



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: 2/28/2023 **VisitType:** Complaint Investigation & Licensing Study **Arrival:** 11:00 AM **Departure:** 2:45 PM

CCLC-46535

Gems Learning Academy

8850 High Point Road Union City, GA 30291 Fulton County
 (404) 625-5842 syma_rauf@yahoo.com

Regional Consultant

Princess Walton

Phone: (770) 357-7030

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princess.walton@dec.al.ga.gov

Mailing Address

6 Velma Rd
 Wakefield, GA 01880

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.
02/28/2023	Complaint Investigation & Licensing Study	Good Standing	
11/17/2022	Complaint Closure	Good Standing	
11/17/2022	Complaint Investigation & 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	A- Pearls	Infants	1	6	C	12	C	NA	NA	Free Play, Nap
Main	B- Turquoise		0	0	C	8	C	NA	NA	
Main	C- Amber	Two Year Olds	2	20	C	20	C	NA	NA	Lunch, Transitioning
Main	D- Garnet	One Year Olds and Two Year Olds	2	10	C	10	C	NA	NA	Transitioning, Circle Time, Nap
Main	E- Aquamarine		0	0	C	16	C	NA	NA	
Main	F- Topaz		0	0	C	15	C	NA	NA	
Main	G- Sapphire		0	0	C	16	C	NA	NA	
Main	H- Amethyst		0	0	C	19	C	NA	NA	
Main	I- Jasper	Four Year Olds	1	16	C	25	C	35	C	Lunch
Main	J- Jade	GA PreK	2	2	C	25	C	NA	NA	Lunch
Main	K- Diamond		0	0	C	25	C	35	C	
Main	L- Emerald		0	0	C	25	C	35	C	
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 216						Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 216				
Total # Children this Date: 54			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 216			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 216				

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	A- Infants/Toddlers	27	C
Main	B- School age	116	C
Main	C- 2yrs-5yrs	80	C
Main	D- Toddler to 2yrs	13	C

Comments

The purpose of this visit is to conduct a licesning study visit and to follow-up to previous citation.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 02/28/2023

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@dec.al.ga.gov for more information. Free technical assistance is available!

Saima Qureshi, Program Official

Date

Princess Walton, Consultant

Date



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(Findings Report)

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The following information is associated with a Licensing Study Visit:

Activities and Equipment

591-1-1.12 Equipment & Toys(CR)

Met

Comment

Equipment and furniture observed to be properly secured, as applicable.

591-1-1.35 Swimming Pools & Water-related Activities(CR)

Met

Comment

Center does not provide swimming activities.

Evening Care

591-1-1.32 Staffing/Supervision(CR)

Met

Comment

Evening hours discussed.

Facility

591-1-1.19 License Capacity(CR)

Met

Correction Deadline: 11/17/2022

Corrected on 2/28/2023

.19(1) - Previous citation was corrected. Consultant observed the center to be in capacity.

591-1-1.25 Physical Plant - Safe Environment(CR)

Met

Comment

No hazards observed accessible to children on this date.

591-1-1-.26 Playgrounds(CR)**Not Met****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 resilience. It was determined based on observation that the preschool playground that both yellow climbers had 2 inches of resilience less than the required 6 inches resilient surface beneath the equipment.

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 resilience.

Correction Deadline: 3/17/2023**Recited on 2/28/2023**

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)**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 staff in classroom Amber stated that she uses wipes and hand sanitizer to wipe the children's hands instead of soap and water.

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: 3/17/2023**Recited on 2/28/2023**

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**

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

591-1-1-.13 Field Trips(CR)**Met****Comment**

Center does not participate in field trips at this time.

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

Complete documentation of transportation observed.

Comment

Paperwork, checklist, permission forms, annual inspection form and proper check of the vehicle after transportation were discussed with the director.

Sleeping & Resting Equipment**591-1-1-.30 Safe Sleeping and Resting Requirements(CR)****Technical Assistance****Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.30(2) - Consultant discuss with the staff that no items should be in the crib with a sleeping infant.

Correction Deadline: 2/28/2023

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

Correction Deadline: 11/17/2022

Corrected on 2/28/2023

.09(1)(a) - Previous citation was corrected.

Correction Deadline: 11/17/2022

Corrected on 2/28/2023

.09(1)(c) - Previous citation was corrected.

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

591-1-1-.33(1) requires all Employees and Provisional Employees to receive Initial Center orientation prior to assignment to children or task. It was determined based on review of staff files that 6 staff did not have the require employee orientation as require.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will develop and provide orientation for all new Staff prior to their staff's assignment to children or task.

Correction Deadline: 2/28/2023

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 staff files that two staff did not have the require 10 hours of training as require.

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: 3/30/2023

591-1-1-.31 Staff(CR)**Met****Comment**

Discussed that all lead staff must enroll in an approved education program within 6 months of hire and complete degree within 18 months.

Staffing and Supervision

591-1-1-.32 Staff:Child Ratios and Group Size(CR)**Met**

Correction Deadline: 11/17/2022

Corrected on 2/28/2023

.32(1) - Previous citation was corrected. Consultant observed the center to be in ratio.

591-1-1-.32 Supervision(CR)**Met****Comment**

Adequate supervision observed on this date.