



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: 8/2/2023 **VisitType:** Complaint Investigation & Monitoring **Arrival:** 11:10 AM **Departure:** 2:00 PM
Visit

CCLC-53213

Emerging Leaders Learning Center

3408 Peach Orchard Road Augusta, GA 30906 Richmond County
(706) 432-9705 cantik1@hotmail.com

Regional Consultant

Kajora McCoy

Phone: (678) 239-9361

Fax:

kajora.mccoy@decal.ga.gov

Mailing Address

3408 Peach Orchard Rd
Augusta, GA 30906

Quality Rated: ★ ★

<u>Compliance Zone Designation</u>			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.
08/02/2023	Complaint Investigation & Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
01/09/2023	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
08/23/2022	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
Building 2	D- Preschool	Three Year Olds and Five Year Olds	1	10	C	12	C	NA	NA	Centers
			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 12		Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					
Main	A- (1R) 1's & 2's	One Year Olds and Two Year Olds	1	6	C	10	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main	B - (2R) 3-12 yrs	Two Year Olds	1	14	NC	14	C	NA	NA	Story
Main	C- (1L) Infants	Infants	1	1	C	3	C	NA	NA	Feeding
			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 27		Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					
Total # Children this Date: 31			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 39		Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	Playground - 1 - 12 years	11	C

Comments

Consultant conducted an onsite monitoring visit on August 2, 2023.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 08/02/2023

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 user id 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!

Monica Griffin, Program Official

Date

Kajora McCoy, Regional Consultant

Date



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(Findings Report)

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The following information is associated with a Monitoring Visit:

Activities and Equipment

591-1-1-.12 Equipment & Toys(CR)

Met

Comment

A variety of equipment and toys were observed throughout the center.

Comment

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

591-1-1-.35 Swimming Pools & Water-related Activities(CR)

N/A

Comment

Center does not provide swimming activities.

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

Correction Deadline: 2/3/2023

Corrected on 8/2/2023

.25(12) - This citation was corrected on this date. The heater unit was observed to be covered.

Finding

591-1-1-.25(17) requires that the Center premises be free of plants and shrubs which are poisonous or hazardous. It was determined based on observation that there were Virginia Creeper plants at the back middle fence of the playground.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The harmful item will be removed.

Correction Deadline: 8/2/2023

Correction Deadline: 2/3/2023

Corrected on 8/2/2023

.25(3) - This citation was corrected on this date. The back middle wall was observed to be in good repair.

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

Not Met

Correction Deadline: 2/3/2023

Corrected on 8/2/2023

.26(6) - This citation was corrected on this date. Tricycles were removed from the playground.

Finding

591-1-1-.26(9) requires the playground to be kept clean, free from litter and free of hazards, such as but not limited to rocks, exposed tree roots and exposed sharp edges of concrete. It was determined based on observation that the following hazards were observed on the playground:

- The woven landscape fabric was exposed on the playground causing a potential tripping hazard.
- There were exposed tree roots on the playground causing a potential tripping hazard.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will remove any litter and fix or remove hazards from the playground and will routinely monitor the playground and remove litter and hazards.

Correction Deadline: 8/11/2023

Recited on 8/2/2023

Health and Hygiene

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

Met

Correction Deadline: 1/23/2023

Corrected on 8/2/2023

.10(4) - This citation was corrected on this date. Diaper changing pads were observed to be in good repair.

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

Met

Comment

Please ensure lids remain on trash containing organic waste.

Comment

Please ensure soiled items are stored inaccessible to children.

591-1-1-.20 Medications(CR)

N/A

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)

N/A

Comment

Center does not provide routine transportation.

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

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

Discussed SIDS and infant sleeping position.

Staff Records

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

Criminal record checks were observed to be complete.

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

Staff observed to be compliant with applicable laws and regulations.

Staffing and Supervision

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

591-1-1-.32(1) requires the Center to maintain the required Staff:child ratios as follows: under 1 year or under 18 months if not walking = 1:6; 1 year and walking = 1:8; 2 years = 1:10; 3 years = 1:15; 4 years = 1:18; 5 years = 1:20; and 6 years and older = 1:25. A Center must establish groupings of children for care with maximum group sizes as follows: under 1 year = 12; under 18 months/not walking = 12; 1 year and walking = 16; 2 years = 20; 3 years = 30; 4 years = 36; 5 years = 40; and 6 years and older = 50. It was determined based on observation that one Center Staff Member cared for 14 two-year-olds on this date when the ratio required was 2:14.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will hire additional Staff or reschedule current Staff to meet required Staff:child ratios and will organize children into groups that meet requirements.

Correction Deadline: 8/2/2023

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

Adequate supervision observed on this date.