



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: 11/14/2024 VisitType: Licensing Study

Arrival: 10:30 AM Departure: 3:05 PM

CCLC-24470

Gateway Academy & Childcare Center

745 Six Flags Dr. Austell, GA 30168 Cobb County
(770) 948-7201 helengwude@yahoo.com

Regional Consultant

Laura Swann

Phone: (706) 855-3454

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laura.swann@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.
11/14/2024	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
11/15/2023	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
06/21/2023	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	A-first left	One Year Olds	1	6	C	12	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main	B Second Left	Infants and One Year Olds	2	4	C	12	C	NA	NA	Feeding, Floor Play
Main	C-3 year old (3rd left)		0	0	C	23	C	NA	NA	
Main	E (first right)	One Year Olds	1	5	C	20	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main	Fdownstairs (3rd right)		0	0	C	14	C	NA	NA	
Main	G downstairs second right	Three Year Olds	1	9	C	18	C	NA	NA	Centers
Main	H (downstairs first right)	GA PreK	2	13	C	19	C	NA	NA	Centers
Main	I downstairs first left		0	0	C	20	C	NA	NA	
Main	J downstairs 2nd left	GA PreK	2	16	C	25	C	NA	NA	Centers
Main	Room D (second right)	Two Year Olds	2	10	C	20	C	NA	NA	Nap

Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 183

Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0

Total # Children this Date: 63

Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 183

Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	Infant Playground	7	C
Main	Middle Toddler Playground	15	C

Enrolled Children						
Under 1 years	1 years	2 years	3 years	4 years	5 years (Prekonly)	5 years and older
5	12	14	11	34	0	15

Comments

Licensing study completed on November 14, 2024.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 11/14/2024

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!



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(Findings Report)

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The following information is associated with a Licensing Study:

Activities and Equipment

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

Not Met

Comment

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

Finding

591-1-1-.12(4) requires that equipment and furniture is secured if it is of a weight or mass that could cause injury from tipping, falling, or being pulled or pushed over. It was determined based on observation that the following items needed to be secured:

H downstairs first right - the television and copier.

J downstairs second right- the television.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will ensure that the identified equipment or furniture and any other such existing or future items are secured adequately and will have a system for checking these for stability.

Correction Deadline: 11/18/2024

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.

Evening Care

591-1-1-.32 Staffing/Supervision(CR)

Met

Comment

No evening care hours provided

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 the following classrooms had hazards accessible to children

D downstairs second right- On a low shelf were "Parent's Choice" wipes. In the cubbies was "Triple Paste" zinc ointment. In front of the teacher's desk was hand sanitizer.

E first right- In an unlocked cabinet under the diaper changing station were "Lysol" wipes and diapers in plastic bags.

H downstairs first right- In plastic drawers behind the teacher's desk were adult scissors, batteries, and a tape dispenser. In an unlocked black metal cabinet were "Lysol" disinfectant spray and rubbing alcohol. Further, in the cubbies to the left of the entrance door had printer ink.

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: 11/14/2024

Finding

591-1-1-.25(3) requires the Center and surrounding premises to be kept clean, free of debris and in good repair. Hygienic measures such as, but not limited to, screened windows and proper waste disposal procedures shall be utilized to minimize the presence of rodents, flies, roaches and other vermin at the Center. It was determined based on observation that the following items needed to be cleaned/repared:

J downstairs second left - To the right of the door leading outside was an area of the sheet rock that was coming apart with a metal strip exposed measuring 11 inches in length. Further, the baseboards and window seals were dusty and needed cleaning.

H downstairs first right- The room needed to be simplified. Items not being used could be stored in the closet.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will have the Center and surrounding areas cleaned, make repairs where needed, and remove all debris is removed. The Center will implement a plan to keep areas clean and in good repair that includes regular monitoring.

Correction Deadline: 11/21/2024

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.25(8) - Consultant reviewed with the director as follows: requires protective caps on all unused electrical outlets within children's reach and requires that electrical outlets in use be made inaccessible to children.

Correction Deadline: 11/14/2024

591-1-1-.26 Playgrounds(CR)**Not Met****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 on the left side playground the third section of metal fencing was not attached at the top.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will routinely check the fence to determine if it is in good repair and remains at least 4 feet high, and will repair any hazards. The Center will train Staff to identify and report any fence hazards and to keep the fence gates closed when not in use.

Correction Deadline: 11/21/2024

Finding

591-1-1-.26(6) requires that playground equipment provide an opportunity for the children to engage in a variety of experiences and shall be age-appropriate. For example, toddlers shall not be permitted to swing in swings designed for School-age Children. The outdoor equipment shall be free of lead-based paint, sharp corners and shall be regularly maintained in such a way as to be free of rust and splinters that could pose significant safety hazard to the children. All equipment shall be arranged so as not to obstruct supervision of children. It was determined based on observation that the two bucket swings on the left side playground were cracked and missing protective coating on the outside of the seat. Further, it was determined that the mushroom plastic play structure and the red, blue and yellow climbing structures needed cleaning.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will provide a variety of age-appropriate equipment that is arranged so as not to obstruct supervision of children. Staff will check the equipment daily to ensure that the equipment is free of hazards, rust and splinters.

Correction Deadline: 11/24/2024

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

Infant feeding forms are updated regularly.

Health and Hygiene**591-1-1-.07 Children's Health****Technical Assistance****Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.07(5) - Consultant reviewed with the director: requires Center Staff to not permit children to wear around their necks or attach to their clothing pacifiers or other hazardous items.

Correction Deadline: 11/14/2024

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)**Met****Comment**

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

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

Age-appropriate discussion and/or redirection observed.

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

Field trip documentation observed to be complete.

591-1-1-.36 Transportation(CR)**Technical Assistance****Comment**

Complete documentation of transportation observed.

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.36(4)(b) - Please continue to monitor the interior of the bus for trash and remove when present.

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.

Comment

Director provided 6 file(s) for employees hired since last visit.

591-1-1-.14 First Aid & CPR

Met

Correction Deadline: 12/15/2023

Corrected on 11/14/2024

.14(2) - Correction observed on this date. Current staff obtained CPR and first aid with the first 90 days of their hire date.

591-1-1-.33 Staff Training

Met

Correction Deadline: 12/15/2023

Corrected on 11/14/2024

.33(3) - Correction observed on this date. Current staff completed health and safety orientation training within the first 90 days of employment.

Correction Deadline: 12/15/2023

Corrected on 11/14/2024

.33(4) - Correction observed on this date. The director and cook completed four clock hours of training in food nutrition planning, preparation, serving, proper dish washing and food storage.

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.