



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

Cover Sheet

Date: 12/17/2021 **VisitType:** Licensing Study

Arrival: 9:00 AM

Departure: 10:30 AM

CCLC-53257

Excel Early Learning Center

54 Seventh Street Emerson, GA 30137 Bartow County
 (770) 382-9040 Virons@excelca.org

Regional Consultant

Chasity Baugh

Phone: (770) 357-1717

Fax: (770) 357-1720

chasity.baugh@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.
12/17/2021	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
10/07/2021	Complaint Investigation & Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
08/05/2021	Incident Investigation Closure	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	Cafeteria		0	0	C	72	C	NA	NA	
Main	Room A	Two Year Olds	2	7	C	20	C	NA	NA	Centers
Main	Room B	One Year Olds	3	13	C	16	C	NA	NA	Free Play
Main	Room C	Infants and One Year Olds	2	8	C	12	C	NA	NA	Feeding,Floor Play
Main	Room D	Two Year Olds and Three Year Olds	1	5	C	10	C	NA	NA	Centers
Main	Room E	Three Year Olds	2	13	C	16	C	NA	NA	Art
Main	Room F	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	1	15	C	18	C	NA	NA	Centers
Main	Room G	GA PreK	2	19	C	18	NC	NA	NA	Circle Time
		Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 120			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0		Building @35 capacity limited by Playground Limitations			
Total # Children this Date: 80		Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 120			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	Playground A	40	C

Comments

An Administrative Review was conducted on December 17, 2021. Staff files, children's files, training, and background checks were all reviewed. A virtual inspection was conducted on December 17, 2021 with the Provider. An in-person visit was not conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 12/17/2021

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



Important New Deadlines:

Due to the ongoing COVID restrictions, the deadline to become Quality Rated for programs who want to continue to receive Childcare and Parent Services (CAPS), has been extended to at least December 31, 2021.

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

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)

Valerie Irons, Program Official

Date

Chasity Baugh, Consultant

Date



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Findings Report

Date: 12/17/2021 **VisitType:** Licensing Study

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Departure: 10:30 AM

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The following information is associated with a Licensing Study:

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.

Children's Records

Records Reviewed: 5

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 0

Child # 1	Met
Child # 2	Met
Child # 3	Met
Child # 4	Met
Child # 5	Met

591-1-1.08 Children's Records

Met

Comment

Records were observed to be complete and well organized.

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****Comment**

Center appears clean and well maintained.

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 the bathroom of classroom A a toilet brush and broom was stored in the children's restroom. Additionally in classroom D and classroom F, a toilet brush was stored in the children's restroom. Furthermore, in classroom E, a plunger was stored in the children's restroom.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will identify all hazardous items and keep them in a locked area inaccessible to children. The Center will inform all Staff about hazardous items and the safe storage of those items.

Correction Deadline: 12/17/2021

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

Playground observed to be clean and in good repair.

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

Center menu meets USDA guidelines.

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**

Proper hand washing observed throughout the center.

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

Documentation for medication dispensing observed complete.

Policies and Procedures**591-1-1-.29 Required Reporting****Met****Comment**

Thank you for reporting as required.

Safety

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

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

591-1-1-.36 Transportation(CR)	N/A
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Comment

Center does not provide routine transportation.

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.

Staff Records

Records Reviewed: 25

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 4
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Staff # 1	Not Met
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Date of Hire: 09/01/2021

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.14(2)-CPR missing,.14(2)-First Aid Missing

Staff # 2	Not Met
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Date of Hire: 08/12/2021

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.14(2)-CPR missing,.14(2)-First Aid Missing

Staff # 3	Met
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Date of Hire: 04/12/2021

Staff # 4	Met
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Date of Hire: 10/14/1994

Staff # 5	Met
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Date of Hire: 10/01/2021

Staff # 6	Met
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Date of Hire: 07/18/2017

Staff # 7	Met
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Date of Hire: 03/08/2021

Staff # 8	Not Met
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Date of Hire: 08/16/2021

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.14(2)-CPR missing,.14(2)-First Aid Missing

Staff # 9	Met
Date of Hire: 06/25/2018	
Staff # 10	Met
Date of Hire: 11/01/2021	<u>Reminder - Health & Safety training is required within 90 calendar days of hired</u>
Staff # 11	Met
Date of Hire: 12/14/2020	
Staff # 12	Met
Date of Hire: 03/02/2018	
Staff # 13	Met
Date of Hire: 08/24/2017	
Staff # 14	Met
Date of Hire: 10/12/2017	
Staff # 15	Met
Date of Hire: 02/12/2020	
Staff # 16	Met
Date of Hire: 08/07/2017	
Staff # 17	Met
Date of Hire: 04/22/2021	
Staff # 18	Met
Date of Hire: 10/07/2019	
Staff # 19	Met
Date of Hire: 07/22/2021	
Staff # 20	Met
Date of Hire: 07/31/2012	
Staff # 21	Met
Date of Hire: 02/06/2019	
Staff # 22	Met
Date of Hire: 06/01/2020	
Staff # 23	Met
Date of Hire: 01/28/2020	

Staff # 24

Met

Date of Hire: 08/16/1993

Staff # 25

Not Met

Date of Hire: 07/16/2020

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.14(2)-CPR missing,.14(2)-First Aid Missing

Staff Credentials Reviewed: 4**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**Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.14(2) requires a Staff member who is trained in CPR and first aid to be on the premises and on any field trip whenever any child is present. In addition, Staff who provide direct care to children must satisfactorily obtain certification in first aid and CPR by December 29, 2016 if employed prior to September 30, 2016 and within 90 days of their hire date if employed after September 30, 2016. It was determined based on review of records staff members #1, #2, #8 and #25 did not have proof of CPR and First Aid Certification on file.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will develop a schedule to ensure there is always a staff person with current first aid and CPR training present and will develop and implement a plan to ensure all staff members have satisfactorily completed first aid and CPR training by the specified date.

Correction Deadline: 1/16/2022**591-1-1-.33 Staff Training****Met****Comment**

Documentation observed of required staff training.

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

Discussed that all lead staff must enroll in an approved education program within 6 months of hire and complete degree within 18 months.

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****Correction Deadline: 6/16/2021****Corrected on 12/17/2021**

.32(7) - This citation has been corrected as prompt supervision was observed during the virtual visit.

