



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: 8/20/2024 **VisitType:** Monitoring Visit

Arrival: 12:00 PM **Departure:** 2:00 PM

CCLC-34766

The Bright Futures Academy

3602 Highlands Pkwy Smyrna, GA 30082 Cobb County
(678) 424-1076 thebrightfuturesacademy@gmail.com

Regional Consultant

Evelyn McBurse

Phone: (770) 405-7958

Fax: (404) 591-5186

evelyn.mcburse@decal.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.
08/20/2024	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
03/06/2024	LS POI Follow Up	Good Standing	
12/14/2023	Complaint Investigation Follow Up	Support	

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 1st Left	Infants and One Year Olds	1	6	C	7	C	NA	NA	Lunch,Nap
Main	B 2nd Left		0	0	C	8	C	NA	NA	
Main	C 3rd Left	One Year Olds and Two Year Olds	1	16	C	15	NC	NA	NA	Nap
Main	D Right Room	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	1	9	C	10	C	NA	NA	Nap
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 40					Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					
Total # Children this Date: 31					Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	Playground	15	C

Enrolled Children						
Under 1 years	1 years	2 years	3 years	4 years	5 years (Prekonly)	5 years and older
3	8	15	7	4	0	0

Comments

The purpose of this visit was to conduct a monitoring visit.

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/RuleAndRegulations.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.state.ga.us 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: 8/20/2024 **VisitType:** Monitoring Visit

Arrival: 12:00 PM **Departure:** 2:00 PM

CCLC-34766

The Bright Futures Academy

3602 Highlands Pkwy Smyrna, GA 30082 Cobb County
(678) 424-1076 thebrightfuturesacademy@gmail.com

Regional Consultant

Evelyn McBurse

Phone: (770) 405-7958

Fax: (404) 591-5186

evelyn.mcburse@dec.al.ga.gov

Mailing Address

Same

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)

Not Evaluated

Comment

Center does not provide swimming activities. There is no pool on property.

Facility

591-1-1.19 License Capacity(CR)

Not Met

Finding

591-1-1.19(1) requires a Center to provide 35 square feet of usable space per child, which will determine the Center's License capacity. It was determined based on observation that there were sixteen children and one staff present in Classroom C -3rd Left and the licensed capacity for that classroom is fifteen.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will limit the number of children in this space to the licensed capacity.

Correction Deadline: 8/20/2024

591-1-1.25 Physical Plant - Safe Environment(CR)

Met

Comment

Center appears clean and well maintained.

591-1-1.26 Playgrounds(CR)

Not Met

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 on observation that on the left side of the wooden stairs on the green and wooden play structure was broken posing a safety hazard to children.

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: 9/13/2024

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.26(9) - Please secure the boards under the fence gate on the left side of the playground to prevent any gaps over 3.5 inches.

Correction Deadline: 8/20/2024

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

Staff stated proper knowledge of diapering procedures.

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

Proper hand washing of children and staff was discussed with the director on this date.

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

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

Organization**591-1-1-.16 Governing Body & License****Technical Assistance****Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.16(f) - Consultant discussed with director that an amendment would need to be submitted to the Department to change Classroom C- 3rd Left from a non-diapering classroom to a diapering classroom to house one and two-year-old children that require diapering.

Correction Deadline: 8/20/2024

Safety**591-1-1-.05 Animals****Not Evaluated****Comment**

Center does not keep animals on premises.

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

Staff stated age-appropriate discussion and redirection as a form of discipline used at the center.

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 Evaluated****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.

Comment

The correct number of mats, sheets and blankets were observed on this date. Cleaning and disinfecting of mats was discussed with staff on this date.

Staff Records

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

Director stated that there have been no new hires since last visit on March 6, 2024.

Comment

Satisfactory comprehensive criminal record checks were observed to be complete for all staff on this date.

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

Correction Deadline: 12/31/2024

Corrected on 8/20/2024

.33(5) - Correction of the previous citation in that consultant observed all applicable staff to have completed 10 clock hours of annual training in 2024.

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

Discussed that all lead staff must enroll in an approved education program within 6 months of hire and complete degree within 18 months.

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)**Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.32(1) requires the Center to maintain the required Staff:child ratios as follows: under 1 year or under 18 months if not walking = 1:6; 1 year and walking = 1:8; 2 years = 1:10; 3 years = 1:15; 4 years = 1:18; 5 years = 1:20; and 6 years and older = 1:25. A Center must establish groupings of children for care with maximum group sizes as follows: under 1 year = 12; under 18 months/not walking = 12; 1 year and walking = 16; 2 years = 20; 3 years = 30; 4 years = 36; 5 years = 40; and 6 years and older = 50. It was determined based on observation that there was one staff member present with eight one-year-old children and eight two-year-old children in Classroom C- 3rd Left.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will hire additional Staff or reschedule current Staff to meet required Staff:child ratios and will organize children into groups that meet requirements.

Correction Deadline: 8/20/2024

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

Adequate supervision observed on this date.