



**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: 5/17/2023 **VisitType:** Licensing Study **Arrival:** 9:45 AM **Departure:** 3:10 PM

CCLC-925

Downs Preschool

3831 Mars Hill Rd. Watkinsville, GA 30677 Oconee County
(770) 725-1020 lisahenry41@yahoo.com

Lead Consultant

Dianne Clarke

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Joint with: Amanda Schofield

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.
05/17/2023	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
11/02/2022	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
03/31/2022	Licensing Study	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
I	A Left rear		0	0	C	8	C	NA	NA	
I	B-Left Middle		0	0	C	10	C	NA	NA	
I	C-Rt Rear	GA PreK	2	20	C	12	NC	NA	NA	Circle Time
I	D-Rt middle		0	0	C	15	C	NA	NA	
I	E-Rt. Front	GA PreK	2	21	C	20	NC	NA	NA	Story
I	F-Lt Front	GA PreK	2	20	C	29	C	NA	NA	Centers
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 94					Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					
II	left front	GA PreK	2	18	C	23	C	NA	NA	Centers
II	Left rear	GA PreK	2	19	C	26	C	NA	NA	Centers
II	Right Front	GA PreK	2	22	C	24	C	NA	NA	Centers
II	Right Rear	GA PreK	2	20	C	21	C	NA	NA	Centers
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 94					Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					
Total # Children this Date: 140			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 188			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0				

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
I	A-Left small area	40	C
I	B-Right large area	196	C

Comments

Reminders: Refer to the published communicable disease chart for guidance regarding communicable diseases. In most scenarios, only outbreaks/clusters should be reported to the local health districts.

Please be sure to contact the Oconee County Department of Health, if there are outbreaks/clusters of positive COVID-19 cases immediately, and get their guidance. Please be sure to also complete a Required Report in DECAL KOALA for all individual cases of communicable diseases within 24 hours. Be sure to select "Notifiable Communicable Diseases" to report closures for COVID cases.

You must be sure to enter all temporary closures (vacation, emergencies, holidays etc...) in DECAL KOALA at all times under the Required Report tab whenever your facility is closed temporarily because you are not caring for children for one day or more.

Incident Reports are to be submitted via DECAL KOALA with all signed staff statements for staff and the director.

All amendments are required to be electronically entered in DECAL KOALA effective August 2, 2021.

Please be sure to hide staff who are no longer employed in your DECAL KOALA account. Please reach out for help with this, if needed.

Please ensure that director and staff responsible for food preparation completes the four (4) hours of nutrition training as soon as possible but within the first year of employment.

For centers conducting transportation, please remember that the transportation training certificates must be renewed every two years for everyone participating in transportation including the director. Please ensure that directors ensure that they also complete the transportation training upon being hired at the center.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 05/17/2023

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), do the following:

- 1) Log into DECAL KOALA www.decalkoala.com with the userid for your program
- 2) On the home page scroll down to the Inspection Reports and select 'Refute Citation' for the visit report in dispute
- 3) Select the specific rule number(s) that you are refuting, add the reason for disagreement regarding the rule citation, and upload supporting documentation
- 4) Submit the refutation in DECAL KOALA to Child Care Services (CCS) within 10 business days of the completion date.

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 Quality Rated/CAPS Update:

As January 1, 2022, child care providers must be Quality Rated to receive Childcare and Parent Services (CAPS). Newly licensed, or new to CAPS providers may be eligible for the new CAPS/QR Provisional Status, allowing for scholarships while working toward a star rating.

Contact the Quality Rated help desk at 855-800-7747 or qualityrated@dec.al.ga.gov for more information. Free technical assistance is available!

Lisa Henry, Program Official

Date

Dianne Clarke, Consultant

Date

Amanda Schofield, Consultant

Date



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(Findings Report)

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The following information is associated with a Licensing Study:

Activities and Equipment

591-1-1-.03 Activities

Technical Assistance

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.03(2) - Please ensure that the lesson plans are current at all times.

Correction Deadline: 5/17/2023

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

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

Not Met

Finding

591-1-1-.08(6) requires the Center to maintain records of a child's daily arrival and departure for the twelve (12) preceding months that the Parent or person(s) authorized by the Parent documents, in written or electronic format, each time the Parent or authorized person drops off and picks up the child. The documentation shall include at least the date, the child's name, the arrival and departure times, and the signature or initials of the Parent or authorized person at the time of arrival and departure. These records shall be made available to the Department in printed or written form upon request. It was determined based on a review of records that the sign out records were not complete for the week of May 8, 2023, for several children.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will maintain arrival and departure records as required, will ensure the documentation includes all of the required information, and will provide the records to the Department when requested.

