



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: 6/28/2022 **VisitType:** Incident Investigation
Closure

Arrival: 12:00 PM

Departure: 3:20 PM

CCLC-32168

Tender Tech Child Development Center

1533 Highway 19 South - Building C Thomaston, GA 30286 Upson
County
(706) 646-6200 Debi.Hancock@sctech.edu

Mailing Address
Same

Regional Consultant

Monique Chambers

Phone: (770) 357-7006

Fax: (770) 357-7005

monique.chambers@decal.ga.gov

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.
06/28/2022	Incident Investigation Closure	Good Standing	
05/23/2022	Complaint Investigation Follow Up	Good Standing	
05/23/2022	Complaint Closure	Good Standing	

Comments

May 10, 2022: The investigation remains open pending additional information. Once completed the findings will be reviewed with the person in charge and a final copy of the report will be emailed to the center.

June 28, 2022: The investigation was concluded on this date and there were three rule violations found associated. A copy of the report was sent to the center.

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.decal.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

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)

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.

Deborah Hancock, Program Official

Date

Monique Chambers , Consultant

Date



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Summary Report

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The following information is associated with a Incident Investigation Closure:

Activities and Equipment

591-1-1-.12 Equipment & Toys(CR)

Not Met

Finding Associated with Complaint

591-1-1-.12(1) requires each Employee and child in attendance to use all indoor and outdoor furniture, activity materials, and equipment in a safe and appropriate manner and in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions, recommendations, and intended use. All equipment and furniture shall be used only by the age-appropriate group of children. It was determined during an investigation, that staff failed to use feeding equipment in a safe and appropriate manner according to the manufacturer's instructions. On April 26, 2022, a nine-month-old was placed in a highchair without the use of the safety harness and seat belt. The infant fell approximately two feet and three inches out of the highchair and sustained a head injury and concussion that required emergency medical transport and professional medical treatment.

Correction Deadline: 6/29/2022

Finding Associated with Complaint

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 during an investigation that a highchair used for infant feeding was in hazardous condition. The chair had a torn waist strap needed for the safety restraint system that was required by the manufacturer.

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Correction Deadline: 6/29/2022

Staffing and Supervision

591-1-1-.32 Supervision(CR)

Not Met

Finding Associated with Complaint

591-1-1-.32(7) requires that children be supervised at all times appropriate to the individual age, needs and capabilities of each child. Such supervision must include, but not be limited to, indoor and outdoor activities, mealtimes, naptime, transportation, field trips, and transitions between activities. "Supervision" means that the appropriate number of Staff members are physically present in the area where children are being cared for and are providing watchful oversight to the children, volunteers and Students-in-Training. The persons supervising in the child care area must be alert, positioned to maximize their ability to hear and see the children at all times, and able to respond promptly to the needs and actions of the children being supervised, as well as the actions of the volunteers and Students-in-Training, and provide timely attention to the children's actions and needs. Staff shall be attentive and participating with all children during mealtimes and shall be seated within an arm's length away from children thirty-six (36) months of age and younger. It was determined during an investigation that on April 26, 2022, center staff failed to provide watchful oversight of a nine-month-old infant. The staff member removed the feeding tray of the infant's highchair and walked away from the infant before removing the infant. While the staff member's back was turned, the infant leaned forward and fell approximately two feet and three inches to the tile floor. The infant sustained a head injury that required emergency medical transport and professional medical treatment.

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Correction Deadline: 6/29/2022