



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: 3/26/2024 **VisitType:** Licensing Study

Arrival: 9:00 AM **Departure:** 12:30 PM

CCLC-53834

Greater Minds Learning Academy

1285 McGarity Road McDonough, GA 30252 Henry County
(678) 272-7386 greatermindsla@gmail.com

Regional Consultant

Brandi Mangino

Phone: (478) 314-9726

Fax: (478) 599-0169

brandi.mangino@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.
03/26/2024	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
01/22/2024	Complaint Investigation Follow Up	Good Standing	
01/22/2024	Complaint Closure	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: 2L (inside L)	Infants	1	1	C	4	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main	B: 2L (inside R)	Infants and One Year Olds	2	6	C	13	C	NA	NA	Diapering, Nap, Feeding
Main	C: 4L	One Year Olds	3	10	C	18	C	NA	NA	Transitioning
Main	Cafeteria		0	0	C	19	C	NA	NA	
Main	D: Middle	Two Year Olds and Three Year Olds	1	10	C	15	C	NA	NA	Centers
Main	E: 2R	Two Year Olds	2	16	C	16	C	NA	NA	Centers
Main	F: 3R	Four Year Olds	2	13	C	21	C	NA	NA	Circle Time
Main	G: 4R	GA PreK	2	17	C	26	C	NA	NA	Centers
Main	Gym		0	0	C	20	C	NA	NA	
Main	H: 3rd Middle	Three Year Olds	2	10	C	24	C	NA	NA	Circle Time

Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 176

Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0

Total # Children this Date: 83

Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 176

Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	A: Infants/Toddlers	38	C
Main	C: Left Back	116	C

Comments

Plan of Improvement developed on this date.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 03/26/2024

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.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!



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

(Findings Report)

Date: 3/26/2024 **VisitType:** Licensing Study

Arrival: 9:00 AM **Departure:** 12:30 PM

CCLC-53834

Greater Minds Learning Academy

1285 McGarity Road McDonough, GA 30252 Henry County
(678) 272-7386 greatermindsla@gmail.com

Regional Consultant

Brandi Mangino

Phone: (478) 314-9726

Fax: (478) 599-0169

brandi.mangino@dec.al.ga.gov

Mailing Address
Same

The following information is associated with a Licensing Study:

Activities and Equipment

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

Not Met

Finding

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. It was determined based on observation that the following items were not secured and posed a falling hazard to children in care.

Room D-Cots were stacked upright.

Room E-Science, Music, and Art wooden shelves were not secured.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will ensure that the identified equipment or furniture and any other such existing or future items are secured adequately and will have a system for checking these for stability.

Correction Deadline: 3/26/2024

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

Met

Comment

Center does not provide swimming activities.

Children's Records

Records Reviewed: 5

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 1

Child # 5

Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.08(1)-Doctor, Clinic, Phone Numbers

591-1-1-.08 Children's Records

Technical Assistance

Technical Assistance

Please ensure that the physician's information is listed on all enrollment applications.

Correction Deadline: 3/26/2024

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)**Not Met****Technical Assistance**

Consultant discussed the alphabet rug on Room D was in need of being cleaned and the Art shelf in Room G was in need of repair.

Consultant discussed turning up the water so that it meets the definition of "warm".

Correction Deadline: 4/25/2024

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 items were accessible to children in care.

Room C:

-Baby wipes and rubber gloves were located on the bottom of the diapering station which posed a suffocation hazard.

Room D:

- Rubber gloves were located on the sink and posed a suffocation hazard.
- Plastic bags located under the diapering station and posed a suffocation hazard.
- The first aid kit was on a backpack and within reach of children.
- A broom, dust pan, plunger, and disinfectant spray located in the restroom were accessible to children.

Room E:

- Rubber gloves and plastic bags were located at the bottom of the diapering station and posed a suffocation hazard.
- 'Clorox' Spray and 'Glade' spray were located in an unlocked restroom.

