



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: 12/14/2023 **VisitType:** Monitoring Visit

Arrival: 10:15 AM

Departure: 2:30 PM

CCLC-38313

Herrington Academy

1101 Herrington Road Lawrenceville, GA 30044 Gwinnett County
 (678) 377-5633 Academyonherrington@gmail.com

CCS Coordinator

Margarita Collier

Phone: (770) 342-7934

Fax: (678) 891-5989

margarita.collier@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.
12/14/2023	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
04/06/2023	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
05/12/2022	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
Single	A/1R	Infants and One Year Olds	3	12	C	21	C	NA	NA	Nap,Free Play,Feeding,Fl oor Play
Single	B/1L	One Year Olds	1	10	C	12	C	NA	NA	Outside
Single	C/2L	Two Year Olds and Three Year Olds	3	18	C	19	C	NA	NA	Outside
Single	D/3L	Three Year Olds	2	14	C	21	C	29	C	Transitioning,Outside
Single	E/4L	Three Year Olds	1	12	C	20	C	28	C	Centers
Single	F/2R	Five Year Olds and GA PreK	2	16	C	21	C	29	C	Centers
Single	G/3R	GA PreK	2	19	C	20	C	27	C	Outside
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 134					Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 165					
Total # Children this Date: 101					Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 134					
					Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 165					

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Single	PG /A/R Front	21	C
Single	PG/B/R Back	38	C
Single	PG/C/L Front	25	C
Single	PG/D/L Back	37	C

Comments

The purpose of this visit was to conduct a monitoring visit and to follow-up on the previous visit conducted on April 6, 2023.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 12/14/2023

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.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.ga.gov for more information. Free technical assistance is available!

Herline Ford, Program Official

Date

Margarita Collier, CCS Coordinator

Date



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(Findings Report)

Date: 12/14/2023 **VisitType:** Monitoring Visit

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The following information is associated with a Monitoring Visit:

Activities and Equipment

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

Not Met

Technical Assistance

Please monitor toys and equipment for normal wear and tear.

Finding

591-1-1-.12(2) requires that all equipment and furniture be free from hazardous conditions such as, but not limited to, sharp rough edges or toxic paint; and be kept clean. It was determined based on observation that the blue sofa located in the home living area located on the back-right side of the classroom E/4L was torn with exposed foam.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will ensure that equipment and furniture are used by the age-appropriate group of children.

Correction Deadline: 12/14/2023

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

Not Evaluated

Comment

Center does not provide swimming activities.

Facility

591-1-1-.06 Bathrooms

Technical Assistance

Technical Assistance

Please monitor restroom vents for normal wear and tear.

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

Please secure cleaning tools (i.e., broom, plunger) out of reach of children.

Correction Deadline: 5/12/2022

Corrected on 12/14/2023

The previous citation was observed to be corrected. The consultant observed all hazardous items to be stored in a locked cabinet inaccessible to the children. Please continue to ensure that all hazardous items (i.e., plastic grocery bags, diaper wipes, diapering ointment, etc.) are not stored in children's cubbies, backpacks, and/or other areas accessible to the children present for care.

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

Defer

Technical Assistance

Playground D/L/Back was temporarily closed due to construction taking place on the back side of the building. Per center management, the center will be adding two additional classrooms to their licensed capacity resulting in playground E/Mid Back being removed from the center's list of playgrounds. Please ensure to submit an amendment via DECAL KOALA to request that the two new classrooms be added to the center's licensed capacity and have playground E/Mid Back removed from the center's list of playgrounds. The center is also considering remodeling each of their licensed playground areas in the future (i.e., potentially installing turf resilient surface, etc.). Please ensure, if turf is installed, to maintain the following documents on file for review as needed:

- American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM) rating for fall height.
- Manufacturer diagrams to show where the fall zones and/or information on whether the turf covering the resilient would adversely impact the fall height rating.

Technical Assistance

Please monitor the playground area for the following hazardous items:

- Exposed tree roots.
- Biting and/or stinging insects (i.e., bees, ants, etc.).
- Normal wear and tear of the fence surrounding the playground areas.
- Normal wear and tear of playground equipment (i.e., chipped paint, etc.).
- Excessive leaves, sweet gum tree balls, etc.
- Refluff resilient surface as needed.
- Standing water in and/or around playground equipment and/or toys.

Correction Deadline: 4/6/2023

Corrected on 12/14/2023

The previous citation was observed to be corrected. The consultant observed the gate on the toddler right playground to be latched preventing it from being opened.

Defer

The previous citation was deferred due to the maintenance being conducted on the playground areas. The maintenance staff were replacing the mulch and cleaning the playground areas during the visit.

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: 5/22/2022

Health and Hygiene

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

Met

Correction Deadline: 5/12/2022

Corrected on 12/14/2023

The previous citation was observed to be corrected. Staff members stated the proper diapering procedures. Please ensure to monitor the diaper changing pads for normal wear and tear.

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

Met

Correction Deadline: 5/12/2022

Corrected on 12/14/2023

The previous citation was observed to be corrected. The consultant observed proper handwashing by staff members and children throughout the center during the visit.

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

Met

Comment

Documentation for medication dispensing observed complete.

Organization

591-1-1-.16 Governing Body & License

Technical Assistance

Technical Assistance

The center will be adding two additional classrooms to their licensed capacity. However, the classrooms are currently under construction. Per center management, the two new classrooms will be non-diapered classrooms. Due to the new additions of the classrooms, playground E/Mid Back will no longer be available. Upon construction being completed, please ensure to submit an amendment via DECAL KOALA.

Correction Deadline: 12/14/2023

Safety

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

Met

Comment

Age-appropriate discussion and/or redirection observed.

Comment

Staff were observed to maintain a positive learning environment on this date.

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

Technical Assistance

Technical Assistance

Per center management, the center will be conducting field trips during the school winter break. Please ensure that staff members conduct and document first and second checks of the vehicle, all field trip forms, and transportation forms (i.e., permission forms, field trip checklist, vehicle emergency medical form, etc.) are completed and maintained with the most current transportation information for field trips.

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

Not Met

Comment

A current/completed inspection was observed for all vehicles used in transporting children this date.

Finding

591-1-1-.36(4)(b) requires that the interior of a transportation vehicle be clean, in safe repair and free of hazardous items, objects and/or other non-essential items which could cause injury. It was determined based on observation that the first front-right row seat and the first front-left row seat were torn with exposed foam on vehicle tag #PV7044.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The center will maintain that all transportation vehicles are clean, in safe repair, and free from hazards.

Correction Deadline: 12/15/2023

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 review of records that the center did not document the unloading of one of two children during a school transportation route conducted to Alford Elementary conducted on December 4, 2023.

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: 12/15/2023

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)****Technical Assistance****Technical Assistance**

The consultant discussed the following criminal record check reminders with the provider:

New records checks will be required to be completed if a staff member experiences a six month break in service from the childcare 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. A re-check maybe needed under the following circumstances:
- When the family childcare learning home knows or reasonably should know that a provider, Employee or Provisional Employee, Resident has been arrested or charged for any covered crime.
- When there is a lapse of employment from the childcare industry that lasted for 180 calendar days (6 months) or longer.
- When the Department so requests.

Comment

The director provided five files for staff members hired since the previous visit was conducted on April 6, 2023. The consultant observed five of five newly hired staff members to have evidence of a current satisfactory comprehensive determination letter on file.

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
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Comment

Center observed to maintain appropriate staff:child ratios.

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

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