



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: 8/29/2019 **VisitType:** Monitoring Visit **Arrival:** 10:00 AM **Departure:** 12:30 PM

CCLC-48971

A Brighter Choice Learning Academy

140 Lowe Road Roberta, GA 31078 Crawford County
 (478) 836-5243 abrighterchoice@bellsouth.net

Regional Consultant

Brandi Mangino

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 Same

Quality Rated: ★ ★

Compliance Zone Designation		
08/29/2019	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing
03/06/2019	Licensing Study	Good Standing
09/18/2018	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
Building Two	Classroom 1		0	0	C	35	C	NA	NA	
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 35			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0							
Main	A - 1L/ 6 weeks- 12 months		0	0	C	8	C	NA	NA	
Main	B - 2LM- 1's and 2's	Infants and One Year Olds	2	15	NC	22	C	NA	NA	Nap, Floor Play, Free Play
Main	C - Back Right - 2's		0	0	C	8	C	NA	NA	
Main	D- Middle Right -potty trianed 2's	Two Year Olds	2	8	C	10	C	NA	NA	Art
Main	E -Left front-3's	One Year Olds and Two Year Olds	1	8	C	8	C	NA	NA	Circle Time
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 56			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0							
Total # Children this Date: 31			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 91			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0				

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	A - Left (6wekks - 2 years)	84	C
Main	B- Right - 2's	95	C

Comments

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 08/29/2019

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.

- 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

Ruby Drew, Program Official

Date

Brandi Mangino, 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-.03 Activities

Not Met

Finding

591-1-1-.03(3) requires the Center to offer opportunities for each child to make choices in a variety of activities. It was determined based on consultant observation that in the far back left room children were not being given the opportunity to have choice of activities as the staff member was telling them to go to certain areas, sit down in area, and move.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will train Staff to offer a variety of activity choices for each child. The Center will monitor regularly to ensure this is done.

Correction Deadline: 8/29/2019

Finding

591-1-1-.03(7) requires the center to provide outdoor activities daily, weather permitting. It was determined based on the daily schedule that the outside time for the right side classroom was 10:00 a.m. to 10:45 a.m. and the classes never went outside to play. The temperature during that time was 77 degrees.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The cCenter will follow a schedule that allows for all children to have the required amount of daily outside play time.

The center will add a temporary barrier to the outside playground, stager the outside times for classes and reflect that on their daily schedules so children can get the required time. The center will ensure that if the play equipment on that side is not age appropriate that age appropriate toys are taken out for the children temporarily until they can return to their intended playground.

Correction Deadline: 8/29/2019

Recited on 8/29/2019

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)**Not Met****Correction Deadline: 3/20/2019****Corrected on 8/29/2019****.26(4) - Citation corrected.****Finding**

591-1-1-.26(8) requires climbing and swinging equipment to have a resilient surface beneath the equipment and the fall zone from such equipment must be adequately maintained by the Center to assure continuing resilient. It was determined based on consultant observation that resilient surfacing was not maintained under the green metal climber in that grass was growing through the fall zones.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will add additional resilient surfacing to the fall zones where needed and check daily, adding resilient surfacing as needed to maintain adequate resilient.

Correction Deadline: 9/8/2019**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 consultant observation that mushrooms were growing throughout the playgrounds, and weeds were observed to be growing through the green metal car. It was further determined that a piece of broken lattice on the left side of the walkway to building two and on the left side porch of building two had sharp edges.

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: 9/5/2019**Food Service**

591-1-1-.15 Food Service & Nutrition**Met****Correction Deadline: 3/6/2019****Corrected on 8/29/2019****.15(3) - Citation corrected.**

591-1-1-.18 Kitchen Operations**Met****Correction Deadline: 3/6/2019**

591-1-1-.07 Children's Health

Not Met

Finding

591-1-1-.07(5) requires Center Staff to not permit children to wear around their necks or attach to their clothing pacifier or other hazardous items. It was determined based on consultant observation that one infant was placed on the floor with a bib attached around their neck, and a sleeping infant had a bib attached around their neck.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will instruct Staff regarding this safety requirement.

Correction Deadline: 8/29/2019

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

Not Met

Finding

591-1-1-.10(2) requires Centers first licensed after March 1, 1991, and Centers that renovate existing plumbing facilities, to have a hand washing sink with running heated water located adjacent to the diapering area. Flush sinks shall not be used for hand washing. Cleansing procedures in other facilities shall be approved by the Department. It was determined based on consultant observation that in Room B the diapering sink was not in working order in that folders and infant items were placed in the sink and hands were being washed across the room after diapering.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will ensure that a hand washing sink is located adjacent to each diapering area, that flush sinks are not used for handwashing, and that the department has approved cleansing procedures in other facilities, if applicable.

