



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: 8/26/2024 **VisitType:** Licensing Study

Arrival: 10:00 AM **Departure:** 1:00 PM

CCLC-11775

Little Caterpillars Development Center, Inc.
141 Chase Court Milledgeville, GA 31061 Baldwin County
(478) 452-1800 ariana@littlecaterpillars.com

Regional Consultant
Rebekah Mullinax
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Joint with: Kaycee Purvis

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.
08/26/2024	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
11/20/2023	Incident Investigation & Follow Up	Good Standing	
09/25/2023	LS POI 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(210)-6wks-12m	Infants	2	2	C	11	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main	B (208)6wks-7m	Infants	1	5	C	11	C	NA	NA	Floor Play,Nap
Main	C(207) 7M-12m	Infants	2	6	C	11	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main	D(206) 12M-18M	One Year Olds	2	6	C	17	C	NA	NA	Outside
Main	E(204) 12M-24M	One Year Olds	2	12	C	19	C	NA	NA	Outside
Main	F(205) 18M-35M	Two Year Olds	2	17	C	23	C	NA	NA	Outside
Main	G (209)18M-35 M	Two Year Olds	2	13	C	22	C	NA	NA	Outside
Main	H (211)3yrs	Two Year Olds and Three Year Olds	2	19	C	22	C	NA	NA	Centers
Main	I (213) 3 & 4yrs	Three Year Olds	2	11	C	23	C	NA	NA	Centers
Main	J(212) 4yrs	GA PreK	1	12	C	18	C	NA	NA	Centers
Main	K(214) 4yrs	GA PreK	2	17	C	21	C	NA	NA	Centers
Main	L (215) 8-12yrs		0	0	C	26	C	NA	NA	
Main	L(215) 5-7 yrs		0	0	C	24	C	NA	NA	
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 248					Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					
Total # Children this Date: 120					Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	A Infants Toddlers	17	C
Main	B Toddler/Preschool	66	C

Main	C Preschool/School age	152	C
Main	D School age	171	C

Enrolled Children						
Under 1 years	1 years	2 years	3 years	4 years	5 years (Prekonly)	5 years and older
16	23	38	37	39	0	48

Comments

The purpose of this visit was a Licensing Study.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 08/26/2024

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.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!



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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-.12 Equipment & Toys(CR)

Not Met

Finding

591-1-1-.12(4) requires that equipment and furniture is secured if it is of a weight or mass that could cause injury from tipping, falling, or being pulled or pushed over. It was determined based on observation that the following potential tipping hazards existed in room 213:

- A tall white bookshelf was not secured.
- A lizard tank was not secured.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will ensure that the identified equipment or furniture and any other such existing or future items are secured adequately and will have a system for checking these for stability.

Correction Deadline: 9/3/2024

591-1-1-.35 Swimming Pools & Water-related Activities(CR)

N/A

Comment

Pool not in use at this time, gates observed locked.

Facility

591-1-1-.06 Bathrooms

Technical Assistance

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.06(6) - requires Center Staff to equip bathrooms with soap, toilet tissue and single-use towels or cloth towels used only once between launderings. On this date the boys bathroom in room 212 was missing toilet tissue. Please ensure that center staff equip bathrooms with toilet tissue as required.

Correction Deadline: 8/26/2024

591-1-1-.19 License Capacity(CR)

Met

Comment

Licensed capacity observed to be routinely met by center.

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 materials were accessible to children:

Room 212

- A container of disinfecting wipes, a stapler remover and several thumb tacks were on top of a cubby.
- A staff purse was in a chair.
- Two adult scissors were on the teacher's desk.

Room 214:

- A large bottle of Dial soap by the hand washing sink.

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: 8/26/2024

Technical Assistance

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. On this date the consultant observed several classrooms with chipped wall paint. Please ensure that the center be in good repair as required. The Director stated that the center classrooms are being painted within the next month.

Correction Deadline: 8/26/2024

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

Not Met

Technical Assistance

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. On this date the consultant observed several fence bolts that measured over two threads . Please ensure that the fence bolts are maintained as to not present a hazard to children as required.

Correction Deadline: 8/26/2024

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 that the following fencing hazards existed:

Playground B:

- The chain link fence was unattached and protruding in the back left corner.

Playground C:

- The chain link fence on the right side near the parking lot measured three feet eight inches when the required height is four foot high.

Playground D:

- The chain link fence on the back right side near the parking lot measured three feet ten inches when the required height is four foot high.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will routinely check the fence to determine if it is in good repair and remains at least 4 feet high, and will repair any hazards. The Center will train Staff to identify and report any fence hazards and to keep the fence gates closed when not in use.

Correction Deadline: 9/26/2024

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 the following safety hazards:

Playground B:

- One out of four bucket swings had rusted hardware.

Playground C:

- The hand rails on the ramp near the swimming pool had exposed rust.
- All sixteen of the chains and hardware on the swings had exposed rust.
- A bike toy had exposed rust.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will provide a variety of age-appropriate equipment that is arranged so as not to obstruct supervision of children. Staff will check the equipment daily to ensure that the equipment is free of hazards, rust and splinters.

Correction Deadline: 9/5/2024

Technical Assistance

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. On this date the consultant observed on Playground B exposed tree roots and a piece of concrete not flush with the ground. Please ensure that the playground be free from hazards as required.

Correction Deadline: 8/26/2024

Food Service**591-1-1-.18 Kitchen Operations****Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.18(9) requires cleaning materials to be stored separately from food. It was determined based on observation that laundry supplies were stored on a shelf with canned goods in the Kitchen.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will establish and maintain separate storage areas for food and cleaning materials.

Correction Deadline: 8/26/2024

Health and Hygiene**591-1-1-.10 Diapering Areas & Practices(CR)****Met****Comment**

Hand washing requirements for diapering were discussed with the director on this date.

591-1-1-.17 Hygiene(CR)**Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-17(7) requires that children wash their hands with liquid soap and warm running water upon arrival for care, when moving from one child care group to another, upon re-entering the child care area after outside play, before and after eating meals and snacks, handling or touching food, playing in water; after toileting and diapering, playing in sand, touching animals or pets, and contact with bodily fluids and after contamination by any other means. It was determined based on observation that a child did not wash their hands with liquid soap and warm running water after diapering in room 204.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will train Staff on required handwashing for children and Staff will ensure children's hands are washed when required. The Director will monitor for compliance.

Correction Deadline: 8/26/2024

591-1-1-.20 Medications(CR)**N/A****Comment**

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

Safety

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

Staff were observed to maintain a positive learning environment on this date.

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

A current/completed inspection was observed for all vehicles used in transporting children this date.

Comment

Complete documentation of transportation observed.

Comment

The vehicle had an approved fire extinguisher and first aid kit on this date.

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

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

Discussed SIDS and infant sleeping position.

Comment

Pleasant naptime environment observed.

Comment

The correct number of mats, sheets and blankets were observed on this date. Cleaning and disinfecting of mats was discussed with the director on this date.

Staff Records

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

Criminal record checks were observed to be complete.

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.