



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: 3/5/2024 **VisitType:** Complaint Investigation & Licensing Study **Arrival:** 9:15 AM **Departure:** 6:05 PM

CCLC-2486

Sisu

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Lead Consultant

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Mailing Address

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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.
03/05/2024	Complaint Investigation & Licensing Study	Good Standing	
01/03/2023	Incident Investigation Closure	Good Standing	
11/30/2022	Incident Investigation & Follow Up	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		0	0	C	9	C	NA	NA	
Main	B	Infants and One Year Olds	3	7	C	12	C	NA	NA	Nap,Free Play,Feeding
Main	C	One Year Olds and Two Year Olds	2	9	C	12	C	NA	NA	Story
Main	D	Two Year Olds and Three Year Olds	3	10	C	12	C	17	C	Centers,Circle Time
Main	E	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	2	10	C	12	C	NA	NA	Outside
Main	F	GA PreK	3	14	C	20	C	NA	NA	Centers
Main	G		0	0	C	11	C	NA	NA	
Main	H	Four Year Olds and Five Year Olds	4	9	C	20	C	NA	NA	Centers
Main	I	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds and Five Year Olds	2	7	C	12	C	NA	NA	Centers
Main	J	Four Year Olds	5	9	C	12	C	NA	NA	Outside
Main	K	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds and Five Year Olds	3	9	C	12	C	NA	NA	Transitioning
Main	L	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds and Five Year Olds	6	9	C	20	C	NA	NA	Centers
Main	M		0	0	C	19	C	NA	NA	

	Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 183	Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 188
Total # Children this Date: 93	Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 183	Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 188

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	Playground A	131	C
Main	Playground B	68	C
Main	Playground C	109	C

Comments

The purpose of the visit is to conduct a complaint investigation and licensing study from November 30, 2022.

Reminders: Refer to the published communicable disease chart for guidance regarding communicable diseases. In most scenarios, only outbreaks/clusters should be reported to the local health districts.

Please be sure to contact the Hall County Department of Health, if there are any outbreaks/clusters of positive COVID-19 cases immediately and get their guidance. Please be sure to also complete a Required Report in DECAL KOALA for all individual cases of communicable diseases within 24 hours. Be sure to select "Notifiable Communicable Diseases" to report closures for COVID cases.

You must be sure to enter all temporary closures by 8 a.m. (vacation, emergencies, school closures, holidays etc...) in DECAL KOALA at all times under the Required Report tab whenever your facility is closed temporarily because you are not caring for children for one day or more. Please be sure to SAVE the report prior to exiting.

Incident Reports are to be submitted via DECAL KOALA with all signed staff statements for staff and the director.

All amendments are required to be electronically entered in DECAL KOALA effective August 2, 2021.

Please be sure to hide staff who are no longer employed in your DECAL KOALA account. Please reach out for help with this, if needed.

**Beginning January 1, 2024, there is a free Transportation Training available on OLLI as ProSolutions will no longer offer the class for free. Also, you will be able to find the Health and Safety Orientation Training, which will be 18 hours, for free as well. Provided updated orientation checklist.

Share information regarding the indicator manual and utilizing it.

Discussed regarding ensuring to complete rechecks for Criminal Records checks before the five year expiration.

Discussed regarding mats no longer using tape to repair.

One Day Letter.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 03/05/2024

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.decal.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!

Jana Siderakis, Program Official

Date

Dianne Clarke, Lead Consultant

Date



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(Findings Report)

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The following information is associated with a Licensing Study Visit:

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)

Met

Comment

Center does not provide swimming activities.

Facility

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)

Technical Assistance

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.25(3) - Please ensure that ceiling tiles are replaced after it rains at all times.

Correction Deadline: 3/5/2024

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

Met

Comment

Playground observed to be clean and in good repair.

Health and Hygiene

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

Correction Deadline: 12/6/2022

Corrected on 3/5/2024

.10(4) - The previous citation was observed to be corrected in that there were no tears on diaper changing mats. Please ensure that all diaper surfaces are kept smooth and nonporous at all times.

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

Comment

Proper hand washing observed throughout the center.

591-1-1-.20 Medications(CR) **Met**

Comment

Discussed proper medication documentation and procedures.

Safety

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

Comment

Age-appropriate discussion and/or redirection observed.

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

Comment

Center does not provide routine transportation.

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) **Not Met**

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 #52, hired on February 23, 2024, did not have a complete fingerprint application. The application was observed to be incomplete in KOALA.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

IMMEDIATE CORRECTION - The Center will ensure to complete a fingerprint application for staff prior to them being present at the center to 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 as required. The program's owner or an officer/member of the corporation must view the A to Z Background Check video units pertaining to this records check rule and return the signed affidavit within one week from this visit date. The Center will review the CRC modules regarding criminal records to ensure the CRC rules are maintained. The provider completed the records check on March 6, 2024.

Correction Deadline: 3/5/2024

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 #52, hired on February 23, 2024, did not have current evidence of a comprehensive background check on file for the facility.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

IMMEDIATE CORRECTION - The Center will ensure to receive a completed a records check determination for staff prior to them being present at 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 childcare industry that lasted for 180 days (6 months) or longer, a new satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination is required. The program's owner or an officer/member of the corporation must view the A to Z Background Check video units pertaining to this records check rule and return the signed affidavit within one week from this visit date. The center will review the CRC modules regarding criminal records to ensure the CRC rules are maintained. The provider completed the records check on March 6, 2024.

Correction Deadline: 3/5/2024

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

Met

Correction Deadline: 12/29/2022

Corrected on 3/5/2024

.14(2) - The previous citation was observed to be corrected in that the individual is no longer employed, and current employees have completed their CPR and First Aid training. Please ensure that training is completed and updated as required.

591-1-1-.33 Staff Training

Not Met

Finding

591-1-1-.33(3) requires each Staff member with direct care responsibilities to complete health and safety orientation training within the first 90 days of employment. The state-approved training hours obtained will count toward required first year training hours. The training must address the following health and safety topics: prevention and control of infectious diseases (including immunizations); prevention of sudden infant death syndrome and use of safe sleeping practices; administration of medication, consistent with standards for parental consent; prevention of and response to emergencies due to food and allergic reactions; building and physical premises safety, including identification of and protection from hazards that can cause bodily injury such as electrical hazards, bodies of water, and vehicular traffic; prevention of shaken baby syndrome, abusive head trauma and child maltreatment; emergency preparedness and response planning for emergencies resulting from a natural disaster or a human-caused event (such as violence at a child care facility); handling and storage of hazardous materials and the appropriate disposal of bio contaminants; precautions in transporting children; recognition and reporting of child abuse and neglect; and child development. It was determined based on a review of records that staff #43, hired on October 13, 2023, did not have evidence of the Health and Safety Orientation Training on file.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will develop and implement a plan to schedule and track this training for all employees based on their hire dates and will ensure that the training includes all required components as required.

Correction Deadline: 4/4/2024

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.

The following information is associated with a Complaint Investigation Visit:

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Facility

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

Correction Deadline: 11/29/2022

Corrected on 3/5/2024

.25(13) - The previous citation was corrected in that the staff was written up and it is in the center's policy that all personal items should be locked up in the designated cabinet. Please ensure to reiterate with staff regularly.

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Staffing and Supervision

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

Correction Deadline: 12/20/2022

Corrected on 3/5/2024

.32(7) - The previous citation was corrected in that the staff was written up and it is in the center's policy that all personal items should be locked up in the designated cabinet. Please ensure to reiterate with staff regularly.