



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: 11/20/2023 **VisitType:** Monitoring Visit

Arrival: 9:45 AM

Departure: 2:45 PM

CCLC-48022

Mother's Touch Academy

3152 Cruse Road Lawrenceville, GA 30044 Gwinnett County
 (770) 381-5200 motherstouchacademy2@gmail.com

CCS Coordinator

Margarita Collier

Phone: (770) 342-7934

Fax: (678) 891-5989

margarita.collier@dec.al.ga.gov

Joint with: Juande Sanders

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.
11/20/2023	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
04/12/2023	Incident Investigation & Follow Up	Good Standing	
01/19/2023	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
Back	D- left/ PreK		0	0	C	22	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Back	E - / Right/ afterschool		0	0	C	11	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 33			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0							
Main - Front	A - 1L/1's and 2's	Infants	1	6	C	8	C	NA	NA	Floor Play
Main - Front	B- 1R/3's	Four Year Olds and Five Year Olds and Six Year Olds and Over	1	10	C	11	C	NA	NA	Free Play,Art
Main - Front	C - 2R/ 6wks to 18 mths	Two Year Olds and Three Year Olds	1	8	C	8	C	NA	NA	Art,Free Play
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 27			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0							
Total # Children this Date: 24			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 60			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0				

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main - Front	A - left/all ages	11	C
Main - Front	B - Back left - All ages	50	C
Main - Front	D- 6wks - 2 years	21	C

Comments

The purpose of this visit was to conduct a monitoring visit and to follow-up on the previous visit conducted on April 12, 2023.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 11/20/2023

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.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 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!

Mariam Quarterman, Program Official	Date
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Juande Sanders, Intake Unit Consultant	Date
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Margarita Collier, CCS Coordinator	Date
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(Findings Report)

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The following information is associated with a Monitoring 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.

Evening Care

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

Technical Assistance

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.32(6) - Consultant discussed ratios and supervision for evening care hours.

Facility

591-1-1-.19 License Capacity(CR)

Met

Comment

Licensed capacity observed to be routinely met by center.

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 hazardous items were observed to be accessible to children present for care:

- Classroom C-2R/6wks to 18 mths - A bottle of "Promarx" multipurpose spray glue was stored in a clear bucket on a low sitting bookshelf located on the front-left side of the classroom.
- Classroom A-1L/1's and 2's - A bottle of "Off" insect repellent, "Theraflu" medi pack, a grocery bag, a pack of baby wipes, and a bottle of "Aveeno" eczema cream were stored in children's backpacks in the cubby area located on the front-left entrance of the classroom.

All items were labeled "KEEP OUT OF REACH OF CHILDREN."

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. Per the director, the center will request that parents no longer bring in their children's backpacks.

Correction Deadline: 11/20/2023

Finding

591-1-1-.25(17) requires that the Center premises be free of plants and shrubs which are poisonous or hazardous. It was determined based on observation that vines and tree limbs were observed to be growing throughout the fence surrounding playground A-left/all ages and playground B-Back left - All ages creating a potential tripping hazard.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The harmful item will be removed. Per the director, the center will follow up with their lawn service company to have the vines removed and the tree limbs trimmed.

Correction Deadline: 11/20/2023

591-1-1-.26 Playgrounds(CR)**Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.26(4) requires that playgrounds be protected from traffic or other hazards by a (4) four foot high fence or other barrier approved by this Department. Fencing material shall not present a hazard to children and shall be maintained so as to prevent children from leaving the playground area by any means other than through an approved access route. Fence gates shall be kept closed except when persons are entering or exiting the area. It was determined based on observation that the back exit gate located on the middle-right side of playground B-Back left - All ages measured approximately three feet and 11 inches in height with a six inch gap observed on the side of the fence. The playground exit gate located on the front-left side of playground A - left/all ages measured approximately three feet and 11 inches in height with a five inch gap observed on the front-left side of the fence. The gaps were observed to create a potential entrapment hazard.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will routinely check the fence to determine if it is in good repair and remains at least 4 feet high, and will repair any hazards. The Center will train Staff to identify and report any fence hazards and to keep the fence gates closed when not in use.

Correction Deadline: 12/8/2023

Finding

591-1-1-.26(6) requires that playground equipment provide an opportunity for the children to engage in a variety of experiences and shall be age-appropriate. For example, toddlers shall not be permitted to swing in swings designed for School-age Children. The outdoor equipment shall be free of lead-based paint, sharp corners and shall be regularly maintained in such a way as to be free of rust and splinters that could pose significant safety hazard to the children. All equipment shall be arranged so as not to obstruct supervision of children. It was determined based upon Consultants observation that the following equipment was in need of repair:

- Playground D - The blue, green, and tan "Little Tikes, picnic table was broken on the back-right side of the playground. Small push trike soiled and dirty sitting near the "Little Tike" play structure. A broken Burgundy office chair laying on the ground located on the back-right side. The green, tan, blue, and red "Little Tike" playhouse contained a cracked roof unsecured walls causing the house to potentially topple over. The green, red, and tan "Little Tikes" sliding structure was missing the slide. The slide was observed to be sitting on the ground underneath a wooden structure located on the back-left side of the playground.

-Playground B - "Little Tikes" play structure was missing the sliding board. The medium sized rainbow play structure was separating at joints of the structure and observed to be dirty and soiled. The Large "Little Tike" play structure contained cracked sharp areas around the two arches on the inside of the structure. .

