



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: 12/20/2021 **VisitType:** Complaint Closure from visit on 12/02/2021 **Arrival:** 7:00 AM **Departure:** 11:30 AM

CCLC-39314

Little Folks Farm & Childcare

1392 GA Hwy. 56 East Lyons, GA 30436 Toombs County
 (912) 565-0262 lam4_@hotmail.com

Mailing Address

1378 Ga Hwy 56 E, 10
 Lyons, GA 30436

Regional Consultant

Connie Boatright

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connie.boatright@dec.al.ga.gov

Quality Rated: ★ ★

Compliance Zone Designation		
12/20/2021	Complaint Closure	Deficient
12/02/2021	Complaint Investigation & Licensing Study	Support
06/07/2021	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.

Comments


Revision on the CI / LS

Advisement of Potential for Repeated Rule Violations during Pending Investigations

This report shall serve as official notice of potential rule violations. These potential rule violations have been detailed in this report and discussed with you by the consultant. The department shall conduct a thorough investigation to determine if in fact the alleged rule violation(s) should or should not be substantiated. Please be aware that the investigation may take some time to be finalized to ensure fairness and accuracy. During this investigation period, any violations of an identical rule or rules will require the department to treat any and all substantiated rule violations identified in the investigation as repeated rule violation(s).

Further, from time to time the department discovers additional rule violations during the course of an investigation. If there are new rule violation(s), your consultant shall inform you of the violation(s) as soon as possible. However, as stated above, any violations of identical rule(s) will require the department to treat any and all additional rule violations identified in the investigation as repeated rule violations.

All rule violations found in relation to a complaint or incident investigation will be associated with the date the investigation was closed.



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@decals.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://decals.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)

I have read and understand the Rules and Regulations for Child Care Learning Centers, 591-1-1. I acknowledge that the items noted in this report have been discussed with me and I have agreed to a Plan of Improvement (POI) as indicated in this report. I understand that correction of these deficiencies, while required, will not necessarily prevent DECAL from taking adverse action against this facility. I understand that if I disagree with any of the deficiencies cited, I have the right to refute them on this report or any other form that I choose to send to Child Care Services.

Lisa Williams, Program Official

Date

Connie Boatright , Consultant

Date



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Summary Report

Date: 12/20/2021 **VisitType:** Complaint Closure from visit on 12/02/2021 **Arrival:** 7:00 AM **Departure:** 11:30 AM

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The following information is associated with a Complaint Closure:

Children's Records

591-1-1-.08 Children's Records

Not Met

Finding Associated with Complaint

591-1-1-.08(1) requires the Center Staff to maintain a file for each child while such child is in care and for one year after that child is no longer enrolled. In order for the file to be complete, the file shall contain the following: child's name, birth date, sex, address, living arrangement, name of school if applicable; names of both Parents, home and work addresses, and home and work telephone numbers; name(s) and addresses of the person(s) to whom the child may be released including address, telephone numbers, relationship to child and to Parent(s), and other identifying information; name(s) and telephone number(s) of person(s) to contact in emergencies when the Parent cannot be reached; name and telephone number of the child's primary source of health care; and a statement regarding known allergies, physical problems, mental health disorders, mental retardation or developmental disabilities which limit the child's participation in the program. It was determined based on a review of records that four children in attendance during the week of November 29, 2021, did not have an enrollment record on file while the children were in care.

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Correction Deadline: 12/15/2021

Facility

Finding Associated with Complaint

591-1-1-.25(9) requires that the Center not allow a person to remain on the premises if the person does not have a legitimate reason for being on the premises. It was determined based on investigative findings and staff statements that a staff member's husband had been present at the center on multiple occasions in the last 90 days while children were in care.

