



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:** Licensing Study

Arrival: 9:25 AM **Departure:** 2:00 PM

CCLC-58739

Friendship Preschool Academy

4141 Old Fairburn Road Atlanta, GA 30349 Fulton County
(404) 228-2056 admin@myfriendshipacademy.com

Regional Consultant

Shameka Dozier

Phone: (770) 857-7010

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shameka.dozier@decal.ga.gov

Mailing Address

Same

Quality Rated: No

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	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
12/04/2023	Initial Licensing Study	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	1R-12 months-24 months		0	0	C	17	C	NA	NA	
Main	2R-12 months-24months		0	0	C	17	C	NA	NA	
Main	3R-24 months	One Year Olds and Two Year Olds and Three Year Olds	2	7	C	17	C	NA	NA	Free Play
Main	4R-24 months		0	0	C	23	C	NA	NA	
Main	6-weeks-12 months	Infants	1	1	C	19	C	NA	NA	Nap
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 61			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0			Building @35 capacity limited by Playground Limitations				
Total # Children this Date: 8			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 61			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0				

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	Playground	21	C

Comments

The purpose of this visit was to conduct a licensing study visit and to follow up from previous visit a one day letter and affidavit video was left on this visit.

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.state.ga.us/CCS/RuleAndRegulations.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.state.ga.us 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-.03 Activities

Technical Assistance

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.03(2) - Consultant discussed with director to ensure that current lesson plans are kept on site.

Correction Deadline: 7/10/2024

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)

N/A

Comment

Center does not provide swimming activities.

Children's Records

591-1-1-.08 Children's Records

Technical Assistance

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.08(2) - Consultant discussed with provider to ensure that children files includes evidence of age-appropriate immunizations or a signed affidavit against such immunizations for each child enrolled in the center on a form approved by the Department.

Correction Deadline: 7/20/2024

Facility

591-1-1-.06 Bathrooms

Met

Comment

Bathrooms observed to be clean and well maintained.

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**

Center appears clean and well maintained.

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 hand sanitizer(s), and Lysol wipes labeled keep out of reach of children was stored on the changing table and were accessible in classroom 3-R. It was also observed that a Swiffer mop and broom were stored in the bathroom in classroom 3-R.

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: 7/10/2024**Finding**

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. It was determined based on observation that the ceiling bathrooms in classrooms 1-R and 2-R were exposed with no tile coverings.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will have the Center and surrounding areas cleaned, make repairs where needed, and remove all debris is removed. The Center will implement a plan to keep areas clean and in good repair that includes regular monitoring.

Correction Deadline: 7/10/2024**Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.25(8) - Consultant discussed with director to ensure that all protective caps on all unused electrical outlets within children's reach are covered.

Correction Deadline: 7/10/2024

591-1-1-.26 Playgrounds(CR)**Met****Comment**

Playground observed to be clean and in good repair.

Food Service

591-1-1-.15 Food Service & Nutrition**Met****Comment**

Center menu meets USDA guidelines.

Comment

Please ensure that bottles are covered and fully labeled with child's full name.

591-1-1-.18 Kitchen Operations**Met****Comment**

Kitchen appears clean and well organized.

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)	Met
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Comment

Staff stated proper knowledge.

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

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

Policies and Procedures

591-1-1-.21 Operational Policies & Procedures	Not Met
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Finding

591-1-1-.21(3) requires that the Center conduct drills for fire, tornado and other emergency situations. The fire drills will be conducted monthly and tornado and other emergency situation drills will be conducted every six months. The Center shall maintain documentation of the dates and times of these drills for two years. It was determined based on observation and review of records that the center had not conducted drills for fire, tornado and other emergency situations since January 2024.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will hold the drills as required and keep the documentation of the drills on file for two years.

Correction Deadline: 7/15/2024

Safety

591-1-1-.05 Animals	N/A
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Comment

Center does not keep animals on premises.

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

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

591-1-1-.13 Field Trips(CR)	N/A
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Comment

Center does not participate in field trips at this time.

591-1-1-.36 Transportation(CR)	N/A
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Comment

Center does not provide routine transportation.

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

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

Please ensure that cribs/cots are labeled for individual use.