-Playground A - Red and yellow tricycle contained a missing seat or basket; seat with tears and cracks, several bikes contained rusted chains and torn seats. Four white tables were missing the tops leaving only the legs of the tables exposed. Four red and yellow "Little Tike" cars were soiled and dirty. Large "Tonka" type pickup truck contained broken wheels; dirty and soiled. A green water table was observed leaning against the fence causing a potential tipping hazard. A red "Razor" electric scooter and a black and white "Razor" electric or fuel operated mini bike laying on the ground were observed to contain rust.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will provide a variety of age-appropriate equipment that is arranged so as not to obstruct supervision of children. Staff will check the equipment daily to ensure that the equipment is free of hazards, rust and splinters.

Correction Deadline: 12/7/2023

Finding

591-1-1-.26(8) requires climbing and swinging equipment to have a resilient surface beneath the equipment and the fall zone from such equipment must be adequately maintained by the Center to assure continuing resiliency. It was determined based on observation that the blue, green, red, and yellow sliding structure contained less than one inch of resilient surface surrounding the fall zones of the slide. Approximately six inches of resilient surface was required.

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. The center submitted an order to via CLASS Wallet for new rubber resilient surface. However, the order was delivered to the incorrect address. The center is currently pending the remaining order of rubber resilient surface to be delivered to the center.

Correction Deadline: 12/8/2023

Recited on 11/20/2023

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 the following hazardous items were observed to be accessible to the children present for care:

- Playground D-6wks - 2 years - A bag of "Fire Ant Killer", a bag of "Snake Away", a blue vacuum cleaner, a red vacuum cleaner, an empty mop bucket, a torn black and gray office chair with exposed foam, and two wooden poles were sitting on the deck leading to the playground area.
 - Playground B - Back left - All ages - Leaves were observed throughout the playground, four black poles mounted by exposed concrete that was not flushed with the ground, and two ant mounds next to the blue green, red, and yellow "Little Tikes" sliding structure located on the back-left side of the playground.
 - Playground A - left/all ages - Leaves were observed throughout the playground.
- The leaves and the exposed concrete created a potential tripping hazard. The fire ant killer and snake away chemicals contained the labeled "KEEP OUT OF REACH OF CHILDREN."

It was determined based on observation that a bag of ant killer and "Snake Away" chemicals were observed on the porch area leading to playground D. A blue vacuum cleaner and a red vacuum cleaner, an empty mop bucket, a black and gray office chair with torn and ripped seat, two large wooden poles and several small chairs in a variety of sizes, shoes and other debris were observed to be accessible to children on the porch area leading to playground D. Leaves were observed throughout the grounds of playground A and playground B creating a potential tripping hazard. Four black poles containing mounds of exposed cement were observed on playground B creating a potential tripping hazard. Two ant mounds were observed around the playground structure located on playground B. The "Snake Away" and ant killer products contained the label "KEEP OUT OF REACH OF CHILDREN."

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: 11/20/2023

Food Service**591-1-1-.15 Food Service & Nutrition****Technical Assistance****Technical Assistance**

Per the director, the center does not have any infants enrolled at this time. Please ensure that upon enrolling infants, that all baby bottles are clearly labeled with the individual child's name. Formula or breast milk shall be supplied by the Parent daily in bottles. Only the current day's formula or breast milk shall be served. Bottles shall be refrigerated at a temperature of forty (40) degrees Fahrenheit or less. If formula must be provided by the Center, only commercially prepared, ready-to-feed formula shall be used. Refrigerated or frozen breast milk shall only be heated or thawed under warm running water or in a container of warm water.

Health and Hygiene**591-1-1-.10 Diapering Areas & Practices(CR)****Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.10(4) requires that if diapers are changed on a diaper changing surface, the surface shall be smooth, nonporous, and equipped with a guard or rails to prevent falls. Between each diaper change, the diaper changing surface shall be cleaned with a disinfectant and dried with a single-use disposable towel. It was determined based on observation that a quilted diaper changing pad was used on the diaper changing table located on the back-right side of classroom A. The diaper changing pad was also observed to contain several tears throughout the pad.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will ensure there is a smooth, nonporous changing surface that has a guard or rails for safety in each classroom that houses children wearing diapers. Center Staff will be trained and have adequate supplies to properly clean the diaper changing surface between each diaper change.

Correction Deadline: 11/20/2023

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

Comment

Staff stated the proper hand washing procedures for staff and children.

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

Comment

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

Safety

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

Comment

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

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

Please ensure that cribs/cots are labeled for individual use.

Staff Records

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

Comment

The director provided one file for one staff member hired since the previous visit was conducted on April 12, 2023. The consultant observed one of one newly hired staff member to have evidence of a current satisfactory comprehensive determination letter on file.

Correction Deadline: 4/12/2023

Corrected on 11/20/2023

.09(1)(b) - The previous citation was observed to be corrected. The consultant observed the director to have evidence of a current satisfactory comprehensive determination letter on file.

Correction Deadline: 4/12/2023

Corrected on 11/20/2023

.09(1)(b) - The previous citation was observed to be corrected. The consultant observed the director 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**

Comment

Center observed to maintain appropriate staff:child ratios.

Comment

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