



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: 8/1/2019 **VisitType:** Licensing Study **Arrival:** 8:45 AM **Departure:** 12:30 PM

CCLC-46318

Bethesda Christian Academy

390 Bethesda Church Road Lawrenceville, GA 30044 Gwinnett County
 (770) 559-1257 kulahc@hotmail.com

Regional Consultant

Stacy Whitten

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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.
08/01/2019	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
02/28/2019	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
09/04/2018	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 - 1R	Six Year Olds and Over	1	5	C	14	C	NA	NA	Centers
Main	B - Back Right	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	2	12	C	21	C	NA	NA	Floor Play
Main	C - Back	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds and Six Year Olds and Over	1	4	C	25	C	NA	NA	Centers
Main	D - 2L		0	0	C	20	C	NA	NA	
Main	E - 1L - Back	One Year Olds and Two Year Olds	1	4	C	17	C	NA	NA	Floor Play
Main	F - 1L	Infants and One Year Olds	1	3	C	14	C	NA	NA	Feeding, Floor Play
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 111			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0							
Total # Children this Date: 28			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 111							
			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0							

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	A - Left	26	C
Main	B - Right	83	C

Comments

The purpose of this visit was to conduct a Licensing Study and follow up on previous rule violations.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 08/01/2019

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/RuleAndRegulations.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

Clarice Ford-Kulah, Program Official

Date

Stacy Whitten, Consultant

Date



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Findings Report

Date: 8/1/2019 **VisitType:** Licensing Study **Arrival:** 8:45 AM **Departure:** 12:30 PM

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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

Comment

A variety of equipment and toys were observed throughout the center.

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 an observation that the following equipment and furniture was in need of repair on this date:

classroom 1L -the soft red and yellow cushions were developing rips in the material, the sink faucet was observed loose and becoming detached

classroom 2L - the red cabinet was observed to have a broken handle

classroom 1L back - the red shelf was observed to be separating from the shelving

sink area in the front left classroom area sink was observed to have chipping material on the faucet

classroom 1R front - the trash can lid was observed to have visible dirt and food residue

kitchen area - two drawers were missing the front material, and exposed nails and edges were observed present

POI (Plan of Improvement)

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

Correction Deadline: 8/12/2019

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.12(4) - Consultant discussed with provider to ensure chairs are not stacked on tables or floors when children are present in classrooms

Correction Deadline: 8/1/2019

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.12(4) - Consultant discussed with provider to monitor and secure the aquarium in the back right PreK classroom to ensure a tipping hazard does not become present.

Correction Deadline: 8/1/2019

591-1-1-.35 Swimming Pools & Water-related Activities(CR)**N/A****Comment**

Center does not provide swimming activities.

Facility

591-1-1-.06 Bathrooms**Technical Assistance****Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.06(1) - Consultant discussed with provider to ensure the toilet and sink in the front left bathroom is operable and in good repair.

Correction Deadline: 8/31/2019

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****Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.25(3) - Consultant discussed with provider to monitor the areas in the following classrooms and repaint or repair as needed to prevent chipping paint or stains from developing: classroom 1L (front and back) wall areas, classroom 1R (by the office window area) the cafe area and front foyer flooring area.

Correction Deadline: 8/1/2019

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.25(8) - Consultant discussed with provider to monitor and ensure all electrical cords are stored flush to walls and not hanging or accessible to children.

Correction Deadline: 8/1/2019

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

Trees located on the site or that encroach onto the site from adjacent properties may have structural issues that present an elevated level of risk. Consider having these trees inspected by a certified arborist to determine their structural integrity and associated levels of risk.

Consultant discussed with provider to monitor and trim the tree branches hanging onto the left playground area

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.26(4) - Consultant discussed with provider to monitor the fencing in the following areas:
Left playground area by the back gate area and right playground front area (bottom) to ensure the the fencing remains tight and no gaps become present. Consultant also discussed with provider to remove the broom handle that is on the right playground fencing and monitor the fencing for rust development in this area, as well and paint as needed.