Correction Deadline: 8/29/2019

Finding

591-1-1-.10(4) requires that if diapers are changed on a diaper changing surface, the surface shall be smooth, nonporous, and equipped with a guard or rails to prevent falls. Between each diaper change, the diaper changing surface shall be cleaned with a disinfectant and dried with a single-use disposable towel. It was determined based on consultant observation that the diapering station in Room B was not cleaned before or after a diaper change.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will ensure there is a smooth, nonporous changing surface that has a guard or rails for safety in each classroom that houses children wearing diapers. Center Staff will be trained and have adequate supplies to properly clean the diaper changing surface between each diaper change.

Correction Deadline: 8/29/2019

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

Not Met

Finding

591-1-1-.17(8) requires staff to wash their hands with liquid soap and warm running water upon arrival for the day, when moving from one child care group to another, upon re-entering the child care area after outside play, before and after diapering each child, dispensing medication, applying topical medications, handling and preparing food, eating, drinking, preparing bottles, feeding each child, assisting children with eating and drinking, after toileting or assisting children with toileting, using tobacco products, handling garbage and organic waste, touching animals or pets, handling bodily fluids and after contamination by any means. It was determined based on consultant observation that staff in Room B did not wash hands prior to a diaper change.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will ensure liquid soap and warm running water are available for handwashing, train Staff on the handwashing requirements, review the requirements with Staff periodically, and monitor handwashing.

Correction Deadline: 8/29/2019

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

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

Organization

591-1-1-.16 Governing Body & License**Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.16(e) requires the Center to submit an application for an amended License at least 30 days in advance of the change if there is a change in the name of the program or Center, changes in the ages of the children to be served, an increase in the regular hours of operation such that the Center would be providing evening or night-time care in addition to day-time care, changes in the services provided, or additions to or changes in the use of the building by the licensed Center. If an emergency situation arises which makes it impossible to give thirty (30) days' notice, the management of the Center shall notify the Department by telephone and shall submit an application for an amended License as soon as management becomes aware of the change that will be necessitated by the emergency situation. In no case, however, shall a new owner operate the Center without first securing a new License or Permit from the Department. It was determined based on consultant observation that Room E had one-year-old and two-year-old children in a non-diapering classroom.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

An application for amendment and all necessary documentation will be submitted.

Correction Deadline: 8/29/2019

Safety

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

Please be mindful of voice tone in redirecting children.

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

Center does not provide routine transportation.

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

591-1-1-.30 Safe Sleeping and Resting Requirements(CR)**Not Met****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 consultant observation that one of six cribs sheets was not tight-fitting.

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: 8/29/2019

Staff Records

Records Reviewed: 6**Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 2**

Staff # 1

Met

Date of Hire: 04/03/2013

Staff # 2

Not Met

Date of Hire: 03/08/2019

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.09-Criminal Records Check Missing

Staff # 3

Not Met

Date of Hire: 04/02/2019

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.09-Criminal Records Check Missing

Staff # 4

Met

Date of Hire: 01/07/2018

Staff # 5

Met

Staff # 6

Met

Date of Hire: 08/25/2015

Staff Credentials Reviewed: 4**591-1-1-.09 Criminal Records and Comprehensive Background Checks(CR)****Not Met****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 three staff members had criminal record check ran through the owner's other location and they were not ported.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

IMMEDIATE CORRECTION - The Center will port the fingerprints 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 follow-up on rules updates to ensure CRC rules are maintained.

Correction Deadline: 8/29/2019**591-1-1-.14 First Aid & CPR****Met****Correction Deadline: 3/16/2019****Corrected on 8/29/2019****.14(3) - Citation corrected.**

Comment

Discussed that all lead staff must enroll in an approved education program within 6 months of hire and complete degree within 18 months.

Staffing and Supervision

Finding

591-1-1-.32(1) requires the Center to maintain the required Staff:child ratios as follows: under 1 year or under 18 months if not walking = 1:6; 1 year and walking = 1:8; 2 years = 1:10; 3 years = 1:15; 4 years = 1:18; 5 years = 1:20; and 6 years and older = 1:25. A Center must establish groupings of children for care with maximum group sizes as follows: under 1 year = 12; under 18 months/not walking = 12; 1 year and walking = 16; 2 years = 20; 3 years = 30; 4 years = 36; 5 years = 40; and 6 years and older = 50. It was determined based on consultant observation that Room B was made into two classrooms in that a four foot barrier was placed in the middle of the room. In the far back room on staff member was present with nine one-year-old children.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will hire additional Staff or reschedule current Staff to meet required Staff:child ratios and will organize children into groups that meet requirements.

Correction Deadline: 8/29/2019

Comment

Adequate supervision observed on this date.