Correction Deadline: 5/17/2023

	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)

Not Met

Finding

591-1-1-.25(13) requires that potentially hazardous equipment, materials and supplies be stored in a locked area inaccessible to children. It was determined based on observation that there were hazards accessible in the following classrooms:

- Building I: C-Rt Rear: Wipes packaging which read "keep out of reach of children" on the shelves in the classroom. Also, there were plastic bags accessible to the children.
- Building I: E Rt Front: A can of Lysol was observed on top of the cubbies towards the back of the classroom. Also, there was an unlocked office where there was a screw driver and letter opener accessible on a desk shelf. Further. plastic bags were observed to be accessible on the shelf.
- Building II: Left rear: Plastic bags which read "keep out of reach of children" were observed to be accessible in the block area.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will identify all hazardous items and keep them in a locked area inaccessible to children. The Center will inform all Staff about hazardous items and the safe storage of those items. The Lysol spray was removed during the visit.

Correction Deadline: 5/17/2023

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.25(8) - Please ensure that all outlets are covered at all times when not in use.

Correction Deadline: 5/17/2023

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

Not Met

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 resiliency. It was determined based on observation that there was two and a half inches of mulch on the side of the double tan slide where three inches were needed.

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 resiliency.

Correction Deadline: 5/27/2023

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 observation that there was an unraveled hose, rake and broom accessible on the right upon exiting the C Rt Rear classroom in Building I and the another hose and broom were located outside the Right Rear classroom from Building II. Also, there were exposed concrete at the bottom of the double tan slides and single tan slide.

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: 5/17/2023

Health and Hygiene

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

Met

Comment

There were no diapered children enrolled in the program on this date.

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

Met

Comment

Proper hand washing observed throughout the center.

591-1-1-.20 Medications(CR)

Met

Comment

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

Safety

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

Met

Comment

Age-appropriate discussion and/or redirection observed.

591-1-1-.36 Transportation(CR)

Not Met

Finding

591-1-1-.36(4)(b) requires that the interior of a transportation vehicle be clean, in safe repair and free of hazardous items, objects and/or other non-essential items which could cause injury. It was determined based on a review of records that there were several vents in the CGY 6997 that were in need of repair. One was completely missing and three were missing pieces.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The center will maintain that all transportation vehicles are clean, in safe repair, and free from hazards.

Correction Deadline: 5/18/2023

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.36(7)(b) - Please ensure that all children have their physician and emergency contact information completed.

Correction Deadline: 5/18/2023

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

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

Met

Comment

Pleasant naptime environment observed.

Staff Records

591-1-1-.09 Criminal Records and Comprehensive Background Checks(CR)**Met****Correction Deadline: 11/2/2022****Corrected on 5/17/2023**

.09(1)(j) - The previous citation was observed to be corrected in that all staff had evidence of the satisfactory records check determination. Please ensure that all staff has completed a records check and is kept on file at all times before being present at the facility.

-Please ensure that applicants/staff are listing exact dates (including month/day/year) on 10-year work history form in order to determine any breaks in service from the childcare industry.

-Please ensure that all staff, volunteers, independent contractors, substitutes etc...has their records check electronically ported to the center's list in KOALA before being present at the facility.

-Please ensure that records checks are redone if there is a six-month (180 calendar days) break in service from the childcare industry.

-Please also ensure that satisfactory records checks are updated before the expiration date.

-Ensure that all therapists and other independent contractors have an updated records check on file, before being present at the center or home.

-Please ensure that staff with a national background check is always present with a staff who has a comprehensive background check. Staff should never be by themselves.

591-1-1-.14 First Aid & CPR**Met****Comment**

Please replace/add missing/expired item(s) in first aid kit(s) including the instructions.

591-1-1-.24 Personnel Records**Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.24(1) requires the center to maintain a personnel file on the Director, all Employees, Provisional Employees, Personnel, Staff, Students-in-Training, Volunteers, Clerical, Housekeeping, Maintenance, and other Support Staff for the duration of the term of employment plus one calendar year, and it shall contain the following: identifying information to include: name, date of birth, social security number, current address and current telephone number; employment history; as applicable to the position held: evidence of education and qualifying work experience; evidence of all training required by these rules which shall include: title of training, date of training, trainer's signature, location of training and number of clock hours obtained; a statement completed by the staff member that the information provided is true and accurate; any other records required by these rules; and as applicable to the position held, evidence of required orientation including date and signature of person providing the orientation; It was determined based on a review of records that the following staff were missing personnel documentation:

-Staff #11 hired on January 23, 2023, did not have evidence of orientation available..

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will secure required information for all Personnel. The Center will ensure that complete information is in the personnel file for all Directors, Employees, Provisional Employees, Personnel, Staff, Students-in-Training, Volunteers, Clerical, Housekeeping, Maintenance and other Support Staff.

Correction Deadline: 5/17/2023**Recited on 5/17/2023**

591-1-1-.33 Staff Training**Met****Comment**

Discussed staff training regarding nutrition. Please ensure that any staff preparing meals, obtains required training within their first year.

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.