine transportation.

| |
|---|
| Sleeping & Resting Equipment |
|---|

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 based on observation that there was a blanket present in the crib with an infant while the infant was asleep.

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.

Correction Deadline: 7/28/2021

| |
|----------------------|
| Staff Records |
|----------------------|

Records Reviewed: 6

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 0

| | |
|--------------------------|-----|
| Staff # 1 | Met |
| Date of Hire: 03/29/2021 | |
| Staff # 2 | Met |
| Date of Hire: 02/26/2016 | |
| Staff # 3 | Met |
| Date of Hire: 07/09/2019 | |
| Staff # 4 | Met |
| Date of Hire: 10/15/2019 | |
| Staff # 5 | Met |
| Date of Hire: 01/11/2021 | |
| Staff # 6 | Met |
| Date of Hire: 04/07/2014 | |

Staff Credentials Reviewed: 4

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

Met

Comment

Criminal record checks were observed to be complete.

591-1-1-.33 Staff Training

Defer

Defer

This rule will be evaluated on the next regulatory visit.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will plan and schedule the required 10 hours of annual training each year and follow up to ensure the training is completed. Training for 2021 will be evaluated on the licensing study conducted in 2022. Staff are expected to complete 10 hours of on going training as stated in the above rule.

Correction Deadline: 4/23/2021

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.