



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: 9/25/2023 **VisitType:** Licensing Study **Arrival:** 9:00 AM **Departure:** 3:30 PM

CCLC-32822

Little Angels Pre-School & Child Care Center

512 N Barack Obama Blvd Valdosta, GA 31601 Lowndes County
 (229) 253-0083 little_angels@bellsouth.net

Regional Consultant

Lindsey Ray

Phone: ()

Fax:

lindsey.ray@dec.al.ga.gov

Joint with: Rena Keene

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.
09/25/2023	Licensing Study	Support	
05/04/2023	Complaint Closure	Good Standing	
04/25/2023	Complaint Investigation & 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
LAPS Learning Academy	Room A School Age	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	1	6	C	11	C	15	C	Circle Time, Free Play
LAPS Learning Academy	Room B Pre-K	GA PreK	2	19	C	24	C	34	C	Free Play
LAPS Learning Academy	Room C Pre K	GA PreK	20	20	C	26	C	37	C	Circle Time
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 61			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 265							
Main	Room A - 1s	One Year Olds	2	11	C	17	C	NA	NA	Free Play
Main	Room B - 1s	One Year Olds	2	9	C	11	C	NA	NA	Free Play
Main	Room C	Infants	2	16	C	18	C	NA	NA	Floor Play
Main	Room D	Two Year Olds	2	14	C	18	C	NA	NA	Floor Play
Main	Room E	Two Year Olds	2	8	C	13	C	NA	NA	Free Play
Main	Room F	Three Year Olds	2	14	C	34	C	47	C	Free Play
Main	Room G		0	0	C	16	C	22	C	Not In Use
Main	Room H	Three Year Olds	2	11	C	24	C	33	C	Free Play
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 151			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 265							
Total # Children this Date: 128			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 212			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 265				

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
LAPS Learning Academy	LAPS Playground	35	C
Main	Playground A	31	C
Main	Playground B	25	C
Main	Playground C	61	C

Comments

The purpose of today's visit is to conduct a licensing study.

On September 27, 2023 the visit form was revised to include the correct staff number regarding CRC citation. Lindsey Ray
 On September 26, 2023 the visit form was revised to update departure time, Plan of Improvement, and provide technical assistance. Lindsey Ray
 On September 27, 2023 the visit form was revised to include the correct staff number regarding CRC citation. Lindsey Ray

Plan of Improvement: To Be Submitted 10/10/2023

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/RuleAndRegulations.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!

Chanita Irvin, Program Official

Date

Lindsey Ray, Regional Consultant

Date

Rena Keene, Regional Consultant

Date



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(Findings Report)

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The following information is associated with a Licensing Study:

Activities and Equipment

591-1-1.03 Activities

Technical Assistance

Technical Assistance

591-1-1.03(2) - (2) requires the Center to keep current lesson plans on site that reflect appropriate instruction practices and activities to support children's development The Center shall have sufficient and varied play and learning equipment and materials to support the above program of activities in all developmental areas. The consultant and the director discussed ensuring that all teachers have access to digital lesson plans.

Correction Deadline: 9/25/2023

591-1-1.12 Equipment & Toys(CR)

Technical Assistance

Technical Assistance

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. The consultant and the director discussed ensuring that all equipment and bookcases are secure.

Correction Deadline: 9/25/2023

591-1-1.35 Swimming Pools & Water-related Activities(CR)

N/A

Comment

Center does not provide swimming activities.

Children's Records

Records Reviewed: 7

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 2

Child # 1

Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.08(3)-Address of Release Person Missing,.08(1)(a)-Work Address Missing

Child # 6

Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.08(3)-Address of Release Person Missing

591-1-1-.08 Children's Records**Technical Assistance****Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.08(1) - requires the Center Staff to maintain a file for each child while such child is in care and for one year after that child is no longer enrolled. In order for the file to be complete, the file shall contain the following: child's name, birth date, sex, address, living arrangement, name of school if applicable; names of both Parents, home and work addresses, and home and work telephone numbers; name(s) and addresses of the person(s) to whom the child may be released including address, telephone numbers, relationship to child and to Parent(s), and other identifying information; name(s) and telephone number(s) of person(s) to contact in emergencies when the Parent cannot be reached; name and telephone number of the child's primary source of health care; and a statement regarding known allergies, physical problems, mental health disorders, intellectual disabilities or developmental disabilities which limit the child's participation in the program. The consultant and the director discussed complete child records.

