



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: 7/29/2024 **VisitType:** Licensing Study

Arrival: 9:30 AM **Departure:** 4:30 PM

CCLC-1493

Children's Academy of Hickory Flat

4360 Hickory Rd. Canton, GA 30115 Cherokee County
(770) 345-2929 luke.cahf@gmail.com

Regional Consultant

Randy Gaytan

Phone: (770) 357-7022

Fax: (770) 357-7021

randy.gaytan@dec.al.ga.gov

Mailing Address
Same

Quality Rated: No

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.
07/29/2024	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
02/16/2024	Incident Investigation & Follow Up	Good Standing	
11/29/2023	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
Bldg 1	C- Second Left Room	Four Year Olds and Five Year Olds and Six Year Olds and Over	1	11	C	20	C	NA	NA	Outside
Bldg 1	D- First Left	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds and Five Year Olds	1	9	C	17	C	NA	NA	Centers
Bldg 1	E- First Right	Three Year Olds	1	12	C	18	C	NA	NA	Transitioning
Bldg 1	F-Second Right	Two Year Olds	2	15	C	18	C	NA	NA	Outside
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 73			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0							
Bldg 2	A- Downstairs		0	0	C	25	C	NA	NA	
Bldg 2	B- Upper Level- Infants		0	0	C	8	C	NA	NA	
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 33			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0							
Total # Children this Date: 47			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 106			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0				

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Bldg 1	Playground A:	31	C
Bldg 1	Playground B: Preschool	23	C
Bldg 1	Playground C	78	C
Bldg 1	Playground: Toddler Play Area	9	C

Comments

The purpose of this visit was to conduct a Licensing Study.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 07/29/2024

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)

Date: 7/29/2024 **VisitType:** Licensing Study

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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.

Correction Deadline: 12/6/2023

Corrected on 7/29/2024

.12(4) - The previous citation of having tipping hazards was observed to be corrected in that the doll house in Room C had been removed, and Room B was not in use.

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

Met

Comment

Pool not in use at this time, gates observed locked.

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

Correction Deadline: 11/29/2023

Corrected on 7/29/2024

.25(13) - The previous citation was observed to be corrected in that there were no unlocked closet doors, there was no diaper cream accessible to children, and there were no hazards in the cabinets under the sink in Room C.

Correction Deadline: 11/29/2023

Corrected on 7/29/2024

.25(8) - The previous citation of one outlet not having a protective cover was observed to be corrected. All unused outlets were observed covered.

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

Discussed maintenance of resilient surface. Please fluff and redistribute.

Correction Deadline: 12/6/2023

Corrected on 7/29/2024

.26(4) - The previous citation was observed to be corrected in that there were no gaps in the fence, protruding nails, nor splintering wood.

Food Service

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

Center menu meets USDA guidelines.

591-1-1-.18 Kitchen Operations**Met****Comment**

Discussed proper steps for dishwashing.

Comment

Kitchen appears clean and well organized.

Health and Hygiene

591-1-1-.10 Diapering Areas & Practices(CR)**Met****Comment**

Staff state proper knowledge of diapering procedures.

Correction Deadline: 12/26/2023

Corrected on 7/29/2024

.10(1) - The previous citations was corrected in that there is ventilation in Room B and Room F there was adequate ventilation.

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**

Discussed proper medication documentation and procedures.

Organization

591-1-1-.16 Governing Body & License**Technical Assistance****Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.16(f) - Per a Capacity Determination packet signed on September 13, 2005, "Buildings not licensed: Gym, Swimming pool, and running track. Running track will not be counted in the playground capacity but may be used by the children under close supervision. Swimming related rules will apply."

Please submit an amendment to license the following areas for Special Use: Gym, Swimming Pool, Running Track, and Baseball Field.

Correction Deadline: 7/29/2024

Policies and Procedures

Comment

Program observed complete emergency drills

Safety

591-1-1-.05 Animals

N/A

Comment

Center does not keep animals on premises.

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

Met

Comment

Age-appropriate discussion and/or redirection observed.

591-1-1-.13 Field Trips(CR)

N/A

Comment

Center does not participate in field trips at this time.

591-1-1-.36 Transportation(CR)

Not Met

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 one out of one children on the Indian Knoll Elementary School Transportation were not marked as unloaded on May 24, 2024.

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: 7/30/2024**Finding**

591-1-1-.36(7)(d)1. requires that the first check be conducted immediately upon unloading the last child at any location including, but not limited to, a field trip destination, arrival at the Center, and the last stop during transportation to home or school. The responsible person on the vehicle shall physically walk through the entire vehicle; visually inspect all seat surfaces, under all seats and in all compartments or recesses in the vehicle's interior; sign the passenger transportation checklist (s), indicating all of the children have exited the vehicle; and give the passenger transportation checklist(s) to the second designated Staff person. It was determined based on a review of records that there was no first check signature for the Indian Knoll Elementary School transportation route on May 24,2024.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will train Staff who are or may be involved in transporting children in how to thoroughly inspect a vehicle and properly complete transportation documentation. The Center will review and monitor.

Correction Deadline: 7/30/2024**Finding**

591-1-1-.36(7)(d)2. requires that the second designated Staff person conduct a check of the vehicle immediately upon the completion of the first check of the vehicle. The responsible person shall physically walk through the entire vehicle; visually inspect all seat surfaces, under all seats and in all compartments or recesses in the vehicle's interior; and sign the passenger transportation checklist(s), indicating all of the children have exited the vehicle. There shall be continuous watchful oversight of the vehicle between the first check and second check. It was determined based on a review of records that there was no signature for a completed second check on May 22, May 23, and May 24 of 2024 for the Hickory Flat Elementary route; and no signature for a completed second check on May 23, and May 24, 2024 for the Indian Knoll Elementary route.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will train Staff who are or may be involved in transporting children in how to thoroughly inspect a vehicle and properly complete transportation documentation. The Center will review and monitor.

Correction Deadline: 7/29/2024

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

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

Comment

The correct number of mats, sheets and blankets were observed on this date. Cleaning and disinfecting of mats was discussed with the director 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.

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 50% of center staff certified in First Aid and CPR.

591-1-1-.33 Staff Training **Met**

Correction Deadline: 12/9/2023

Corrected on 7/29/2024

.33(6) - The previous citation of staff missing Health and Safety Orientation was corrected in that the staff missing it from the previous visit are no longer employed here, and new staff are within their 90-days.

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.