



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: 8/27/2021 **VisitType:** Licensing Study **Arrival:** 10:00 AM **Departure:** 12:15 PM

CCLC-949

Early Start Learning Center

2186 Snapfinger Road Decatur, GA 30035 DeKalb County
 (404) 284-4112 essiebaker@att.net

Regional Consultant

Verlyn Gant

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Mailing Address

Same

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.
08/27/2021	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
08/17/2021	Complaint Investigation by Phone	Good Standing	
03/23/2021	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 II	C1-A	PreK	2	13	C	24	C	34	C	Circle Time
Building II	C1-B	PreK	2	10	C	20	C	28	C	Transitioning
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 44			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 126							
Main	B2-1st L	Three Year Olds	2	14	C	20	C	27	C	Outside
Main	Bck end 3L	Two Year Olds	1	8	C	17	C	23	C	Transitioning
Main	Front entry 1r	One Year Olds	1	5	C	13	C	NA	NA	Lunch,Nap
Main	Middle back	Infants	1	3	C	10	C	NA	NA	Nap,Lunch
Main	Rear entry 2L		0	0	C	22	C	30	C	
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 82			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 126							
Total # Children this Date: 53			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 126			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 126				

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	Left Playground	50	C

Comments

An Administrative Review was conducted on August 27, 2021. Staff files, children's files, training, and background checks were all reviewed.

A virtual inspection was conducted on August 27, 2021 with the Director. An in-person visit was not conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

On this date the consultant discussed rule changes effective October 01, 2020.

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), e-mail the following information to CCSRefutations@dec.state.ga.us.

- 1) Facility name, license number and visit date
- 2) Your name, title/relationship to the facility, e-mail address & up to two phone number(s) where you can be reached
- 3) Specific rule number(s) that you are refuting, along with your concerns or questions regarding the rule citation

Refutations must be submitted to Child Care Services (CCS) within 10 business days of the completion date.

A sample form for submitting a refutation can be found at: <http://dec.state.ga.us/ChildCareServices/RefutationInformation.aspx>

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 New Deadlines:

Your program must be Quality Rated by December 31, 2020 in order to continue to receive Childcare and Parent Services (CAPS).

Get started today! Sign up by completing a short online application: <https://qualityrated.dec.state.ga.us/>
Request free technical assistance to help you earn your star rating by contacting the Quality Rated help desk at 855-800-7747 or qualityrated@dec.state.ga.us

Essie Baker, Program Official

Date

Verlyn Gant, Consultant

Date



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Findings Report

Date: 8/27/2021 **VisitType:** Licensing Study

Arrival: 10:00 AM

Departure: 12:15 PM

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The following information is associated with a Licensing Study:

Activities and Equipment

591-1-1-.03 Activities

Met

Correction Deadline: 8/17/2021

Corrected on 8/27/2021

.03(9) - Previous citation was observed to be corrected during this visit, in that center staff received training ensuring that they refrain from engaging in, or allowing children or other adults to engage in, activities that could be detrimental to a child's health or well-being.

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

Records Reviewed: 5

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 1

Child # 1

Met

Child # 2

Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.08(3)-Address of Release Person Missing

Child # 3

Met

Child # 4

Met

Child # 5

Met

591-1-1-.08 Children's Records**Technical Assistance****Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.08(1) - requires the Center Staff to maintain a file for each child while such child is in care and for one year after that child is no longer enrolled. In order for the file to be complete, the file shall contain the following: child's name, birth date, sex, address, living arrangement, name of school if applicable; names of both Parents, home and work addresses, and home and work telephone numbers; name(s) and addresses of the person(s) to whom the child may be released including address, telephone numbers, relationship to child and to Parent(s), and other identifying information; name(s) and telephone number(s) of person(s) to contact in emergencies when the Parent cannot be reached; name and telephone number of the child's primary source of health care; and a statement regarding known allergies, physical problems, mental health disorders, mental retardation or developmental disabilities which limit the child's participation in the program. Please ensure all children's files contain addresses of the person(s) to whom the child may be released.

Correction Deadline: 8/27/2021**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****Comment**

Center appears clean and well maintained.

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

Discussed maintenance of resilient surface. Please fluff and redistribute.

Correction Deadline: 8/17/2021**Corrected on 8/27/2021**

.26(4) - Previous citation was observed to be corrected during this visit, in that each the gate to the two-year-old classroom had been repaired.

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

591-1-1-.15(2)(c) - Please ensure the new updated infant feeding form is used. Discussed revision to the written feeding plans for children under the age of 1 years old. Age-appropriate solid foods (including cereal) shall not be given to infants or children less than one (1) year of age until recommended as developmentally appropriate by the child's primary care physician and indicated in writing by the Parent(s). As soon as the feeding plan indicates that a child is ready for solid foods, the child shall be fed from individual spoons and individual containers or dishes. A child shall not be fed directly from the original baby food container if the contents are to be fed to the child at more than one (1) meal or to more than one (1) child.