Correction Deadline: 9/25/2023**Evening Care****591-1-1-.32 Staffing/Supervision(CR)****N/A****Comment**

No evening care hours provided

Facility**591-1-1-.06 Bathrooms****Technical Assistance****Comment**

Please monitor bathrooms for necessary supplies and ensure toilets are clean before use.

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.06(7) - (7) The consultant and the director discussed reminding Center Staff to ensure bathrooms are cleaned daily with a disinfectant.

Correction Deadline: 9/25/2023**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 hazards were present:

In the PreK building:

In classroom C- cords hanging from printer, thumbtacks on teacher's desk accessible to the children, tape dispenser, Febreze plug ins

In classroom B- cords hanging from computer, stapler

In classroom A- fan sitting on floor accessible to the children, broom and dustpan

In main building:

Classroom A baby wipes in children's cubicles

Correction Deadline: 9/25/2023

Correction Deadline: 4/25/2023

Corrected on 9/25/2023

.25(3) - This citation was observed to be corrected on this date.

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

Not Met

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.26(7) - requires that climbing and swinging equipment be anchored. The consultant and the director discussed anchoring of playground equipment.

Correction Deadline: 10/5/2023

Finding

591-1-1-.26(9) requires the playground to be kept clean, free from litter and free of hazards, such as but not limited to rocks, exposed tree roots and exposed sharp edges of concrete. It was determined based on observation that the in ground housing for three electrical components were unlocked and accessible to the children.

Correction Deadline: 9/25/2023

Food Service

591-1-1-.18 Kitchen Operations

Not Met

Finding

591-1-1-.18(5) requires the refrigeration of all perishable and potentially hazardous foods at 40 degrees Fahrenheit or below and served promptly after cooking. Freezer temperature shall be maintained at zero (0) degrees Fahrenheit or below. It was determined based on observation that a temperature of 15 degrees Fahrenheit was observed in the deep freezer located in the hallway. It was also observed that two containers of ground beef were laying on the counter to thaw for serving the following day.

Correction Deadline: 9/25/2023

Health and Hygiene

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

Not Met

Finding

591-1-1-.10(3) requires Center Staff to change diapers in the child's own crib or on a diaper changing surface that is used for no purposes other than changing diapers and other clothing in each room where infants or any other children wearing diapers are served. It was determined based on observation that the changing pad in classroom A had a tear in the corner and the edge was split in two places exposing the inside foam.

Correction Deadline: 9/25/2023

Recited on 9/25/2023

591-1-1-.17 Hygiene(CR)

Met

Comment

Please ensure lids remain on trash containing organic waste.

Comment

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

Policies and Procedures**591-1-1-.21 Operational Policies & Procedures****Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.21(3) requires that the Center conduct drills for fire, tornado and other emergency situations. The fire drills will be conducted monthly and tornado and other emergency situation drills will be conducted every six months. The Center shall maintain documentation of the dates and times of these drills for two years. It was determined based on a review of records that the last fire drill was conducted in June of 2023.

Correction Deadline: 9/30/2023

591-1-1-.27 Posted Notices**Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.27 requires each Center to post in a designated area for public viewing near the front entrance the following: the Center's current License or Permit; a copy of these rules; a copy of the current communicable disease chart; a statement allowing Parent(s) access to all child care areas upon notifying any staff member of his or her presence; names of persons responsible for the administration of the Center in the administrator's absence; the dated current week's menu for meals and snacks; emergency plans for severe weather, fire, and other emergency situations; a statement requiring visitors to check in with Staff when entering the Center; no smoking signs; and a notice provided by the Department which advises Parents of their right to review a copy of the Center's most recent licensure evaluation report upon request to the Center Director. The Center shall provide any Parent with a copy of this evaluation report upon request. It was determined based on observation that the program did not have posted names of persons responsible for the administration of the Center in the administrator's absence or the Center's current License or Permit.

