



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

Cover Sheet

Date: 1/20/2022 **VisitType:** Licensing Study **Arrival:** 9:30 AM **Departure:** 12:00 PM

CCLC-35870

Gainesville Academy

105 Carrington Park Dr. Gainesville, GA 30504 Hall County
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 Suwanee, GA 30024

Regional Consultant

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Joint with: Candace Gilbert

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.
01/20/2022	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
11/04/2021	Complaint Closure	Good Standing	
09/29/2021	Complaint Investigation Follow Up	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	Infants	1	6	C	17	C	NA	NA	Floor Play
Main	B: 2R	GA PreK	2	19	C	21	C	NA	NA	Centers
Main	C: 3R	Two Year Olds	2	18	C	20	C	NA	NA	Free Play
Main	D: 4R	GA PreK	2	16	C	25	C	NA	NA	Free Play, Centers
Main	E: 3L	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	2	25	C	30	C	42	C	Free Play
Main	F: 2L	GA PreK	2	18	C	20	C	NA	NA	Centers
Main	G: 1L	One Year Olds and Two Year Olds	1	7	C	18	C	NA	NA	Floor Play
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 152					Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0		Building @35 capacity limited by Building Department			
Total # Children this Date: 109			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 152			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0				

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	PG A Right	33	C
Main	PG B Back	16	C
Main	PG C Left	57	C

Comments

An in-person inspection was conducted on January 20, 2022 with the Provider. Background checks were reviewed on January 20, 2022. An Administrative Review was conducted on January 28, 2022. Staff files, children's files, and training were all reviewed.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 01/20/2022

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



Important New Deadlines:

Due to the ongoing COVID restrictions, the deadline to become Quality Rated for programs who want to continue to receive Childcare and Parent Services (CAPS), has been extended to at least December 31, 2021.

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

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)

Rob Skilling, Program Official

Date

Evelyn McBurse, Consultant

Date

Candace Gilbert, Consultant

Date



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Findings Report

Date: 1/20/2022 **VisitType:** Licensing Study **Arrival:** 9:30 AM **Departure:** 12:00 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

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 observation that the red vinyl couch in classroom E:3L was ripped and torn and contained exposed foam.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will ensure that equipment and furniture are in good condition in all classrooms.

Correction Deadline: 1/20/2022

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.12(5) - Please ensure seating is accessible to children when they are present and chairs are not stacked.

Correction Deadline: 2/19/2022

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. Each Georgia Pre-K classroom has an approved capacity variance on file.

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 the following hazardous items were observed to be accessible to children: Classroom B:2R - a pair of adult sized scissors and a "Swifter" duster was stored in an unlocked cabinet and a toilet plunger was sitting next to a toilet in the children's bathroom, Classroom C:3R - diaper cream and ointment was stored on a child size shelf accessible to children in the children's bathroom, and Classroom D:4R - a staff member's purse and a vacuum cleaner were stored in an unlocked closet.

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.

Correction Deadline: 1/20/2022**Finding**

591-1-1-.25(3) requires the Center and surrounding premises to be kept clean, free of debris and in good repair. Hygienic measures such as, but not limited to, screened windows and proper waste disposal procedures shall be utilized to minimize the presence of rodents, flies, roaches and other vermin at the Center. It was determined based on observation that several toilet bolts were exposed and contained rust and the toilet paper holders were broken containing exposed bolts in the children's restrooms throughout the center. Chipped paint was observed on the back walls near the children's cubbies and in the restroom located in classroom E:3L and a quarter-size hole was observed on the left wall behind the teacher's desk located in classroom D:4R. A two-inch hole was observed on the outside of the window screen located in classroom B:2R.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

Consultant spoke with program director about paint needed on classrooms' walls and bathrooms. Director stated repairs will be made in classrooms and children's bathrooms as soon as possible.

Correction Deadline: 1/20/2022

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

591-1-1-.26(4) - Please ensure that interior fences are repaired in between Playgrounds C and B.