Correction Deadline: 8/27/2021

Comment

591-1-1-.15(7) - Discussed new revision to restricted food rule which states: Foods that are associated with young children's choking incidents, such as, but not limited to, peanuts, hot dogs, raw carrots, popcorn, fish with bones, cheese cubes, grapes and any other food that is of similar shape and size of the trachea/windpipe shall not be served to the children less than four (4) years of age. Children older than four (4) years of age may be served these foods provided that the foods are cut in such a way as to minimize choking.

Correction Deadline: 8/27/2021

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****Comment**

Staff were observed to remind children to wash hands.

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

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

Policies and Procedures**591-1-1-.21 Operational Policies & Procedures****Technical Assistance****Comment**

591-1-1-.21(1)(p) - requires the Center to have a written plan for handling emergencies, including but not limited to severe weather, loss of electrical power or water and death, serious injury or loss of a child, a threatening event, or natural disaster which may occur at the Center; to have in place procedures for evacuation, relocation, shelter-in-place, lock-down, communication and reunification with families, and continuity of operations. The plan must apply to all children in care and include specific accommodations for infants and toddlers, children with disabilities, and children with chronic medical conditions and shall include assurance that no Center Personnel will impede in any way the delivery of emergency care or services to a child by licensed or certified emergency health care professionals. Ensure the emergency preparedness plan is review and updated to include severe weather, loss of electrical power or water and death, serious injury or loss of a child, a threatening event, or natural disaster which may occur at the Center; also shelter-in-place, lock-down, communication and reunification with families, and continuity of operations.

Correction Deadline: 9/1/2021

Technical Assistance

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. Please ensure that the facility has an updated drill log and ensure that tornado and other emergency situation drills are conducted every six months. Consultant provided the facility with a copy of the updated drill log.

Correction Deadline: 9/1/2021

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

Center does not keep animals on premises.

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

Regulations regarding proper discipline were discussed with the director 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)	Not Met
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Comment

A current/completed inspection was observed for all vehicles used in transporting children this date.

Comment

The vehicle had an approved fire extinguisher and first aid kit on this date.

Finding

591-1-1-.36(7)(b) requires that an emergency medical information record be maintained in the vehicle for each child being transported. The emergency medical information record for each child shall include a listing of the child's full name, date of birth, allergies, special medical needs and conditions, current prescribed medications that the child is required to take on a daily basis for a chronic condition, the name and telephone number of the child's doctor, the local medical facility that the Center uses in the area where the Center is located and the telephone numbers where the Parents can be reached. It was determined based on a review of records that the emergency medical information record for each child did not include the telephone number of the child's doctor.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will obtain a complete emergency medical information record for each child that is transported and maintain a copy on the vehicle.

Correction Deadline: 8/28/2021

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

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

Discussed SIDS and infant sleeping position.

Comment

Pleasant naptime environment observed.

Staff Records

Records Reviewed: 15	Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 2
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Staff # 1	Met
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Date of Hire: 08/01/2018

Staff # 2	Met
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Date of Hire: 08/17/2021

Reminder - Health & Safety training is required within 90 calendar days of hired

Staff # 3	Not Met
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Date of Hire: 01/06/2014

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(5)-10 Hrs. Annual Training

Records Reviewed: 15**Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 2**

Staff # 4 Not Met

Date of Hire: 08/08/2015

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(5)-10 Hrs. Annual Training

Staff # 5 Met

Date of Hire: 08/18/1988

Staff # 6 Met

Date of Hire: 08/01/2012

Staff # 7 Met

Date of Hire: 07/26/2021

Reminder - Health & Safety training is required within 90 calendar days of hired

Staff # 8 Met

Staff # 9 Met

Staff # 10 Met

Date of Hire: 11/30/2020

Staff # 11 Met

Staff # 12 Met

Date of Hire: 04/09/2021

Staff # 13 Met

Date of Hire: 08/10/2020

Staff # 14 Met

Date of Hire: 03/20/2021

Staff # 15 Met

Date of Hire: 11/15/2013

Staff Credentials Reviewed: 10

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

Comment

Criminal record checks were observed to be complete.

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

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 records that staff member #3 and staff member #4 had not completed the annual ten (10) hours of training for the 2020 calendar year as required.

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: 9/26/2021

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)**Met****Comment**

Center observed to maintain appropriate staff:child ratios.

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

Adequate supervision observed on this date.

Comment

591-1-1-.32(7) - Discussed new revision to the supervision rule which states: Staff shall be attentive and participating with all children during mealtimes and shall be seated within an arm's length away from children thirty-six (36) months of age and younger.

Correction Deadline: 8/27/2021