



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: 10/16/2024 VisitType: Licensing Study

Arrival: 9:50 AM Departure: 1:45 PM

CCLC-48693

Sandy's Sandbox - Mercer

4150 Mercer University Dr. Macon, GA 31204 Bibb County  
(478) 812-8224 janice.sandyssandbox1@yahoo.com

Regional Consultant

Yolanda Marable

Phone: (770) 357-9953

Fax: (678) 302-2432

yolanda.marable@decal.ga.gov

Mailing Address

Same

Quality Rated: ★ ★ ★

| Compliance Zone Designation |                  |               | <b>Compliance Zone Designation</b> - 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.<br><br><b>Good Standing</b> - Program is demonstrating an acceptable level of performance in meeting the rules.<br><b>Support</b> - Program performance is demonstrating a need for improvement in meeting rules.<br><b>Deficient</b> - Program is not demonstrating an acceptable level of performance in meeting the rules. |
|-----------------------------|------------------|---------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 10/16/2024                  | Licensing Study  | Good Standing |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| 06/26/2024                  | Licensing Study  | Good Standing |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| 12/15/2023                  | 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                 |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------|-------------------------------|----------|------|------------|--------------|------------|--------------|-----------------------|
| Main                           | Room A - 1L (Infants)         | Infants         | 2                             | 6        | C    | 9          | C            | NA         | NA           | Diapering, Floor Play |
| Main                           | Room B - 2L (1 & 2 year olds) | Two Year Olds   | 1                             | 2        | C    | 12         | C            | NA         | NA           | Free Play             |
| Main                           | Room C - 3L (Pre-K)           | GA PreK         | 2                             | 15       | C    | 23         | C            | NA         | NA           | Outside               |
| Main                           | Room D - 2R (3 year olds)     | Two Year Olds   | 1                             | 7        | C    | 18         | C            | NA         | NA           | Snack                 |
| Main                           | Room E - 1L (Pre-K)           | Three Year Olds | 2                             | 4        | C    | 28         | C            | NA         | NA           | Floor Play            |
| Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 90 |                               |                 | Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0 |          |      |            |              |            |              |                       |
| Total # Children this Date: 34 |                               |                 | Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0 |          |      |            |              |            |              |                       |

| Building | Playground           | Playground Occupancy | Playground Compliance |
|----------|----------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|
| Main     | Playground A (Pre-K) | 27                   | C                     |
| Main     | Playground B         | 24                   | C                     |

| Enrolled Children |         |         |         |         |                    |                   |
|-------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|--------------------|-------------------|
| Under 1 years     | 1 years | 2 years | 3 years | 4 years | 5 years (Prekonly) | 5 years and older |
| 4                 | 0       | 11      | 7       | 0       | 14                 | 3                 |

### Comments

Consultant discussed the rule violations on this date.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 10/16/2024

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.al.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](http://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](mailto:qualityrated@dec.al.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:** 10/16/2024 **VisitType:** Licensing Study

**Arrival:** 9:50 AM **Departure:** 1:45 PM

**CCLC-48693**

**Sandy's Sandbox - Mercer**

4150 Mercer University Dr. Macon, GA 31204 Bibb County  
(478) 812-8224 janice.sandyssandbox1@yahoo.com

Regional Consultant

Yolanda Marable

Phone: (770) 357-9953

Fax: (678) 302-2432

yolanda.marable@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)**

**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.

**Children's Records**

**Records Reviewed: 5**

**Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 3**

Child # 1

Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.08(1)(a)-Special Care Procedures

Child # 2

Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.08(1)(a)-Special Care Procedures,.08(3)-Address of Release Person Missing,.08(1)-Doctor, Clinic, Phone Numbers

Child # 3

Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.08(1)(a)-Special Care Procedures

**Finding**

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. It was determined by review of records child #1 and # 3 were missing special accommodations and child #2 was missing physician information, special accommodations and person released to address.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

Center staff will develop a plan that includes how to obtain all required information for currently enrolled children and how to ensure this is done for future enrollees as well. The plan will also include how and where to maintain files for the required amount of time. The plan will be implemented and followed.

**Correction Deadline: 10/16/2024****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****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 by observation the following hazards were in room B,C, and E accessible to children.

Room B:

- the broom and dust pan in the bathroom
- the hanging black cord near the blue refrigerator

Room C:

- the electric cooking pot on top of the black refrigerator
- the bathroom toilet had rust and dirt at the bottom along with dirt on the walls
- the bathroom vent was covered in rust and dust
- the plastic serving gloves and clorox wipes were in the cubby
- the white surge plug did not have outlet covers on the teachers desk

Room E:

- teacher black bag was on top of the cubby

**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: 10/16/2024****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****Comment**

Proper diapering procedures observed.

---

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

Staff were observed to remind children to wash hands.

---

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

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

---

**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**

Center does not participate in field trips at this time.

---

**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**

Discussed SIDS and infant sleeping position.

---

**Staff Records**

---

**591-1-1-.09 Criminal Records and Comprehensive Background Checks(CR)****Met****Comment**

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

---

**591-1-1-.33 Staff Training****Not Met****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 by review of records staff member #4, #7, and #10 did not have evidence of completed of 2023 annual training hours.

**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: 11/15/2024**

---

**591-1-1-.31 Staff(CR)****Met****Comment**

Staff observed to be compliant with applicable laws and regulations.

|                                 |
|---------------------------------|
| <b>Staffing and Supervision</b> |
|---------------------------------|

---

**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.