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.30(1)(d) - Consultant discussed with director to ensure there is a minimum of twelve inches (12") between each piece of sleeping or resting equipment in each row of equipment and to remove any sleeping equipment that may be blocking the exit doors.

Correction Deadline: 7/10/2024

Staff Records

Finding

591-1-1-.09(1)(a) requires that a Center ensure that every actual and potential Director, Employee and Provisional Employee of a Child Care Learning Center submit both a Records Check Application to the Department and Fingerprints to an authorized fingerprinting site. It was determined bases on observation that staff #5 and #14 were present at the center and did not submit both a Records Check Application to the Department and Fingerprints to an authorized fingerprinting site

POI (Plan of Improvement)

IMMEDIATE CORRECTION - The Center will ensure that every actual and potential Director, Employee and Provisional Employee of a Child Care Learning Center submit both a Records Check Application to the Department and Fingerprints to an authorized fingerprinting site as required. The program's owner or an officer/member of the corporation must view the A to Z Background Check video units pertaining to this records check rule and return the signed affidavit within one week from this visit date. The Center will ensure the CRC rules are maintained.

Correction Deadline: 7/10/2024

Finding

591-1-1-.09(1)(c) requires the Center to ensure that every Employee has a valid and current satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination on file prior to being present at the Center while any child is present for care or before an individual age 17 or older resides in the Center. The Comprehensive Records Check Determination must have a Records Check Clearance Date that is no older than the preceding 12 months of the hire date; provided, however, if the Employee has had a lapse of employment from the child care industry that lasted for 180 days (6 months) or longer, a new satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination is required. It was determined bases on observation that the staff # 5 and #14 were present at the center and did not have a valid and current satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination on file prior to being present at the Center while children were present.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

IMMEDIATE CORRECTION - The Center will to ensure that every Employee has a valid and current satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination on file prior to being present at the Center while any child is present for care or before an individual age 17 or older resides in the Center. The Comprehensive Records Check Determination must have a Records Check Clearance Date that is no older than the preceding 12 months of the hire date; provided, however, if the Employee has had a lapse of employment from the child care industry that lasted for 180 days (6 months) or longer, a new satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination is required. The program's owner or an officer/member of the corporation must view the A to Z Background Check video units pertaining to this records check rule and return the signed affidavit within one week from this visit date. The center will ensure the CRC rules are maintained.

Correction Deadline: 7/10/2024

591-1-1-.09 Criminal Records Check(CR)**Met****Comment**

Criminal records checks were observed to be complete.

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

Evidence observed of 50% of center staff certified in First Aid and CPR.

591-1-1-.24 Personnel Records**Technical Assistance****Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.24(1) - Consultant discussed with director to ensure the center maintains a personnel file on the Director, all Employees, Provisional Employees, Personnel, Staff, Students-in-Training, Volunteers, Clerical, Housekeeping, Maintenance, and other Support Staff for the duration of the term of employment plus one calendar year.

Correction Deadline: 7/15/2024

591-1-1-.33 Staff Training**Technical Assistance****Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.33(1) - Consultant discussed with director to ensure that all Employees and Provisional Employees receive Initial Center orientation documented and signed prior to assignment to children or task.

Correction Deadline: 7/10/2024

Comment

Discussed: Health and Safety Training is required for each staff member with direct care responsibilities within 90 calendar days of their hire date.

591-1-1-.31 Staff(CR)**Technical Assistance****Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.31(2)(b)3.(iii) - Consultant discussed with director to ensure the lead teacher's professional development plan are in staff files and available for inspection by Department staff upon request.

Correction Deadline: 7/10/2024

Staffing and Supervision

591-1-1-.32 Staff:Child Ratios and Group Size(CR)**Not Met****Comment**

Discussed combining children of mixed ages.

Finding

591-1-1-.32(4)(b) allows children who turn three years old during the regular school year to remain with two year olds for the remainder of the school year but requires agreement from the older child's Parent(s) for the continued placement. It was determined based on observation a three year old child was mixed with one and two- year -olds without an agreement from the older child's Parent(s) for continued placement.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will secure parental permission and keep it on file.

Correction Deadline: 7/10/2024

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

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