Room G:

- Rubber gloves were accessible and posed a suffocation hazard.

Cafeteria:

- Rubber gloves were accessible and posed a suffocation hazard.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will identify all hazardous items and keep them in a locked area inaccessible to children. The Center will inform all Staff about hazardous items and the safe storage of those items.

Correction Deadline: 3/26/2024

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

Discussed maintenance of resilient surface. Please fluff and redistribute.

Food Service

591-1-1-.15 Food Service & Nutrition**Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.15(2) requires that a signed written feeding plan for children less than one (1) year of age shall be obtained from Parent(s) and that instructions from the Parent(s) shall be updated regularly as new foods are added or other dietary changes are made. The feeding plan shall be posted in the child's assigned room and must include the child's feeding schedule, the amount of formula or breast milk to be given, instructions for the introduction of solid foods, the amount of food to be given and notation of any type(s) of commercially premixed formula which may not be used in an emergency because of food allergies. It was determined based on observation that one infant feeding plan did not have the introduction to solids foods information on the form and one form was not signed by the parent.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center Director will develop and implement a plan to obtain and post the completed feeding plan as part of the enrollment process and to have parents update the plans on a regular basis that will include center staff involved with enrollment and those working in the infant classrooms.

Correction Deadline: 3/26/2024

591-1-1-.18 Kitchen Operations**Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.18(8) requires that containers of food be stored above the floor on clean surfaces protected from splash and other contamination. Containers for food storage other than the original container or package in which the food was obtained shall be impervious and non-absorbent, have tight-fitting lids or covers and labeled as to contents. It was determined based on observation that bread was observed in a box stored on the floor.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will designate an appropriate area for the storage of containers of food, will make available containers, lids, and covers, and will train Staff on proper storage and labeling.

Correction Deadline: 3/26/2024

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

Proper diapering procedures observed.

591-1-1-.17 Hygiene(CR)**Not Met**

Correction Deadline: 1/22/2024

Corrected on 3/26/2024

.17(2) - Citation corrected.

Finding

591-1-1-.17(7) requires that children wash their hands with liquid soap and warm running water upon arrival for care, when moving from one child care group to another, upon re-entering the child care area after outside play, before and after eating meals and snacks, handling or touching food, playing in water; after toileting and diapering, playing in sand, touching animals or pets, and contact with bodily fluids and after contamination by any other means. It was determined based on observation that a child entered Room C and was not required to wash their hands.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will train Staff on required handwashing for children and Staff will ensure children's hands are washed when required. The Director will monitor for compliance.

Correction Deadline: 3/26/2024

591-1-1-.20 Medications(CR)**Not Evaluated****Comment**

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

Policies and Procedures**591-1-1-.29 Required Reporting****Met**

Correction Deadline: 1/22/2024

Corrected on 3/26/2024

.29(1) - Citation observed to be corrected.

Safety

Comment

Center does not keep animals on premises.

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

Met

Correction Deadline: 1/22/2024

Corrected on 3/26/2024

.11(2) - Citation observed to be corrected.

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

Not Evaluated

Comment

Center does not participate in field trips at this time.

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

Not Met

Technical Assistance

Consultant discussed that dates must be listed on the bottom of the transportation form daily forward forward.

Correction Deadline: 3/31/2024

Finding

591-1-1-.36(4)(a) requires an annual safety check for each vehicle. The annual safety check, completed by a trained individual, should include a check of the: tires, headlights, horn, taillight, turn signals, brake lights, brakes, suspension, exhaust system, steering, windows, windshield and windshield wipers. A copy of the annual safety check will be kept in the Center or on the vehicle and should include evidence of any repairs and/or replacements that were identified as needed on the inspection report. It was determined based on a review of records that the van ending in tag 9722 and 9723 did not have the facility address or odometer reading listed on the form.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will obtain the annual vehicle inspection.

Correction Deadline: 3/26/2024

Recited on 3/26/2024

Correction Deadline: 1/29/2024

Corrected on 3/26/2024

.36(4)(b) - Citation corrected.