Correction Deadline: 9/25/2023

591-1-1-.29 Required Reporting**Met**

Correction Deadline: 6/7/2023

Corrected on 9/25/2023

.29(1) - This citation was observed to be corrected on this date.

Safety

591-1-1-.05 Animals	Met
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Comment

Animals maintained clean and appropriately caged.

591-1-1-.11 Discipline(CR)	Met
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Correction Deadline: 6/7/2023

Corrected on 9/25/2023

.11(2) - This citation was observed to be corrected on this date.

591-1-1-.13 Field Trips(CR)	N/A
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Comment

Center does not participate in field trips at this time.

591-1-1-.36 Transportation(CR)	Not Met
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Correction Deadline: 5/2/2023

Corrected on 9/25/2023

.36(10) - Based upon a review of transportation records, the previous citation has been corrected. No children are left unattended on a vehicle.

Finding

591-1-1-.36(6) requires written Parental authorization for routine transportation provided by or on behalf of the Center. Written authorization must include the routine pick-up location, routine pick-up time, routine delivery location, routine delivery times and the name of any person authorized to receive the child. It was determined based on a review of transportation records for the week of September 18, 2023, through September 22, 2023, that parental authorizations that contain all required information were not on file for all children transported from school to the center during the afternoon routes for the last full week prior to the visit. Incomplete information was observed as follows:

1. Valdosta Middle School - The authorization form for one of four children transported did not contain the parent's signature or the times that the transportation was authorized.
2. Lowndes County Head Start, also known as the "Blue School" - One child transported did not have a written authorization on file.
3. S.L. Mason Elementary School – One child who was transported did not have a parental authorization on file and the form for one other child was not signed by a parent.
4. J.L. Lomax Elementary School - Fourteen children were transported who did not have a written parental authorization on file.

Correction Deadline: 9/26/2023

Finding

591-1-1-.36(7)(b) requires that an emergency medical information record be maintained in the vehicle for each child being transported. The emergency medical information record for each child shall include a listing of the child's full name, date of birth, allergies, special medical needs and conditions, current prescribed medications that the child is required to take on a daily basis for a chronic condition, the name and telephone number of the child's doctor, the local medical facility that the Center uses in the area where the Center is located and the telephone numbers where the Parents can be reached. It was determined based on a review of school transportation records for the week of September 18, 2023, through September 22, 2023, that emergency medical information was not maintained on the vehicle for each child transported during the afternoon routes as follows:

1. Sallas Mahone Elementary School – Two children's forms did not include the medical facility used by the center. Forms for four of the seven children transported did not include both the name and telephone number for the child's doctor
2. Valdosta Middle School – The form for one of the four children transported did not include the medical facility used by the center. The forms for two of the four children transported did not include the name and telephone number of each child's doctor and one of the forms did not address whether or not the child had any allergies or special needs.
3. J.L. Newbern Middle School – Emergency medical information for two of the three children transported did not include the medical facility used by the center
4. Lowndes County Head Start, also known as the "Blue School" – One child was transported for whom there was no emergency medical information present on the vehicle. Two of the children's forms did not both the name and telephone number of the child's doctor. One addition form did not show the medical facility used by the center.
5. Hallmark Heights Elementary School – No emergency medical information was maintained on the vehicle for two children transported
6. S.L. Mason Elementary School – Two children were transported for whom no emergency medical information was maintained on the vehicle. The name and telephone number for each child's doctor was missing on two forms. The medical facility used by the center was not shown on two children's forms. The parents' names and telephone numbers were missing on one of the children's forms.
7. J.L. Lomax Elementary School – Fourteen children were transported who did not have any emergency medical information maintained on the vehicle

Correction Deadline: 9/26/2023

Correction Deadline: 9/5/2023

Corrected on 9/25/2023

.36(7)(c)2. - Based on a review of transportation records, the previous citation has been corrected. Staff are documenting each time a child gets on and off the vehicle.

