



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: 9/14/2023 **VisitType:** Monitoring Visit **Arrival:** 9:00 AM **Departure:** 11:45 AM

CCLC-37985

A Smart Start Learning Academy

5950 Koweta Road Union City, GA 30291 Fulton County
 (770) 306-1595 a.smartstartlearningacademy@yahoo.com

CCS Coordinator

Princess Walton

Phone: (770) 357-7030

Fax: (770) 357-7029

princess.walton@dec.al.ga.gov

Joint with: Ashlee Perry

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.
09/14/2023	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
04/04/2023	Complaint Investigation & Licensing Study	Good Standing	
04/04/2023	Complaint Closure	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	Infants	1	4	C	12	C	NA	NA	Breakfast
Main	B	One Year Olds	1	7	C	7	C	NA	NA	Art
Main	C		0	0	C	16	C	NA	NA	
Main	Cafeteria		0	0	C	13	C	NA	NA	
Main	D	Two Year Olds	1	10	C	20	C	NA	NA	Art
Main	E		0	0	C	20	C	NA	NA	
Main	F	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	1	15	C	30	C	NA	NA	Centers, Art, Transitioning
Main	G - Pre-K	GA PreK	1	10	C	31	C	NA	NA	Centers
Main	H - Pre-K		0	0	C	20	C	NA	NA	
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 169					Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					
Total # Children this Date: 46					Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	A - Left Side	44	C
Main	B - Left Back	26	C
Main	C	44	C

Comments

The purpose of this visit was to conduct a monitoring visit, and follow up to previous visit. Consultant left the director with a CRC One Day Letter.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 09/14/2023

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.decga.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@decga.gov for more information. Free technical assistance is available!

Rose Redding, Program Official	Date
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Ashlee Perry, Regional Consultant	Date
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Princess Walton, CCS Coordinator	Date
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(Findings Report)

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The following information is associated with a Monitoring Visit:

Activities and Equipment

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.

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 in classroom B there was an aerosol bug spray, Lysol, hand sanitizer and hand soap underneath the sink in an unlocked cabinet. Also, in classroom d there was an unlocked cabinet with Lysol spray accessible. It was further observed in classroom F that adult scissors were left out on a table accessible to children, as well as hand sanitizer in an unlocked cabinet, and the staff storage closet containing a handbag and plastic bags did not have a lock.

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: 9/14/2023

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

591-1-1-.26(9) - Consultant discussed with the director to ensure that the playground is checked regularly for hazards.

Correction Deadline: 9/14/2023

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**

Documentation for medication dispensing observed complete.

Safety

591-1-1-.11 Discipline(CR)**Technical Assistance****Technical Assistance**

Consultant discussed with staff proper discipline methods and redirection.

Correction Deadline: 9/14/2023

591-1-1-.36 Transportation(CR)**Met****Comment**

Director stated that presently they do not conduct transportation, however they plan to begin field trips in October. The vehicle was not present at the center for the consultant to check.

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

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

Consultant discussed with the director to ensure that cots are stored in an area inaccessible to children.

Staff Records

591-1-1-.09 Criminal Records and Comprehensive Background Checks(CR)**Not Met****Finding**

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 a review of records that staff #5 did not have a current comprehensive criminal records check on file with Bright From The Start. The staff members comprehensive criminal records check expired on 09/05/2022.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

IMMEDIATE CORRECTION - The Center will ensure that all staff have a current criminal records check, 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 as required. The program's owner or an officer/member of the corporation must view the A to Z Background Check video units pertaining to this records check rule and return the signed affidavit within one week from this visit date. The Center will review the criminal records check videos to ensure the CRC rules are maintained.

Correction Deadline: 9/14/2023

Finding

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 a review of records that staff #5 did not have a current comprehensive criminal records check on file with Bright From The Start. The staff members comprehensive criminal records check expired on 09/05/2022.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

IMMEDIATE CORRECTION - The Center will ensure that all staff have a current criminal records check, 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 as required. The program's owner or an officer/member of the corporation must view the A to Z Background Check video units pertaining to this records check rule and return the signed affidavit within one week from this visit date. The Center will review the criminal records check videos to ensure the CRC rules are maintained.

Correction Deadline: 9/14/2023

591-1-1-.33 Staff Training

Met

Correction Deadline: 5/4/2023

Corrected on 9/14/2023

.33(3) - Previous citation corrected.

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

Staff observed to provide direct supervision and be attentive to children's needs.