



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: 10/30/2023 **VisitType:** Licensing Study

Arrival: 8:10 AM

Departure: 12:45 PM

CCLC-51312

Apparo Academy

3104 Skinner Mill Road Augusta, GA 30909 Richmond County
 (706) 522-4222 kaitlyn@apparoacademy.org

Lead Consultant

Kaycee Purvis

Phone: (770) 357-4915

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kaycee.purvis@decal.ga.gov

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.
10/30/2023	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
08/25/2022	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
03/28/2022	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.	Downstairs - 1L - Hummingbirds	Infants	2	7	C	18	C	NA	NA	Feeding, Floor Play
Main.	Downstairs - 1R - Doves	Three Year Olds	3	6	C	17	C	NA	NA	Centers
Main.	Downstairs - 2L - Chickadees	One Year Olds	2	2	C	19	C	NA	NA	Centers
Main.	Downstairs - 2R - Bluejays	Two Year Olds and Three Year Olds	3	5	C	19	C	NA	NA	Centers
Main.	Downstairs - 3L - Cockatoos	One Year Olds and Two Year Olds	2	7	C	18	C	NA	NA	Feeding, Centers
Main.	Downstairs - 4L - Toucans	Two Year Olds	3	7	C	18	C	NA	NA	Centers
Main.	Upstairs - 1L - Parakeets	Four Year Olds	3	5	C	20	C	NA	NA	Art
Main.	Upstairs - 1R - Sparrows	Four Year Olds and Five Year Olds and Six Year Olds and Over	3	7	C	22	C	NA	NA	Art
Main.	Upstairs - 2L - Robins	Three Year Olds	3	6	C	22	C	NA	NA	Centers
Main.	Upstairs - 2R - Cardinals	Four Year Olds and Five Year Olds	3	6	C	23	C	NA	NA	Outside
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.:			196		Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					
Total # Children this Date: 58			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 196		Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main.	Infant / Toddler Playground	20	C
Main.	Playground A - Left	75	C

Comments

The purpose of this visit was to conduct a Licensing Study.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 10/30/2023

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.dec.state.ga.us/CCS/Regulations.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!

Kaitlyn West, Program Official

Date

Kaycee Purvis, Lead Consultant

Date



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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

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

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)

Met

Correction Deadline: 9/1/2022

Corrected on 10/30/2023

.25(13) - Correction of previous citation in that the Consultant did not observe hazards accessible to children on this date.

591-1-1-.26 Playgrounds(CR)**Not Met****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 upon observation that two out of two steering wheels on the red fire truck play structure on Playground A had chipping paint on this date. It was further determined that the yellow tube for the school bus play structure on Playground A had chipping paint at the top of the tube entrance and around the hole above the word bus on this date.

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: 11/24/2023

Health and Hygiene

591-1-1-.07 Children's Health**Technical Assistance****Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.07(5) - Please ensure that children do not have items attached to their necks or clothing.

Correction Deadline: 10/30/2023

591-1-1-.10 Diapering Areas & Practices(CR)**Met****Correction Deadline: 9/8/2022****Corrected on 10/30/2023**

.10(4) - Correction of previous citation in that the Consultant observed all diaper changing surfaces to be smooth and nonporous on this date.

591-1-1-.17 Hygiene(CR)**Met****Comment**

Staff were observed to remind children to wash hands.

591-1-1-.20 Medications(CR)**Met****Comment**

Discussed proper medication documentation and procedures. The Consultant and Director discussed ensuring that adverse reactions to medications are recorded.

Policies and Procedures

591-1-1-.21 Operational Policies & Procedures**Met****Comment**

Program observed complete emergency drills

Safety

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

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

Comment

Center does not provide routine transportation.

Sleeping & Resting Equipment**Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.30(1)(a)3 - The Consultant and Director discussed ways to ensure crib sheets are tight fitting at all times.

Correction Deadline: 10/30/2023

Staff Records**Comment**

Criminal record checks were observed to be complete.

Comment

Staff observed to be compliant with applicable laws and regulations.

Staffing and Supervision**Comment**

Center observed to maintain appropriate staff:child ratios.

Comment

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