



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

Cover Sheet

Date: 8/23/2022 **VisitType:** Licensing Study

Arrival: 9:40 AM

Departure: 12:00 PM

CCLC-1115

Growing Room Too

6110 Bradley Park Drive Columbus, GA 31904 Muscogee County
 (706) 653-0088 jcarpenter@growingroomusa.com

Regional Consultant

Penny Svenson

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Mailing Address

PO Box 4216
 Columbus, GA 31914-0126

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.
08/23/2022	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
06/22/2022	Complaint Closure	Good Standing	
06/21/2022	Complaint 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	1st Left	Three Year Olds	2	14	C	24	C	NA	NA	Centers, Transitioning
Main	1st Right	Three Year Olds	2	15	C	24	C	NA	NA	Art, Centers
Main	2nd Left	Three Year Olds	2	16	C	23	C	NA	NA	Transitioning, Centers, Art
Main	2nd Right		2	0	C	19	C	NA	NA	Circle Time, Transitioning
Main	3rd Left	One Year Olds	3	12	C	19	C	NA	NA	Transitioning, Diapering, Free Play
Main	3rd Right	Four Year Olds	2	14	C	23	C	NA	NA	Circle Time
Main	4th Left	Infants	3	9	C	18	C	NA	NA	Feeding, Floor Play, Nap
Main	4th Right	One Year Olds and Two Year Olds	2	77	C	24	NC	NA	NA	Circle Time, Transitioning
Main	Mid GA Pre-K	PreK	2	19	C	25	C	NA	NA	Snack, Transitioning
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 199			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0							
Total # Children this Date: 176			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0							

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	Main	78	C

Comments

September 13, 2022--This visit was closed out on this date after a review of additional documents.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 08/23/2022

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/Regulations.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



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.state.ga.us for more information. Free technical assistance is available!

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)

Serlena Willis-Miles, Program Official

Date

Penny Svenson, Consultant

Date



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Findings Report

Date: 8/23/2022 **VisitType:** Licensing Study **Arrival:** 9:40 AM **Departure:** 12:00 PM

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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(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 reading area in the third room on the right was not cleaned and had dirt present on the shelves of the reading nook. Further, several doll houses and play kitchen areas had chipped paint and warped wood and the sinks were missing.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

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

Correction Deadline: 8/23/2022

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: 0

Child # 1	Met
Child # 2	Met
Child # 3	Met
Child # 4	Met

Child # 5

Met

591-1-1-.08 Children's Records**Met****Comment**

Records were observed to be complete and well organized.

Facility**591-1-1-.06 Bathrooms****Met****Comment**

Please monitor bathrooms for necessary supplies.

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(3) requires the Center and surrounding premises to be kept clean, free of debris and in good repair. Hygienic measures such as, but not limited to, screened windows and proper waste disposal procedures shall be utilized to minimize the presence of rodents, flies, roaches and other vermin at the Center. It was determined based on observation that these hazards were present: popcorn ceiling had a rip in the seam in the second classroom on the left; ceiling had a watermark in the second classroom on the right; rush present on the bathroom door frames between the first and second classrooms on the right.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will have the Center and surrounding areas cleaned, make repairs where needed, and remove all debris is removed. The Center will implement a plan to keep areas clean and in good repair that includes regular monitoring.

Correction Deadline: 8/23/2022**591-1-1-.26 Playgrounds(CR)****Not Met****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 these hazards were present:

vines were present along the fence next to the train tracks; brown coating was missing on the side of the stairs on the large piece of playground equipment and a sharp edge was present; play house on the far left side of the playground had sharp edges present at the bottom of the play house as you entered the opening to go inside the play house.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will remove any litter and fix or remove hazards from the playground and will routinely monitor the playground and remove litter and hazards.

Correction Deadline: 8/23/2022**Food Service****591-1-1-.15 Food Service & Nutrition****Met****Comment**

Center menu meets USDA guidelines.

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

Kitchen appears clean and well organized.

Health and Hygiene

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

Hand washing requirements for diapering were discussed with the director on this date.

591-1-1-.17 Hygiene(CR)**Not Met****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 staff member washed a child's hands for six seconds after they were diapered.