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Correction Deadline: 12/15/2021

	Safety
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591-1-1-.11 Discipline(CR)

Finding Associated with Complaint

591-1-1-.11(2) requires that Personnel not: physically or sexually abuse a child or engage or permit others to engage in sexually overt conduct in the presence of any child enrolled in the Center; inflict corporal/physical punishment upon a child; shake, jerk, pinch or handle a child roughly; verbally abuse or humiliate a child which includes, but is not limited to, the use of threats, profanity or belittling remarks about a child or his family; isolate a child in a dark room, closet or unsupervised area; use mechanical or physical restraints or devices to discipline children; use medication to discipline or control children's behavior without written medical authorization issued by a licensed professional and given with the parent's written consent; restrict unreasonably a child from going to the bathroom; punish toileting accidents; force-feed a child or withhold feeding a child regularly scheduled meals and/or snacks; force or withhold naps; allow children to discipline or humiliate other children; or confine a child for disciplinary purposes to a swing, highchair, infant carrier, walker or jump seat. It was determined based on investigative findings, a collateral contact interview, and a staff statement that the lead teacher in the three and four-year old classroom inflicted corporal punishment during day care hours on a four-year-old child during the week of November 29, 2021.

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Correction Deadline: 12/3/2021

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

Finding Associated with Complaint

591-1-1-.09(1)(a) requires that a Center ensure that every actual and potential Director, Employee and Provisional Employee of a Child Care Learning Center submit both a Records Check Application to the Department and Fingerprints to an authorized fingerprinting site. It was determined based on investigative findings and staff statements, that a staff member's husband had been present at the center on multiple occasions in the last 90 days while children were in care and had not submitted both a Records Check Application to the Department and Fingerprints to an authorized fingerprinting site to obtain a comprehensive satisfactory record check.

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Correction Deadline: 12/3/2021

Finding Associated with Complaint

591-1-1-.09(1)(a) requires that a Center ensure that every actual and potential Director, Employee and Provisional Employee of a Child Care Learning Center submit both a Records Check Application to the Department and Fingerprints to an authorized fingerprinting site. It was determined based on investigative findings and staff statements, that a staff member's husband had been present at the center on multiple occasions in the last 90 days while children were in care and had not submitted both a Records Check Application to the Department and Fingerprints to an authorized fingerprinting site to obtain a comprehensive satisfactory record check.

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Correction Deadline: 12/15/2021

Finding Associated with Complaint

591-1-1-.09(1)(c) requires the Center to ensure that every Employee has a valid and current satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination on file prior to being present at the Center while any child is present for care or before an individual age 17 or older resides in the Center. The Comprehensive Records Check Determination must have a Records Check Clearance Date that is no older than the preceding 12 months of the hire date; provided, however, if the Employee has had a lapse of employment from the child care industry that lasted for 180 days (6 months) or longer, a new satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination is required. It was determined based on investigative findings and staff statements, that a staff member's husband had been present at the center on multiple occasions in the last 90 days while children were in care and did not have a criminal record check on file as required.

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Correction Deadline: 12/3/2021

Finding Associated with Complaint

591-1-1-.09(1)(c) requires the Center to ensure that every Employee has a valid and current satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination on file prior to being present at the Center while any child is present for care or before an individual age 17 or older resides in the Center. The Comprehensive Records Check Determination must have a Records Check Clearance Date that is no older than the preceding 12 months of the hire date; provided, however, if the Employee has had a lapse of employment from the child care industry that lasted for 180 days (6 months) or longer, a new satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination is required. It was determined based on investigative findings and staff statements, that a staff member's husband had been present at the center on multiple occasions in the last 90 days while children were in care and did not have a criminal record check on file as required.

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Correction Deadline: 12/15/2021

Finding Associated with Complaint

591-1-1-.09(1)(e) requires that no actual or potential Director, Employee or Provisional Employee of a Child Care Learning Center with an unsatisfactory Fingerprint Records Check Determination or an unsatisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination may be present at a Center when any child is present for care or reside at a Center. It was determined based on investigative findings and staff statements that an employee who received an unsatisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination on June 2, 2021, had been present at the facility since receiving the unsatisfactory letter while children were present for care.

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Correction Deadline: 12/3/2021

Finding Associated with Complaint

591-1-1-.09(1)(e) requires that no actual or potential Director, Employee or Provisional Employee of a Child Care Learning Center with an unsatisfactory Fingerprint Records Check Determination or an unsatisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination may be present at a Center when any child is present for care or reside at a Center. It was determined based on investigative findings and staff statements that an employee who received an unsatisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination on June 2, 2021, had been present at the facility since receiving the unsatisfactory letter while children were present for care.

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Correction Deadline: 12/15/2021

