



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: 2/23/2024 VisitType: Licensing Study

Arrival: 9:30 AM

Departure: 12:40 PM

CCLC-25652

Joyful Journeys CEC

8358 Fortson Court Fortson, GA 31808 Muscogee County
(706) 507-7890 joyfuljourneys2008@yahoo.com

Regional Consultant

Penny Svenson

Phone: (470) 346-1037

Fax: (678) 891-5613

penny.svenson@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.
02/23/2024	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
09/05/2023	Incident Investigation Closure	Good Standing	
09/05/2023	Incident Investigation/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	Rm A (BR2)	Infants	2	10	C	12	C	NA	NA	Floor Play,Feeding
Main	Rm B (BR1)	Infants	1	6	C	12	C	NA	NA	Nap,Floor Play,Feeding
Main	Rm C (K4)	Four Year Olds	1	13	C	14	C	NA	NA	Outside
Main	Rm F (K2A)	Two Year Olds	2	18	C	20	C	NA	NA	Centers
Main	Rm G (K1B)	One Year Olds	2	10	C	16	C	NA	NA	Free Play,Centers
Main	Rm H (K1A)	One Year Olds	2	13	C	16	C	NA	NA	Circle Time,Centers,Free Play
Main	Rm I (K2B)	Two Year Olds and Three Year Olds	2	17	C	20	C	NA	NA	Free Play,Centers,Art
Main	Room D (K3)	Three Year Olds	2	24	C	30	C	NA	NA	Free Play,Centers
Main	Room E ASP		0	0	C	14	C	NA	NA	
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 154					Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					
Total # Children this Date: 111					Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	Playground-2 yrs	24	C
Main	Playground3-12	32	C

Comments

February 23, 2024--The Licensing Study was completed on this date. The findings were discussed with the Director.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 02/23/2024

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.al.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!

Marissa Taylor, Program Official

Date

Penny Svenson, Regional Consultant

Date



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

(Findings Report)

Date: 2/23/2024 VisitType: Licensing Study Arrival: 9:30 AM Departure: 12:40 PM

CCLC-25652

Joyful Journeys CEC

8358 Fortson Court Fortson, GA 31808 Muscogee County
(706) 507-7890 joyfuljourneys2008@yahoo.com

Regional Consultant

Penny Svenson

Phone: (470) 346-1037

Fax: (678) 891-5613

penny.svenson@decal.ga.gov

Mailing Address
Same

The following information is associated with a Licensing Study:

Activities and Equipment

591-1-1-.03 Activities

Met

Correction Deadline: 9/5/2023

Corrected on 2/23/2024

The correction was made. Staff were informed to not allow children to sit on top of the table and to sit on the bench instead.

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

Not Met

Finding

591-1-1-.12(2) requires that all equipment and furniture be free from hazardous conditions such as, but not limited to, sharp rough edges or toxic paint; and be kept clean. It was determined based on observation that area rugs in multiple classrooms posed a tripping hazard when the rugs were curled up on the edges. Further, the two blue cushions on the chairs in the reading area in Room I had a rip in the top of each chair. Also, the chairs were stacked in Room G and H and a fall hazard was posed.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will ensure that equipment and furniture are used by the age-appropriate group of children.

Correction Deadline: 2/23/2024

Finding

591-1-1-.12(6) requires that a variety of age-appropriate toys and play materials be available, stored on low, open shelves accessible to children in each room or assigned area. It was determined based on observation that there were four shelves closed or turned around to the wall in Room G and children did not have access to toys as required.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center director will ensure there is a variety of age-appropriate toys and play materials in each room for each age group. that are stored on low, open shelves accessible to children.

Correction Deadline: 3/24/2024

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

Center does not provide swimming activities.

Children's Records

591-1-1-.08 Children's Records**Met****Comment**

Records were observed to be complete and well organized.

Facility

591-1-1-.06 Bathrooms**Met****Comment**

Please monitor bathrooms for necessary supplies.

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**

Please secure cleaning tools (i.e., broom, plunger) out of reach of children.

Finding

591-1-1-.25(11) requires that floor coverings be tight, smooth, free of odors and washable or cleanable. It was determined based on observation that the floor in Room E had three areas that part of the flooring was missing and the floor was not tight and smooth and washable and cleanable as required.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

Floors will be maintained to be safe and sanitary.

Correction Deadline: 3/24/2024

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

The playground was not open due to rain that occurred on February 23, 2024. Further, the playground was scheduled to be renovated starting February 26, 2024. The playground will be inspected on the following regulatory visit.

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. The hole will be filled in.

Correction Deadline: 9/8/2023

Food Service

591-1-1-.15 Food Service & Nutrition**Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.15(4) requires that a feeding chair or similar equipment designed for feeding children shall be provided for the use of each child being fed who is capable of sitting up but who is unable to sit unassisted at a table and must be cleaned with a disinfectant after each use. Such chair or similar equipment shall have a broad base to prevent tipping, a surface that the child cannot raise, a strap or other device which prevents the child from sliding out of the chair, and a feeding surface free of cracks. It was determined based on observation that an infant that was capable of sitting up but unable to sit unassisted at a table was observed to lie on a boppy pillow while they drank their own bottle and they were not provided a highchair or held for feeding as required.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will inspect feeding equipment to ensure it meets each of the listed criteria and to verify a feeding chair or equipment is provided for each child who requires one. The Center will train staff and monitor to ensure that the feeding equipment is cleaned with a disinfectant after each use.

Correction Deadline: 2/23/2024

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)**Technical Assistance****Technical Assistance**

The Consultant discussed with the Director to ensure lids remain on trash containing organic waste.

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

Documentation for medication dispensing observed complete.

Safety

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

Center does not keep animals on premises.

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

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

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

Field trip documentation observed to be complete.

591-1-1-.36 Transportation(CR)**Met****Comment**

Complete documentation of transportation observed.

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

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

Comment

Pleasant naptime environment observed.

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-.14 First Aid & CPR	Met
--	------------

Comment

Evidence observed of 100% of center staff certified in First Aid and CPR.

591-1-1-.33 Staff Training	Met
-----------------------------------	------------

Comment

Documentation observed of required staff training.

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

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