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 record that the following information was missing from emergency medical forms reviewed.

- Eight of 17 emergency medical forms did not have the medical facility nor the address.
- Five of 17 emergency medical forms did not have the parent's work number.
- Three of 17 emergency medical forms did not have the doctor's name and number.
- One of 17 emergency medical forms did not have the date of birth listed.
- One of 17 emergency medical forms did not have an emergency contact listed.
- One of 17 emergency medical forms did not have the father's information.
- One of 17 emergency medical forms did not have whether the child has any medications or allergies.
- Three children did not have an emergency medical form.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will obtain a complete emergency medical information record for each child that is transported and maintain a copy on the vehicle.

Correction Deadline: 3/27/2024

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

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

Discussed SIDS and infant sleeping position.

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-.14 First Aid & CPR**Met****Comment**

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

591-1-1-.33 Staff Training**Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.33(2) requires the initial Center orientation to include the following subjects: the Center's policies and procedures; the portions of these rules dealing with the care, health and safety of children; the Staff person's assigned duties and responsibilities; reporting requirements for suspected cases of child abuse, neglect or deprivation; communicable diseases and serious injuries; emergency weather plans; the program's emergency preparedness plan; childhood injury control; the administration of medicine; reducing the risk of Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS); hand washing; fire safety; water safety; and prevention of HIV/AIDS and blood borne pathogens. It was determined based on a review of records that three staff members did not have completed orientation in their worker files.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will provide orientation in all missing subjects to the employee(s) and will take steps to provide a complete orientation to new Employees in the future.

Correction Deadline: 3/27/2024

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 one staff member did not have proof of health and safety training at the time of the visit.

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: 4/25/2024

Technical Assistance

Please ensure the director and cook have the required food service training. This will be reviewed at the next regulatory visit.

Correction Deadline: 4/25/2024

Finding

91-1-1-.33(5) requires that every calendar year after the first year of employment, all supervisory and caregiver Personnel, except independent contractors, Students-in-Training and volunteers shall attend ten (10) clock hours of diverse training which is task-focused in on-going health, safety and early childhood or child development related topics and which is offered by an accredited college, university or vocational program or other Department-approved source. The annual ten (10) clock hours of training shall be chosen from the following fields: child development, including discipline, guidance, nutrition, injury control and safety; health, including sanitation, disease control, cleanliness, detection and disposition of illness; child abuse and neglect, including identification and reporting, and meeting the needs of abused and/or neglected children; and business related topics, including parental communication, recordkeeping, etc.; provided however that such business related training shall be limited to no more than two (2) of the required ten (10) clock hours of training. Records of completion of such training shall be maintained, as required by these rules. It was determined based on a review of records that two staff members did not have annual training for the 2022 year.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will plan and schedule the required 10 hours of annual training each year and follow up to ensure the training is completed.

Correction Deadline: 4/25/2024

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

Not Met

Finding

591-1-1-.31(2)(c) requires the Center to maintain a copy and/or written verification of the credential or degree awarded to the lead teacher that is required by these rules in the lead teacher's file, to make the document available for inspection and to provide the document to Department staff upon request. It was determined based on observation that the center did not have a qualified lead teacher for eight of eight classrooms and no professional development plans on file.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will review lead teacher records to ensure the required documentation is on file and will obtain and file it if not found.

Correction Deadline: 3/26/2024

Recited on 3/26/2024

Staffing and Supervision

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

Not Met

Finding

591-1-1-.32(4)(b) allows children who turn three years old during the regular school year to remain with two year olds for the remainder of the school year but requires agreement from the older child's Parent(s) for the continued placement. It was determined that on December 7, 2023, the center had two-year-old and three-year-old children combined together without completion of the two-year-old permission form completed the parents as required.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will secure parental permission and keep it on file.

Correction Deadline: 3/26/2024

Recited on 3/26/2024

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

Met

Comment

Adequate supervision observed on this date.