Correction Deadline: 8/1/2019

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 an observation that the following playground equipment was in need of repairs:

1L playground - chipping paint was observed on the wooden play set awning area and the out side door and building wall area

2R playground - the merry-go-round bicycle area was observed to be inoperable and missing one pedal on this date

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: 8/26/2019

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.26(9) - Consultant discussed with provider to monitor the exposed roots on the 1R playground and cover, remove or repaint as needed to prevent tripping hazards from developing.

Correction Deadline: 8/1/2019

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 an observation that the following hazards were present on the playground areas on this date: On 1R playground - a mop, bucket of paint water, paint can lid, broken plastic container with standing water and deflated balls, ripped butterfly netting container, one ripped window screen were observed present.

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: 8/26/2019

Food Service**591-1-1-.15 Food Service & Nutrition****Met****Comment**

Center menu meets USDA guidelines.

Comment

Please ensure that bottles are covered and fully labeled with child's full name.

591-1-1-.18 Kitchen Operations**Technical Assistance****Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.18(7) - Consultant discussed with provider to monitor and ensure the kitchen counters and sink area are thoroughly cleaned and disinfected daily.

Correction Deadline: 8/1/2019

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.18(8) - Consultant discussed with provider to monitor and ensure food is dated and labeled after being opened, for storage.

Correction Deadline: 8/1/2019

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**

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-.05 Animals****Met****Comment**

Animals maintained clean and appropriately caged.

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**

Center does not provide routine transportation.

Correction Deadline: 2/28/2019

Corrected on 8/1/2019

.36(3)(a-b) - Correction of the previous citation in that consultant observed center to not provide transportation on this date. Consultant discussed with provider the transportation guidelines and training requirements, should transportation be provided in the future.

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.

Finding

591-1-1-.30(1)(a)3 requires that each crib shall have only an individual, tight-fitting sheet which is changed daily or more often as needed and prior to a change of occupant. It was determined based on an observation and staff discussion that the crib sheets in classroom 1L are washed and changed weekly rather than daily as required.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The center will ensure that each crib has an individual, tight-fitting sheet which is changed daily or more often as needed and prior to a change of occupant.

Correction Deadline: 8/1/2019

Staff Records**Records Reviewed: 6****Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 0**

Staff # 1

Met

Staff # 2	Met
Staff # 3	Met
Staff # 4	Met
Staff # 5	Met
Date of Hire: 07/09/2019	
Staff # 6	Met

Staff Credentials Reviewed: 7

591-1-1-.09 Criminal Records and Comprehensive Background Checks(CR) **Not Met**

Comment

Director provided three file(s) for employees hired since last visit.

Finding

591-1-1-.09(1)(j) requires that for portability for Directors, Employees and Provisional Employees, excluding Students-in-Training, only the most recently issued determination letter is eligible for portability and must be ported electronically. A Center may accept a satisfactory Fingerprint Records Check Determination letter or a satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination letter issued by the Department if the Records Check Clearance Date is within the preceding 12 months from the hire date, the individual has not had a lapse of employment from the child care industry that lasted for 180 days (6 months) or longer, and the Center does not know or reasonably should not know that the individual's satisfactory status has changed. It was determined based on a review of records that a staff member hired on July 1, 2019 had a background check letter dated November 28, 2023 that was eligible for portability, but the letter was observed to have not been ported to the providers koala account on this date.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

IMMEDIATE CORRECTION - The Center will review background check rules and portability guidelines to ensure that only the most recently issued determination letter is electronically ported for Directors, Employees and Provisional Employees, excluding Students-in-Training. A Center may accept a satisfactory Fingerprint Records Check Determination letter or a satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination letter issued by the Department if the Records Check Clearance Date is within the preceding 12 months from the hire date, the individual has not had a lapse of employment from the child care industry that lasted for 180 days (6 months) or longer, and the Center does not know or reasonably should not know that the individual's satisfactory status has changed. The program's owner or an officer/member of the corporation must view the A to Z Background Check video units pertaining to this records check rule and return the signed affidavit within one week from this visit date. The Center will ensure all employees have a satisfactory records check and that letters have been ported to the provider's koala account to ensure CRC rules are maintained.

Correction Deadline: 8/1/2019

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.