Correction Deadline: 1/20/2022**Finding**

591-1-1-.26(4) requires that playgrounds be protected from traffic or other hazards by a (4) four foot high fence or other barrier approved by this Department. Fencing material shall not present a hazard to children and shall be maintained so as to prevent children from leaving the playground area by any means other than through an approved access route. Fence gates shall be kept closed except when persons are entering or exiting the area. It was determined based on observation a gap measuring approximately three inches was observed along the bottom right side fence closest to the parking lot on Playground A creating a potential entrapment hazard. A double gate, facing the parking lot was improperly aligned creating a three inch gap causing the gate to lean.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

Consultant spoke to the program director and she stated that fence barriers would be added to the area and the hazards notated would be removed and fixed.

Correction Deadline: 1/20/2022**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 observation that there were several missing and/or broken merry-go-round bicycle pedals and the rubber landing covering attached to the sliding structure was peeling and contained several cracks located on Playground C. The red and black wooden train also contained peeling paint, cracks, broken wheels, and broken wooden pieces throughout the structure located on Playground C.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The staff will check the equipment daily to ensure that the equipment is free of hazards, rust and splinters. The center will repair all broken equipment notated.

Correction Deadline: 1/30/2022

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 a merry-go-round was installed between two swing support poles preventing an adequate area for a fall zone for the area.

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: 1/30/2022

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 several black mats were stacked on the ground located on Playground A creating a potential tripping hazard. Several black mats between the bicycle merry-go-round and the wooden train on Playground C contained several cracks creating a potential tripping hazard.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will remove any hazards from the playground and will routinely monitor the playground for potential hazards.

Correction Deadline: 1/20/2022

Food Service

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

Comment

Center menu meets USDA guidelines. Consultant observed lunch being served with proper serving sizes.

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

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.18 - Please ensure that all food items are stored in labeled containers if not in original package.

Health and Hygiene

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

Comment

Proper diapering procedures observed.

591-1-1-.17 Hygiene(CR) **Technical Assistance**

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.17(8) - Please ensure staff wash hands after sanitizing surfaces.

Correction Deadline: 1/20/2022

591-1-1-.20 Medications(CR)**Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.20(1) requires Personnel to obtain specific written authorization from the child's physician or parent in order to dispense prescription or non-prescription medications, except for first aid. Such authorization will include when applicable, date; full name of the child; name of the medication; prescription number, if any; dosage; the dates to be given; the time of day to be dispensed; and signature of parent. It was determined based on review of records that the center did not have written parental authorization to dispense Epinephrine in the event of an emergency. The center staff did not administer the medication to the assigned child.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will train Staff to obtain and review parental authorizations to ensure the authorization contains complete information. The designated person(s) will monitor daily.

Correction Deadline: 1/20/2022**Finding**

591-1-1-.20(2) requires that written authorization to dispense medication is limited to two weeks unless otherwise prescribed by a physician or authorized under Georgia law. Medication shall only be dispensed out of its original container which must be labeled with the child's name or as authorized under Georgia law. It was determined based on a review of records that one child's emergency medication, Epinephrine, was expired.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will train all Staff on the medication requirements. The designated person(s) will monitor the dispensing of medications.

Correction Deadline: 1/20/2022

Policies and Procedures

591-1-1-.27 Posted Notices**Technical Assistance****Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.27 - Please make sure that all required signs are posted and up to date including past visit reports, emergency plans, and rule guidelines.

Comment

Observed all required posted notices.

591-1-1-.29 Required Reporting**Met****Correction Deadline: 11/4/2021****Corrected on 1/20/2022**

.29(3) - The previous citation was observed to be corrected. The consultant reviewed the required report guidelines with the provider. The provider stated the proper required reporting guidelines regarding reporting incidents that require medical attention to the department within the 24-hour timeline.

Safety

591-1-1-.05 Animals**Met****Comment**

Animals maintained clean and appropriately caged.

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

Age-appropriate discussion and/or redirection observed.

Comment

Complete documentation of transportation was observed for vehicle tag #RJL6118, vehicle tag #6A32D7, and vehicle tag #325TNM.

Comment

The vehicle tag #36A32D7, vehicle tag #325TNM, and vehicle tag #RJL6118 was observed to have an approved fire extinguisher and first aid kit on this date.

