



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: 9/3/2024 **VisitType:** Monitoring Visit

Arrival: 10:20 AM **Departure:** 4:00 PM

CCLC-52434

Lake Dow Learning Academy

616 Highway 81 East McDonough, GA 30252 Henry County
(770) 957-7647 vivianterry1@yahoo.com

Regional Consultant

April Brown

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april.brown@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.
09/03/2024	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
04/17/2024	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
08/01/2023	Complaint 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
Bldg 1	A 1st Left	Infants	1	3	C	5	C	NA	NA	Nap,Floor Play
Bldg 1	B 2nd Left (behind 1st L)	One Year Olds and Two Year Olds	2	12	C	14	C	NA	NA	Floor Play,Diapering
Bldg 1	C 3rd Left		0	0	C	9	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Bldg 1	D Middle Front	One Year Olds	2	8	C	8	C	NA	NA	Free Play,Diapering
Bldg 1	E Middle Back	Two Year Olds	2	6	C	15	C	NA	NA	Free Play
Bldg 1	F 1st Right (off Cafeteria)		0	0	C	17	C	NA	NA	
Bldg 1	G 2nd Right	Three Year Olds	1	9	C	14	C	NA	NA	Free Play
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 75					Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0		Building @35 capacity limited by Fire Marshall Limitations			
Bldg 2	H 1L: Private Pre-K	Four Year Olds	1	7	C	14	C	NA	NA	Lunch
Bldg 2	I 2L: Afterschool		0	0	C	14	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Bldg 2	J 3L: Afterschool		0	0	C	15	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Bldg 2	K 3R: Afterschool		0	0	C	16	C	NA	NA	
Bldg 2	L 2R: Private Pre-K	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	1	8	C	14	C	NA	NA	Circle Time
Bldg 2	M 1R: Private Pre-K		0	0	C	14	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 88					Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0		Building @35 capacity limited by Fire Marshall Limitations			
Total # Children this Date: 53		Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 163			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Bldg 1	A Toddler	22	C
Bldg 1	B Preschool	45	C
Bldg 1	C School age	75	C
Bldg 1	D Preschool	43	C
Bldg 1	E School age	48	C

Enrolled Children						
Under 1 years	1 years	2 years	3 years	4 years	5 years (Prekonly)	5 years and older
4	11	20	19	11	0	25

Comments

A monitoring visit was completed on this date.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 09/03/2024

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.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 Monitoring Visit:

Activities and Equipment

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

Technical Assistance

Comment

Equipment and furniture observed to be properly secured, as applicable on this date.

Technical Assistance

Please ensure that a variety of age-appropriate toys and play materials are available, stored on low, open shelves accessible to children in each room or assigned area for the afterschool / school aged classrooms. Carpets in Classrooms B, E, G and J also need to be cleaned or replaced. The director will order materials by COB: September 6, 2024 and submit pictures to the Department upon arrival.

Correction Deadline: 10/3/2024

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

N/A

Comment

Center does not provide swimming activities on this date.

Facility

591-1-1-.19 License Capacity(CR)

Met

Comment

Licensed capacity observed to be met by the center on this date.

591-1-1-.25 Physical Plant - Safe Environment(CR)

Met

Comment

Center appears clean and well maintained on this date.

Correction Deadline: 4/17/2024

Corrected on 9/3/2024

Correction of citation in that there were no visible hazards observed on this date.

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

Not Met

Comment

Discussed maintenance of resilient surface. Please fluff and redistribute throughout playground areas on Playground E.

Technical Assistance

Please ensure 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. Consultant discussed with the director to ensure playground fencing is free of rust and meets the four foot requirements surrounding all areas of each playground.

Correction Deadline: 9/3/2024

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 the following playground equipment was hazardous:

Playground A

- * Rusted "O" hooks were present on the bucket seats.

Playground B

- * Two red tricycles had a hole in the seats.
- * The netting was torn on the gray and burgundy play house.
- * The tire was dirty as moss was present on the tire tracks.

