



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: 9/4/2024 VisitType: Licensing Study

Arrival: 11:00 AM Departure: 2:45 PM

CCLC-31511

Mountain Academy for Kids

1523 Old Hwy 5 North Ellijay, GA 30540 Gilmer County
(706) 636-4881 cindyhall@ellijay.com

Regional Consultant

Brittany Lindsey

Phone: (770) 405-7931

Fax:

brittany.lindsey@dec.al.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.
09/04/2024	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
05/08/2024	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
09/14/2022	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	A-(Left, 1st LF)	Two Year Olds	1	10	C	15	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main	B-Left, 2nd LF)	Infants	1	5	C	18	C	NA	NA	Free Play
Main	C-(Left, 2nd RT)	One Year Olds	3	14	C	14	C	NA	NA	Nap, Transitioning
Main	D-(Left, 1st RT/Right Side)		0	0	C	10	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Main	D-(LF, 1st RT, Left Side)		0	0	C	10	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Main	E-(Right 1st RT)	Three Year Olds	1	10	C	20	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main	F-(Right Side End Room)		0	0	C	49	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 136			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0							
Total # Children this Date: 39			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 136							
			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0							

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	Playground (Preschool)	32	C
Main	Playground (School AGE Rt Side)	44	C
Main	Playground (Infant Toddler)	26	C

Enrolled Children						
Under 1 years	1 years	2 years	3 years	4 years	5 years (Prekonly)	5 years and older
6	14	10	15	0	0	0

Comments

The purpose of the visit was to conduct a Licensing Study and to follow up on previous citations.

Plan of Improvement: No Plan Developed

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 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) **Met**

Comment

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

591-1-1-.35 Swimming Pools & Water-related Activities(CR) **N/A**

Comment

Center does not provide swimming activities.

Facility

591-1-1-.06 Bathrooms **Met**

Comment

Bathrooms observed to be clean and well maintained.

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) **Met**

Comment

Center appears clean and well maintained.

Comment

No hazards observed accessible to children on this date.

591-1-1-.26 Playgrounds(CR) **Technical Assistance**

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.26(8) - Please ensure to provide more mulch used for resilient surfacing materials and that it is redistributed throughout the playground play area to prevent future hazards.

Correction Deadline: 9/14/2024

Correction Deadline: 6/14/2024

Corrected on 9/4/2024

.26(9) - The previous citation was corrected in that the Consultant observed playground free from hazards and litter.

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

Please ensure soiled items are stored inaccessible to children.

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-.36 Transportation(CR) Met

Comment

Complete documentation of transportation observed.

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.

591-1-1-.09 Criminal Records Check(CR) Met

Comment

Criminal records checks were observed to be complete.

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

Comment

Evidence observed of 100% of center staff certified in First Aid and CPR.

591-1-1-.33 Staff Training Technical Assistance

Comment

Documentation observed of required staff training.

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.33(4) - Please ensure the person primary responsibility for food preparation obtain four clock hours of training in food nutrition planning, preparation, serving, proper dish washing and food storage.

Correction Deadline: 10/4/2024

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

Comment

Staff observed to be compliant with applicable laws and regulations.

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**

Adequate supervision observed on this date.

Comment

Staff observed to provide direct supervision and be attentive to children's needs.