



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: 11/8/2024 **VisitType:** Licensing Study

Arrival: 9:55 AM **Departure:** 1:30 PM

CCLC-28747

"In His Arms" Educational Center

7816 Hwy 80 East Savannah, GA 31410 Chatham County
(912) 897-6826 lipski@aol.com

Regional Consultant

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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.
11/08/2024	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
01/25/2024	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
09/19/2023	Monitoring Visit	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	PreK back	GA PreK	2	15	C	15	C	21	C	Centers
Main	Pre-K front	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	1	8	C	21	C	30	C	Centers
Main	RM 1:1st Left	One Year Olds and Two Year Olds	1	10	C	15	C	NA	NA	Centers
Main	RM 2: 2nd Left	One Year Olds	1	6	C	15	C	NA	NA	Centers,Diapering
Main	RM 3	Three Year Olds	1	9	C	15	C	NA	NA	Circle Time,Centers
Main	RM 4: Infant	Infants	1	4	C	8	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main	Room 6	Two Year Olds and Three Year Olds	1	10	C	14	C	NA	NA	Centers,Story
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 103			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 118							
Total # Children this Date: 62			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 103			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 118				

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	PGD 1-Right	97	C
Main	PGD 2-Middle	30	C
Main	PGD 3-Left	133	C

Enrolled Children						
Under 1 years	1 years	2 years	3 years	4 years	5 years (Prekonly)	5 years and older
6	9	14	14	11	6	20

Comments

The purpose of today's visit is a Licensing Study.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 11/08/2024

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.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!



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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)

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

Met

Comment

Records were observed to be complete and well organized.

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

Comment

Please secure cleaning tools (i.e., broom, plunger) out of reach of children.

Technical Assistance

Please ensure that floor coverings be tight, smooth, free of odors and washable or cleanable. Please repair or replace the flooring in the Pre-K restroom to ensure it is tight, washable, and cleanable.

Correction Deadline: 12/8/2024

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 on the low red shelf in classroom RM 3, there was a staff member's lanyard that contained car keys and pepper spray store accessible to children that posed a potential hazard.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The items were removed during the visit. The Center will inform all Staff about hazardous items and the safe storage of those items.

Correction Deadline: 11/8/2024

Recited on 11/8/2024

Technical Assistance

Please be mindful to keep items that pose a hazard inaccessible to children. Please ensure all plastic bags are stored inaccessible to children, including plastic bags that contain diapers.

Correction Deadline: 11/8/2024

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

Technical Assistance

Correction Deadline: 2/4/2024

Corrected on 11/8/2024

.26(6) - This citation was observed to be corrected on this date. The see-saw had been removed.

Technical Assistance

Please ensure the outdoor equipment 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. Please check all outdoor toys for cracks, chips, and rust and repair, remove, or replace as needed.

Correction Deadline: 11/18/2024

Food Service

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

Met

Comment

Center menu meets USDA guidelines.

Health and Hygiene

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

Met

Comment

Proper diapering procedures observed.

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

Not Met

Correction Deadline: 1/25/2024

Corrected on 11/8/2024

.17(7) - This citation was observed to be corrected on this date. Appropriate child hand washing was observed.

Finding

591-1-1-.17(8) requires staff to wash their hands with liquid soap and warm running water upon arrival for the day, when moving from one child care group to another, upon re-entering the child care area after outside play, before and after diapering each child, dispensing medication, applying topical medications, handling and preparing food, eating, drinking, preparing bottles, feeding each child, assisting children with eating and drinking, after toileting or assisting children with toileting, using tobacco products, handling garbage and organic waste, touching animals or pets, handling bodily fluids and after contamination by any means. It was determined based on observation that in classroom RM 2: 2nd Left, a staff member was observed to wipe two children's noses and did not wash her hands between of after cleaning the noses with liquid soap and warm running water as required.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will ensure liquid soap and warm running water are available for handwashing, train Staff on the handwashing requirements, review the requirements with Staff periodically, and monitor handwashing.

Correction Deadline: 11/8/2024

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)

Met

Correction Deadline: 1/26/2024

Corrected on 11/8/2024

.36(4)(f)1. - This citation was observed to be corrected on this date. The seat belts were observed to be accessible on this date.

Correction Deadline: 1/26/2024

Corrected on 11/8/2024

.36(6) - This citation was observed to be corrected on this date. All children transported had parental authorization on file as required.

Correction Deadline: 1/26/2024

Corrected on 11/8/2024

.36(7)(b) - This citation was observed to be corrected on this date. All children transported had complete emergency medical forms on file as required.

Correction Deadline: 1/25/2024

Corrected on 11/8/2024

.36(7)(d)2. - This citation was observed to be corrected on this date. All transportation records reviewed were complete.

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

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

Not Met

Finding

591-1-1-.30(2) requires the Center to provide a safe sleep environment in accordance with American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP), Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) and American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM) recommendations as listed in these rules for all infants. Center Staff shall place an infant to sleep on the infant's back in a crib unless the Center has been provided a physician's written statement authorizing another sleep position for that particular infant that includes how the infant shall be placed to sleep and a time frame that the instructions are to be followed. When an infant can easily turn over from back to front and back again, Staff shall continue to put the infant to sleep initially on the infant's back but allow the infant to roll over into his or her preferred position and not re-position the infant. Sleepers, sleep sacks and wearable blankets that fit according to the commercial manufacturer's guidelines and will not slide up around the infant's face may be used when necessary for the comfort of the sleeping infant. Swaddling shall not be used unless the Center has been provided a physician's written statement authorizing its use for a particular infant that includes instructions and a time frame for swaddling the infant. Center Staff shall not place objects or allow objects to be placed in or on the crib with an infant such as but not limited to toys, pillows, quilts, comforters, bumper pads, sheepskins, stuffed toys, or other soft items and shall not attach objects or allow objects to be attached to a crib with a sleeping infant, such as, but not limited to, crib gyms, toys, mirrors and mobiles. It was determined based on observation that in classroom RM: 4 Infant, there were two cribs had a bib attached to them while two infants were asleep and one crib had a bib and a sound machine attached to it while one infant was asleep posing a potential safe-sleep hazard. Additionally, two of six cribs had a play mat activity bars attached to the top of the cribs while two infants were asleep in them that posed a potential safe-sleep hazard.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will take all steps necessary to provide a safe sleep environment for infants as listed in these rules; will train Staff to follow these rules; and will monitor for compliance.

Correction Deadline: 11/8/2024

Staff Records

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

Comment

Consultant requested to view all Criminal Record checks for employees hired after last visit. Director stated that there have been no new hires since last visit

Comment

Criminal record checks were observed to be complete.

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

Comment

Evidence observed of 100% of center staff certified in First Aid and CPR.

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

Comment

Documentation observed of required staff training.

591-1-1-.31 Staff(CR) **Not Met**

Finding

591-1-1-.31(2)(c) requires the Center to maintain a copy and/or written verification of the credential or degree awarded to the lead teacher that is required by these rules in the lead teacher's file, to make the document available for inspection and to provide the document to Department staff upon request. It was determined based on a review of records that the center did not have a current credential on file for staff #11.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The staff will renew their credential. The center will keep a copy of the credential on file.

Correction Deadline: 2/8/2025

Recited on 11/8/2024

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.