



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: 2/10/2025 **VisitType:** Complaint Investigation Follow Up **Arrival:** 10:00 AM **Departure:** 3:00 PM

CCLC-50809

Paulding Head Start Center

145 Academy Drive Dallas, GA 30132 Paulding County
(770) 505-4356 kathleenb@tallatoonacap.org

Regional Consultant

Kaiyah Werts

Phone: (912) 544-9793

Fax: (912) 544-9757

kaiyah.werts@decal.ga.gov

Mailing Address

Same

Quality Rated: No

<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.
02/10/2025	Complaint Investigation Follow Up	Good Standing	
12/06/2024	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
01/09/2024	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 Building	A - 1st Left	Three Year Olds	3	14	C	20	C	29	C	Transitioning
Main Building	B - 2nd Left		0	0	C	20	C	29	C	
Main Building	C - 3rd Left	GA PreK	2	13	C	23	C	33	C	Circle Time
Main Building	D - 4th Left	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	2	10	C	21	C	29	C	Breakfast
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 84					Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 120					
Total # Children this Date: 37			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 84			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 120				

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main Building	Playground A	66	C
Main Building	Playground B	105	C

Comments

The purpose of this visit is to conduct a complaint investigation and a follow up to the previous visit.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date

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 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.al.ga.gov 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 Complaint Investigation Follow Up:

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

Records Reviewed: 18

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 3

Staff # 1

Not Met

Date of Hire: 08/01/2024

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.09-Criminal Records Check Missing

Staff # 5

Not Met

Date of Hire: 01/27/2025

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

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.09-Criminal Records Check Missing

Staff # 11

Not Met

Date of Hire: 12/06/2024

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

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.09-Criminal Records Check Missing

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

Met

Correction Deadline: 12/6/2024

Corrected on 2/10/2025

.30(4) - Previous citation corrected in that all classrooms in use had cots stored in the classroom that were covered on this date.

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

Not Met

Comment

Director provided two files for employees hired since last visit.

Finding

591-1-1-.09(1)(j) requires that for portability for Directors, Employees and Provisional Employees, excluding Students-in-Training, only the most recently issued determination letter is eligible for portability and must be ported electronically. A Center may accept a satisfactory Fingerprint Records Check Determination letter or a satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination letter issued by the Department if the Records Check Clearance Date is within the preceding 12 months from the hire date, the individual has not had a lapse of employment from the child care industry that lasted for 180 days (6 months) or longer, and the Center does not know or reasonably should not know that the individual's satisfactory status has changed.

It was determined based on review of records that staff number one, hired August 1, 2024 and staff number 11, hired December 6, 2024 were hired through a third party to offer additional services for the children and were not present and caring for children at the time of the visit. Both staff had a satisfactory background check that was not ported to the facility's license. Also, staff number five, hired January 27, 2025 was present and caring for children with a satisfactory criminal background check that was not ported to the center's license before their start date.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

IMMEDIATE CORRECTION - The Center will view videos to ensure that only the most recently issued determination letter is electronically ported for Directors, Employees and Provisional Employees, excluding Students-in-Training. A Center may accept a satisfactory Fingerprint Records Check Determination letter or a satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination letter issued by the Department if the Records Check Clearance Date is within the preceding 12 months from the hire date, the individual has not had a lapse of employment from the child care industry that lasted for 180 days (6 months) or longer, and the Center does not know or reasonably should not know that the individual's satisfactory status has changed. 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 view videos to ensure CRC rules are maintained.

Correction Deadline: 2/10/2025

Recited on 2/10/2025