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: 8/23/2022

Finding

591-1-1-.17(8) requires staff to wash their hands with liquid soap and warm running water upon arrival for the day, when moving from one child care group to another, upon re-entering the child care area after outside play, before and after diapering each child, dispensing medication, applying topical medications, handling and preparing food, eating, drinking, preparing bottles, feeding each child, assisting children with eating and drinking, after toileting or assisting children with toileting, using tobacco products, handling garbage and organic waste, touching animals or pets, handling bodily fluids and after contamination by any means. It was determined based on observation that a staff member washed their hands for approximately 10 seconds, cleaned the diaper changing surface, and did not return to wash their hands after they cleaned the diaper changing surface.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will ensure liquid soap and warm running water are available for handwashing, train Staff on the handwashing requirements, review the requirements with Staff periodically, and monitor handwashing.

Correction Deadline: 8/23/2022

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

Documentation for medication dispensing observed complete.

Safety

591-1-1-.05 Animals**Met****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)**Met****Comment**

Field trip documentation observed to be complete.

591-1-1-.36 Transportation(CR)**Technical Assistance****Technical Assistance**

The Consultant discussed with the Director that a child's travel time be limited to forty-five minutes on each trip between the Center and destination unless accompanied by the Parent and excluding field trips and a note should be made on the transportation form if there were extenuating circumstances that led to a child being on a vehicle longer than forty-five minutes.

Correction Deadline: 8/24/2022

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

591-1-1-.30 Safe Sleeping and Resting Requirements(CR)**Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.30(1)(a)2 requires that a crib mattress is firm, tight-fitting without gaps, at least 2 inches thick and covered with a waterproof, washable material. Before a change of occupant, each mattress shall be cleaned with a disinfectant. It was determined based on observation that there were six crib mattresses that had exposed foam due to rips and tears.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The center will ensure that a crib mattress is firm, tight-fitting without gaps, at least New crib mattresses were ordered on the date of the visit.

Correction Deadline: 8/23/2022

Staff Records

Records Reviewed: 32**Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 0**

Staff # 1 Met

Date of Hire: 09/07/2006

Staff # 2 Met

Date of Hire: 10/26/2020

Staff # 3 Met

Date of Hire: 06/04/2000

Staff # 4 Met

Date of Hire: 02/07/2022

Staff # 5 Met

Date of Hire: 03/16/2022

Staff # 6 Met

Date of Hire: 12/09/2021

Staff # 7 Met

Date of Hire: 06/14/2022

Staff # 8 Met
Date of Hire: 04/11/2022

Staff # 9 Met
Date of Hire: 03/03/2022

Staff # 10 Met
Date of Hire: 02/01/2021

Staff # 11 Met
Date of Hire: 05/12/2001

Staff # 12 Met
Date of Hire: 01/04/1998

Staff # 13 Met
Date of Hire: 04/29/2019

Staff # 14 Met
Date of Hire: 05/18/2020

Staff # 15 Met
Date of Hire: 10/28/2021

Staff # 16 Met
Date of Hire: 03/01/2022

Staff # 17 Met

Staff # 18 Met
Date of Hire: 08/22/2022

Reminder - Health & Safety training is required within 90 calendar days of hired

Staff # 19 Met
Date of Hire: 02/06/2020

Staff # 20 Met
Date of Hire: 01/06/2022

Staff # 21 Met
Date of Hire: 08/22/2033

Reminder - Health & Safety training is required within 90 calendar days of hired

Staff # 22 Met
Date of Hire: 10/30/2017

Records Reviewed: 32**Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 0**

Staff # 23	Met
Date of Hire: 11/06/2019	
Staff # 24	Met
Date of Hire: 05/02/1988	
Staff # 25	Met
Date of Hire: 03/21/2006	
Staff # 26	Met
Date of Hire: 08/18/2021	
Staff # 27	Met
Date of Hire: 07/30/2018	
Staff # 28	Met
Date of Hire: 11/10/2020	
Staff # 29	Met
Date of Hire: 03/31/2019	
Staff # 30	Met
Date of Hire: 09/05/2011	
Staff # 31	Met
Date of Hire: 04/01/2022	
Staff # 32	Met
Date of Hire: 09/03/1998	

Staff Credentials Reviewed: 7

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**

Evidence observed of 100% of center staff certified in First Aid and CPR.

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

Documentation observed of required staff training.

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**

Adequate supervision observed on this date.