Playground C

- * Rusted "O" hooks were present at the top and bottom of the swing sets and on the yellow gymnastic bars at the top and bottom.

Playground E

- * Rust was present on the bottom of the stairway of the blue and white climbing structure.
- * Rust was present on the yellow gymnastic bars and at the top and bottom of the "O" hooks and on the bar.
- * Rust was present on the "O" hooks were open at the top and bottom of the swings.
- * The benches were dirty.

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. All repairs will be corrected and pictures will be submitted to the Department by COB: September 17, 2024. Playground D was not in use per the director, new equipment will arrive by September 13, 2024. Consultant discussed playground fall zones and hazards on this date.

Correction Deadline: 9/17/2024

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 resiliency. It was determined based on observation three inches of resilient surface was present throughout the fall zone areas on Playground E instead of six inches which was required.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will add additional resilient surfacing to the fall zones where needed and check daily, adding resilient surfacing as needed to maintain adequate resiliency.

Correction Deadline: 9/17/2024

Food Service

591-1-1.15 Food Service & Nutrition

Met

Comment

Consultant discussed with the director to ensure all staff watch choking videos and are aware of rule 591-1-1.15(2)(f) which requires that food for infants or children less than one (1) year of age be cut into pieces one-quarter inch or smaller and food for toddlers shall be cut into pieces one-half inch or smaller to prevent choking.

Correction Deadline: 9/3/2024

591-1-1-.18 Kitchen Operations**Met****Correction Deadline: 4/17/2024****Corrected on 9/3/2024****Correction of citation in that all food items were dated and labeled as required.****Health and Hygiene****591-1-1-.10 Diapering Areas & Practices(CR)****Met****Comment**

Staff stated proper knowledge of diapering procedures on this date.

591-1-1-.17 Hygiene(CR)**Met****Comment**

Staff were observed to remind children to wash hands on this date.

591-1-1-.20 Medications(CR)**N/A****Comment**

The center currently does not dispense or administer medication at this time.

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

Age-appropriate discussion and redirection observed on this date.

591-1-1-.36 Transportation(CR)**Not Met****Comment**

The vehicles had an approved fire extinguisher and first aid kit on this date.

Correction Deadline: 4/17/2024**Corrected on 9/3/2024****Correction of citation in that vehicle with tag number ending in G9539 and M4037 were completed on July 10, 2024. Vehicle with tag number ending in D8419 was completed on July 9, 2024. Vehicle with tag number ending in U5979 was not in use at this time.****Finding**

591-1-1-.36(7)(c)2. requires that the driver or other designated person shall immediately document in writing, with a check or other mark/symbol to account for each child listed on the passenger transportation checklist each time a child enters and exits the vehicle. The driver or other designated staff person shall document in writing with a different mark/symbol to account for each child listed on the passenger transportation checklist who was not present on the vehicle for any reason. An explanation shall be documented in writing whenever a child is transported to a field trip site but is not present on the return trip to the Center. It was determined based on a review of records that on August 9, 2024 seven children were not marked as loaded/unloaded or absent when the center bus completed morning and afternoon transportation from Rock Springs Elementary School.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The driver/other designated person will immediately document in writing with a check/mark/symbol each time a child gets on and off the vehicle.

Correction Deadline: 9/3/2024**Recited on 9/3/2024****Sleeping & Resting Equipment**

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

Discussed SIDS and infant sleeping position on this date.

Staff Records

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

Criminal record checks were observed to be complete on this date.

Comment

Director provided five file(s) for employees hired since the last visit which was completed on April 17, 2024.

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

Correction Deadline: 4/17/2024

Corrected on 9/3/2024

Correction of citation in that each classroom had lead teachers with credentials or proof of enrollment as required.

Staffing and Supervision

591-1-1-.32 Staff:Child Ratios and Group Size(CR)**Met****Comment**

Center observed to maintain appropriate staff:child ratios on this date.

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

Correction Deadline: 4/17/2024

Corrected on 9/3/2024

Correction of citation in that there was adequate supervision observed on this date. Staff members signed the supervision acknowledgment form on site.