



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: 8/10/2021 **VisitType:** Licensing Study **Arrival:** 7:30 AM **Departure:** 9:30 AM

CCLC-9096

Mt. Zion Learning Center

186 Will Waters Road Hazlehurst, GA 31539 Jeff Davis County
 (912) 375-7429 mzlc7429@yahoo.com

Regional Consultant

Connie Boatright

Phone: (912) 544-9701

Fax: (912) 544-9700

connie.boatright@decal.ga.gov

Mailing Address

11 Arthur McNeal Road
 HAZLEHURST, GA 31539

Quality Rated: No

Compliance Zone Designation		
08/10/2021	Licensing Study	Good Standing
02/01/2021	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing
09/15/2020	Licensing Study	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 - 3rd Left		0	0	C	14	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Main	B - 2nd Left	One Year Olds	1	6	C	14	C	NA	NA	Art
Main	C - 1st Left	Two Year Olds	2	8	C	14	C	NA	NA	Art
Main	D - 1st Right		0	0	C	16	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Main	E 2nd Right	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds and PreK	1	7	C	16	C	NA	NA	Homework
Main	F - 3rd Right	Infants	1	1	C	16	C	NA	NA	Free Play
Main	G - (School Room)		0	0	C	16	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Main	Gym		0	0	C	256	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Main	H - Last Room on the R		0	0	C	17	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Main	K - Second Hall		0	0	C	14	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Main	L - Second Hall		0	0	C	14	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Main	M - Second Hall		0	0	C	14	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Main	N - Second Hall		0	0	C	14	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 195						Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0	Building @35 capacity limited by Heath Department Limitations			
Total # Children this Date: 22			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 195			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0				

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	Playground - A	12	C
Main	Playground - B	53	C

Comments

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic an in person visit was not completed. The administrative review was completed on 08-10-2021 and the virtual visit was completed on 08-11-2021. The center director stated no medication has been administered since the consultant's last visit, no field trips or routine transportation is provided. There has been a change in the director which has been updated in Koala. Six new staff members have been hired since the consultant's last visit.

Classrooms K, L, M, and N will be removed from Mt. Zion Learning Center Licensing and utilized for the private school. The center director is aware that an amendment is required to make a capacity decrease. The consultant will assist the provider today at 3:30 PM.

Plan of Improvement: No Plan Developed

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.decal.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@decal.ga.gov

Priscilla Waters, Program Official

Date

Connie Boatright, Consultant

Date



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Findings Report

Date: 8/10/2021 **VisitType:** Licensing Study **Arrival:** 7:30 AM **Departure:** 9:30 AM

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The following information is associated with a Licensing Study:

Activities and Equipment

591-1-1-.03 Activities**Met****Comment**

The consultant observed a variety of age appropriate activities.

Correction Deadline: 8/10/2021

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.

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**

Parent agreements observed obtained/completed.

Comment

Parent authorizations obtained/completed.

Comment

Records were observed to be complete and well organized.

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**

Center appears clean and well maintained.

591-1-1-.26 Playgrounds(CR)**Technical Assistance****Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.26(6) - The center director will monitor all playground equipment for rust and chipping paint as well as any other hazards.

Correction Deadline: 8/20/2021

Food Service

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

Center menu meets USDA guidelines.

Comment

CACFP Meal Pattern Requirements effective October 1, 2017 will be implemented October 1, 2018: 3

Components for breakfast: Grains, Vegetables, Fruits or both, Milk

5 Components for lunch – Grains, Meat/Meat alternates, Fruits, Vegetable, and Milk OR Grains, Meat/Meat alternates, 2 different types of vegetables, and Milk

2 of 5 Components for snack

Provided Updated CACFP Infant Meal pattern and Child/Adult Meal pattern flyers.

The Crediting Handbook for the CACFP can be located on DECAL and USDA's website:

DECAL

<http://decal.ga.gov/CACFP/Handbook.aspx>

USDA

<http://www.fns.usda.gov/cacfp/cacfp-handbooks>

591-1-1-.18 Kitchen Operations**Met****Comment**

Kitchen appears clean and well organized.

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

The center director stated no medication has been administered since the consultant's last visit.