Correction Deadline: 4/26/2023

Corrected on 9/25/2023

**.36(7)(c)3. - Based upon a review of transportation records, the previous citation has been corrected.
Staff are documenting arrival and departure times as well as load and unloading of children.**

Correction Deadline: 4/26/2023

Corrected on 9/25/2023

**.36(7)(d)1. - Based upon a review of transportation records the previous citation has been corrected.
Staff are completing first and second checks of the vehicles.**

Correction Deadline: 4/25/2023

Corrected on 9/25/2023

**.36(7)(d)2. - Based upon a review of transportation records, first and second checks of the vehicles are
currently being completed.**

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

Finding

591-1-1-.09(1)(a) requires that a Center ensure that every actual and potential Director, Employee and Provisional Employee of a Child Care Learning Center submit both a Records Check Application to the Department and Fingerprints to an authorized fingerprinting site. It was determined based on a review of records that staff #84 observed in classroom B caring for Georgia PreK, had not submitted a comprehensive record check application to the Department and Fingerprints to an authorized fingerprinting site as required.

Correction Deadline: 9/25/2023

Recited on 9/25/2023

Finding

591-1-1-.09(1)(c) requires the Center to ensure that every Employee has a valid and current satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination on file prior to being present at the Center while any child is present for care or before an individual age 17 or older resides in the Center. The Comprehensive Records Check Determination must have a Records Check Clearance Date that is no older than the preceding 12 months of the hire date; provided, however, if the Employee has had a lapse of employment from the child care industry that lasted for 180 days (6 months) or longer, a new satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination is required. It was determined based on a review of records that staff #84 observed in classroom B caring for Georgia PreK, did not have a satisfactory comprehensive record check letter on file prior to being employed and present at the center as required.

Correction Deadline: 9/25/2023

Recited on 9/25/2023

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

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

591-1-1-.14 First Aid & CPR**Not Met****Comment**

Please replace/add missing/expired item(s) in first aid kit(s).

Finding

591-1-1-.14(1)(a) requires, in a Center that provides transportation, that either the driver or another Staff person present on the vehicle have current evidence of successful completion of a biennial training program in cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and a triennial training program in first aid offered by certified or licensed health care professionals or trainers and which dealt with the provision of emergency care to infants and children. It was determined based on review of records that the driver of bus number 5 transported children from Hallmark Heights, The Blue School, JL Lomax, SL Masonto the center without staff present on the vehicle with successful completion of first aid and CPR as required.

Correction Deadline: 9/25/2023

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

Technical Assistance

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.31(2)(b)3.(ii)(I) - (VIII) - requires the Center develop a written plan for newly hired teacher's who do not possess the educational credential or degree listed in 591-1-1-.31(2)(b)2.(i) through (xii). The consultant and the director discussed professional learning plans.

Correction Deadline: 9/25/2023

Staffing and Supervision

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

Technical Assistance

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.32(1) - requires the Center to maintain the required Staff:child ratios as follows: under 1 year or under 18 months if not walking = 1:6; 1 year and walking = 1:8; 2 years = 1:10; 3 years = 1:15; 4 years = 1:18; 5 years = 1:20; and 6 years and older = 1:25. A Center must establish groupings of children for care with maximum group sizes as follows: under 1 year = 12; under 18 months/not walking = 12; 1 year and walking = 16; 2 years = 20; 3 years = 30; 4 years = 36; 5 years = 40; and 6 years and older = 50. The consultant and the owner discussed that the maximum group size of infants is 12.

Correction Deadline: 9/25/2023

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

Met

Correction Deadline: 5/2/2023

Corrected on 9/25/2023

.32(7) - The previous citation was observed to be corrected on this date.