



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: 7/10/2024 **VisitType:** POI Follow Up

Arrival: 2:20 PM **Departure:** 4:20 PM

CCLC-46535

Gems Learning Academy

8850 High Point Road Union City, GA 30291 Fulton County
(770) 306-6133 syma_rauf@yahoo.com

Regional Consultant

Shameka Dozier

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shameka.dozier@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.
07/10/2024	POI Follow Up	Good Standing	
06/05/2024	Incident Investigation & Follow Up	Good Standing	
05/18/2024	Incident Investigation 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-Pearls	Infants	2	4	C	12	C	NA	NA	Free Play
Main	B- Turquoise		0	0	C	8	C	NA	NA	
Main	C- Amber		0	0	C	20	C	NA	NA	
Main	D- Garnet	Two Year Olds	2	10	C	10	C	NA	NA	Circle Time
Main	E- Aquamarine		0	0	C	16	C	NA	NA	
Main	F- Topaz		0	0	C	15	C	NA	NA	
Main	G- Sapphire	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	1	10	C	16	C	NA	NA	Free Play
Main	H- Amethyst		0	0	C	19	C	NA	NA	
Main	I- Jasper	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	2	11	C	25	C	35	C	Free Play
Main	J- Jade		0	0	C	25	C	NA	NA	
Main	K- Diamond	Six Year Olds and Over	2	20	C	25	C	35	C	Snack
Main	L- Emerald	Four Year Olds and Five Year Olds	2	12	C	25	C	35	C	Transitioning
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 216					Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 216					
Total # Children this Date: 67					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 was to conduct a Plan of Improvement follow up.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 07/10/2024

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 POI Follow Up:

	Safety
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591-1-1-.05 Animals **Met**

Comment

Center does not keep animals on premises.

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

Comment

Field trip documentation observed to be complete.

591-1-1-.36 Transportation(CR) **Not Met**

Finding

591-1-1-.36(3)(a-b) requires any Center that provides any type of transportation to obtain two (2) hours of state-approved or state-accepted transportation training, biannually, for the Director and for each person responsible for or who participates in the transportation of children. The training shall include, but is not limited to, a review of the transportation rules, a review of approved transportation forms and procedures, and instruction on the usage and completion of the forms and procedures. This training may be counted as part of the annual training requirements for Staff. It was determined based on review of records that staff #1 who was listed as a driver was transporting children and had transportation training that expired on May 27, 2023.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will ensure that the Director, Center Staff, and any person responsible for the transportation of children has completed the required transportation training.

Correction Deadline: 7/20/2024

Finding

591-1-1-.36(7)(c)2. requires that the driver or other designated person shall immediately document in writing, with a check or other mark/symbol to account for each child listed on the passenger transportation checklist each time a child enters and exits the vehicle. The driver or other designated staff person shall document in writing with a different mark/symbol to account for each child listed on the passenger transportation checklist who was not present on the vehicle for any reason. An explanation shall be documented in writing whenever a child is transported to a field trip site but is not present on the return trip to the Center. It was determined based on review of records on 6/10/2024 ten children who attended a field trip to the Gladys Dennard Library were not marked on the transportation checklist to account for each time they entered and exited the vehicle.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The driver/other designated person will immediately document in writing with a check/mark/symbol each time a child gets on and off the vehicle.

Correction Deadline: 7/11/2024

Finding

591-1-1-.36(7)(c)3. requires that the driver or other designated person document in writing the date and time of arrival and departure each time the vehicle departs from the Center, is loaded or unloaded at each school and when the vehicle returns to the Center; each time the vehicle departs from the Center, arrives at the location where any child is picked up or dropped off and when the vehicle returns to the Center; each time the vehicle leaves the Center, arrives at a field trip destination, leaves a field trip destination, and returns to the Center. It was determined based on review of records that field trips conducted for the month of June and July 2024 had missing arrival and departure times.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will ensure that each date and time of arrival and departure is documented by the driver or designated person with training, review and monitoring.

Correction Deadline: 7/11/2024

Finding

591-1-1-.36(7)(d)1. requires that the first check be conducted immediately upon unloading the last child at any location including, but not limited to, a field trip destination, arrival at the Center, and the last stop during transportation to home or school. The responsible person on the vehicle shall physically walk through the entire vehicle; visually inspect all seat surfaces, under all seats and in all compartments or recesses in the vehicle's interior; sign the passenger transportation checklist (s), indicating all of the children have exited the vehicle; and give the passenger transportation checklist(s) to the second designated Staff person. It was determined based on review of records there was no signature for the first check to be conducted upon loading and unloading the last child on 6/10/2024 for a field trip to the Gladys Dennard Library.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will train Staff who are or may be involved in transporting children in how to thoroughly inspect a vehicle and properly complete transportation documentation. The Center will review and monitor.

Correction Deadline: 7/11/2024

Finding

591-1-1-.36(7)(d)2. requires that the second designated Staff person conduct a check of the vehicle immediately upon the completion of the first check of the vehicle. The responsible person shall physically walk through the entire vehicle; visually inspect all seat surfaces, under all seats and in all compartments or recesses in the vehicle's interior; and sign the passenger transportation checklist(s), indicating all of the children have exited the vehicle. There shall be continuous watchful oversight of the vehicle between the first check and second check. It was determined based on review of records while on a field trip, there was no signature on 6/10/2024 to indicate a second designated Staff person conducted a check of the vehicle immediately upon the completion of the first check of the vehicle.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will train Staff who are or may be involved in transporting children in how to thoroughly inspect a vehicle and properly complete transportation documentation. The Center will review and monitor.

Correction Deadline: 7/10/2024