Policies and Procedures

591-1-1-.21 Operational Policies & Procedures **Technical Assistance**

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.21(1)(p) - The center director will ensure that a written plan for handling emergencies, including but not limited to severe weather, loss of electrical power or water and death, serious injury or loss of a child, a threatening event, or natural disaster which may occur at the Center; to have in place procedures for evacuation, relocation, shelter-in-place, lock-down, communication and reunification with families, and continuity of operations. The plan must apply to all children in care and include specific accommodations for infants and toddlers, children with disabilities, and children with chronic medical conditions and shall include assurance that no Center Personnel will impede in any way the delivery of emergency care or services to a child by licensed or certified emergency health care professionals is updated to the new form.

Correction Deadline: 8/15/2021

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) **Met**

Comment

Center does not provide routine transportation.

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

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

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.30(4) - The center director will ensure that if cots and mats are stored inside of the child classroom they will be fully covered.

Correction Deadline: 8/10/2021

Records Reviewed: 12

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 4

Staff # 1	Not Met
Date of Hire: 08/16/2018	
<u>"Missing/Incomplete Components"</u>	
.31(2)(b)2.-Staff Qualifications-Education Missing	
Staff # 2	Met
Date of Hire: 08/30/2019	
Staff # 3	Met
Date of Hire: 03/24/2016	
Staff # 4	Met
Date of Hire: 02/14/2021	
Staff # 5	Met
Date of Hire: 06/23/2021	
<u>Reminder - Health & Safety training is required within 90 calendar days of hired</u>	
Staff # 6	Met
Date of Hire: 02/13/2018	
Staff # 7	Not Met
Date of Hire: 01/14/2021	
<u>"Missing/Incomplete Components"</u>	
.31(2)(b)2.-Staff Qualifications-Education Missing	
Staff # 8	Not Met
Date of Hire: 07/07/2005	
<u>"Missing/Incomplete Components"</u>	
.33(5)-10 Hrs. Annual Training	
Staff # 9	Met
Date of Hire: 08/03/2021	
<u>Reminder - Health & Safety training is required within 90 calendar days of hired</u>	
Staff # 10	Met
Date of Hire: 11/17/2020	
Staff # 11	Not Met
Date of Hire: 07/15/2002	
<u>"Missing/Incomplete Components"</u>	
.33(4)-Food Prep Training Missing 4 hrs.	

Staff # 12

Met

Date of Hire: 08/02/2021

Reminder - Health & Safety training is required within 90 calendar days of hired**Staff Credentials Reviewed: 7****591-1-1-.09 Criminal Records and Comprehensive Background Checks(CR)****Met****Comment**

Criminal record checks were observed to be complete.

Comment

Director provided 6 file(s) for employees hired since last visit.

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**Technical Assistance****Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.33(4) - The center director will ensure that she complete four clock hours of training in food nutrition planning, preparation, serving, proper dish washing and food storage as required.

Correction Deadline: 9/9/2021**Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.33(5) - The center director will ensure that the required staff members obtain 10 hours of annual training each calendar year as required.

Correction Deadline: 9/9/2021**591-1-1-.31 Staff(CR)****Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.31(2)(b)3.(i) requires that newly hired teachers who do not possess the educational and qualifying child care experience requirements must enroll in a program of study to obtain one of the educational credentials and qualifying experience requirements as required by these rules within six months after employment at the Center and complete the credential or degree within 18 months after enrollment. It was determined based on review of all staff files that one staff member hired January 14, 2021 serves as a lead teacher and has no proof of educational credentials as required. Additionally, a second staff member was hired as a lead teacher on June 23, 2021 and has no proof of educational credentials as required.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will ensure that all teachers will comply with the educational and qualifying child care experience requirements.

Correction Deadline: 8/20/2021**Finding**

591-1-1-.31(2)(b)3.(ii)(I)-(VIII) requires the Center develop a written plan for newly hired teacher's who do not possess the educational credential or degree listed in 591-1-1-.31(2)(b)2.(i) through (xii). It was determined based on review of all staff files that one lead teacher hired January 14 2021 has no proof of a written plan to obtain the required educational credentials.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will develop a written plan for newly hired teacher's and ensure that the teacher's follow the plan.

Correction Deadline: 8/20/2021

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.