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 observation that bus tag number: 6A32D7 had a rip on the third row back driver seat containing exposed foam. The third row right-side window was inoperable in that the window would not securely close.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

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

Correction Deadline: 1/21/2022

Finding

591-1-1-.36(4)(f)1. requires that all transported children be secured in a child passenger restraining system or seat safety belt in accordance with current state and federal laws and regulations and according to manufacturer's directions. It was determined based on observation that multiple expired booster seats were observed in vehicle tag #RJ6118 and 325TNM. Vehicle tag #325TNM contained a backless booster seat that did not comply with the current state child safety restraints regulations for a 15 passenger van.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

Consultant told provider that they could not transport children in vans until child safety restraints were compliant. Director stated new booster seats will be purchased.

Correction Deadline: 1/21/2022

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

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

Technical Assistance

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.30 - Please ensure to obtain documentation for infants under the age of one-year-old that are able to climb out of the crib.

Staff Records

Records Reviewed: 20

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 7

Staff # 1 Not Met

Date of Hire: 09/16/2014

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(5)-10 Hrs. Annual Training

Staff # 2 Met

Date of Hire: 07/08/2013

Staff # 3 Met

Date of Hire: 10/14/2021

Staff # 4 Met

Date of Hire: 06/01/2015

Staff # 5 Met

Date of Hire: 05/05/2021

Staff # 6 Not Met

Date of Hire: 08/02/2016

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(5)-10 Hrs. Annual Training

Staff # 7 Not Met

Date of Hire: 07/10/2010

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(5)-10 Hrs. Annual Training

Staff # 8 Met

Date of Hire: 09/30/2017

Staff # 9 Met

Date of Hire: 07/23/2020

Staff # 10 Met

Date of Hire: 08/12/2021

Staff # 11 Met

Date of Hire: 09/13/2019

Staff # 12 Met

Date of Hire: 11/11/2021

Staff # 13 Not Met

Date of Hire: 01/03/2017

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(5)-10 Hrs. Annual Training

Staff # 14 Met

Date of Hire: 06/23/2021

Staff # 15 Not Met

Date of Hire: 08/18/2014

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(5)-10 Hrs. Annual Training

Staff # 16 Met

Date of Hire: 10/01/2021

Records Reviewed: 20**Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 7**

Staff # 17 Date of Hire: 06/04/2018	Met
Staff # 18 Date of Hire: 06/25/2013	Met
Staff # 19 Date of Hire: 01/13/2014	Not Met
<u>"Missing/Incomplete Components"</u> .33(5)-10 Hrs. Annual Training	
Staff # 20 Date of Hire: 07/29/2019	Not Met
<u>"Missing/Incomplete Components"</u> .33(5)-10 Hrs. Annual Training	

Staff Credentials Reviewed: 8

591-1-1-.09 Criminal Records and Comprehensive Background Checks(CR) Technical Assistance**Comment**

Director provided five files for employees hired since August 2, 2021.

Comment

Satisfactory comprehensive criminal record checks were observed to be complete for all staff on this date.

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.09(1)(j) - Please ensure to review portability requirements for all employees and that employee hire dates match across all systems.

Correction Deadline: 1/20/2022

591-1-1-.33 Staff Training Not Met**Finding**

91-1-1-.33(5) requires that every calendar year after the first year of employment, all supervisory and caregiver Personnel, except independent contractors, Students-in-Training and volunteers shall attend ten (10) clock hours of diverse training which is task-focused in on-going health, safety and early childhood or child development related topics and which is offered by an accredited college, university or vocational program or other Department-approved source. The annual ten (10) clock hours of training shall be chosen from the following fields: child development, including discipline, guidance, nutrition, injury control and safety; health, including sanitation, disease control, cleanliness, detection and disposition of illness; child abuse and neglect, including identification and reporting, and meeting the needs of abused and/or neglected children; and business related topics, including parental communication, recordkeeping, etc.; provided however that such business related training shall be limited to no more than two (2) of the required ten (10) clock hours of training. Records of completion of such training shall be maintained, as required by these rules. It was determined based on review of records that staff member #1, date of hire September 16, 2014, staff member #6, date of hire August 2, 2016, staff member #7, date of hire July 10, 2010, staff member #13, date of hire January 3, 2017, staff member #15, date of hire August 18, 2014, staff member #19, date of hire January 13, 2014, and staff member #20, date of hire July 29, 2019, completed less than 10 clock hours of annual training for the year 2021.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will plan and schedule the required 10 hours of annual training each year and follow up to ensure the training is completed.

Correction Deadline: 12/31/2022

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.