



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: 8/25/2023 **VisitType:** Complaint Investigation & Monitoring Visit **Arrival:** 8:05 AM **Departure:** 11:45 AM

CCLC-33042

Valley Oaks Learning Center

154 Valley Hill Rd. Suite A and B Riverdale, GA 30274 Clayton County
 (770) 471-3377 valleyoakslearningcenter@gmail.com

Regional Consultant

Nadia Bernard

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Mailing Address

1415 hwy 85 n, Ste. 310-194
 Fayetteville, GA 30214

Quality Rated: No

<u>Compliance Zone Designation</u>		
08/25/2023	Complaint Investigation & Monitoring Visit	Support
08/25/2023	Complaint Closure	Good Standing
01/11/2023	Licensing Study	Good Standing

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.

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	Room A - Far Right	One Year Olds	1	5	NC	13	C	NA	NA	Centers
Main	Room B - 2nd Right	Two Year Olds	1	5	C	13	C	NA	NA	Centers
Main	Room C - Left		0	0	C	30	C	41	C	
Main	Room D; 3yr olds	Three Year Olds	1	5	C	7	C	NA	NA	Music, Circle Time
Main	Room E; 4 yr olds	Four Year Olds	1	4	C	7	C	NA	NA	Music
Main	Room F; Infant	Infants	1	3	C	5	C	NA	NA	Feeding
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 75					Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 86					
Total # Children this Date: 22					Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 86					

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	Main Playground	26	C

Comments

Plan to be submitted by September 11, 2023.

Plan of Improvement: To Be Submitted 09/11/2023

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!

Teneria Green, Program Official

Date

Nadia Bernard, 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-.03 Activities

Technical Assistance

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.03(2) - Consultant discussed with the provider that the department requires the Center to keep current lesson plans on site that reflect appropriate instruction practices and activities to support children's development. The Center shall have sufficient and varied play and learning equipment and materials to support the above program of activities in all developmental areas.

Correction Deadline: 8/25/2023

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

Met

Comment

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

Comment

Discussed rotating toys to support the procedures of daily disinfecting.

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

Met

Comment

Center does not provide swimming activities.

Facility

591-1-1-.06 Bathrooms

Technical Assistance

Comment

Please monitor bathrooms for necessary supplies.

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.06(4) - Consultant discussed with the provider that the department requires the Center to keep current lesson plans on site that reflect appropriate instruction practices and activities to support children's development. The Center shall have sufficient and varied play and learning equipment and materials to support the above program of activities in all developmental areas.

Correction Deadline: 9/24/2023

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

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 in Room D a staff members personal bag was located on the children's cubby hooks adjacent the boys bathroom.

Correction Deadline: 8/25/2023

591-1-1-.26 Playgrounds(CR) Not Met

Comment

Trees located on the site or that encroach onto the site from adjacent properties may have structural issues that present an elevated level of risk. Consider having these trees inspected by a certified arborist to determine their structural integrity and associated levels of risk.

Correction Deadline: 1/11/2023

Corrected on 8/25/2023

.26(4) - Citation observed to be corrected on this date. Consultant observed the rear exiting fence to be in good repair.

Finding

591-1-1-.26(4) requires that playgrounds be protected from traffic or other hazards by a (4) four foot high fence or other barrier approved by this Department. Fencing material shall not present a hazard to children and shall be maintained so as to prevent children from leaving the playground area by any means other than through an approved access route. Fence gates shall be kept closed except when persons are entering or exiting the area. It was determined based on observation that there was open gap at the bottom of the fence on the left perimeter that measured eight feet and eleven inches in length. Additionally, there was a twelve to fourteen inch wide hole in the ground under the fence gap.

Correction Deadline: 8/31/2023

Finding

591-1-1-.26(8) requires climbing and swinging equipment to have a resilient surface beneath the equipment and the fall zone from such equipment must be adequately maintained by the Center to assure continuing resilience. It was determined based on observation that there was an inadequate amount of resilient surface under the red slide measuring less than 3 inches when a depth requirement of six inches is needed for equipment measuring five feet or higher. Additional, the resilient surface under the swings measures one inch in depth under the fall zones.

Correction Deadline: 8/31/2023

Recited on 8/25/2023

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.26(9) - Consultant discussed with the provider that the department requires the playground to be kept clean, free from litter and free of hazards, such as but not limited to rocks, exposed tree roots, discarded materials ,and exposed sharp edges of concrete.

Correction Deadline: 8/25/2023

	Food Service
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591-1-1-.15 Food Service & Nutrition**Met****Correction Deadline: 1/11/2023****Corrected on 8/25/2023**

.15(3) - Citation observed to be corrected on this date. Consultant observed infant bottles to be prepared by parents from home.

Health and Hygiene

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

Hand washing requirements for diapering were discussed with the director on this date.

591-1-1-.17 Hygiene(CR)**Technical Assistance****Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.17(7) - Consultant discussed with the provider that the department requires that children wash their hands with liquid soap and warm running water upon arrival for care, when moving from one child care group to another, upon re-entering the child care area after outside play, before and after eating meals and snacks, handling or touching food, playing in water; after toileting and diapering, playing in sand, touching animals or pets, and contact with bodily fluids and after contamination by any other means.

Correction Deadline: 8/25/2023

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

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

Policies and Procedures

591-1-1-.21 Operational Policies & Procedures**Not Met****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 review of documents that fire drills for the months of April and July 2023 were incomplete.

Correction Deadline: 8/31/2023

Recited on 8/25/2023

Safety

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

Age-appropriate discussion and/or redirection observed.

Comment

Please include address of destinations on transportation checklist.

Comment

The vehicle had an approved fire extinguisher.

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 documents that five out of seventeen children transported were missing their Vehicle Emergency Medical Information forms.

Correction Deadline: 8/25/2023

Sleeping & Resting Equipment**591-1-1-.30 Safe Sleeping and Resting Requirements(CR)**

Met

Correction Deadline: 1/11/2023

Corrected on 8/25/2023

.30(1)(a)3 - Citation observed to be corrected on this date. Staff stated that infant sheets are changed daily.

Staff Records

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

Consultant requested to view all Criminal Record checks for employees hired after last visit. Director stated that there have been no new hires since last visit

Comment

Criminal record checks were observed to be complete.

591-1-1-.33 Staff Training**Defer****Defer**

591-1-1-.33(5)-Staff have until December 31, 2023 to complete the required ten hours of diverse annual training.

Correction Deadline: 12/31/2023

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**

Discussed combining children of mixed ages.

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

Adequate supervision observed on this date.