



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: 1/11/2024 **VisitType:** Licensing Study

Arrival: 10:00 AM

Departure: 2:45 PM

CCLC-1996

Stratford Academy Extended Care

6010 Peake Road Macon, GA 31220 Bibb County
(478) 477-8073 bettyann.jennings@stratford.org

Process & QI Unit Consultant

Melyn Smith

Phone: (706) 855-3455

Fax: (706) 434-7640

melyn.smith@decal.ga.gov

Joint with: Jeanne Noble-Duncan

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.
01/11/2024	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
09/25/2023	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
03/31/2023	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
Lower Elementary Building	Room 201		0	0	C	17	C	NA	NA	
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 17			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0							
Main	400	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	2	11	C	26	C	NA	NA	Outside,Centers
Main	401		0	0	C	26	C	NA	NA	
Main	407		0	0	C	26	C	NA	NA	
Main	408	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	2	9	C	21	C	NA	NA	Outside,Centers
Main	409	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	2	10	C	21	C	NA	NA	Story,Outside
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 120			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0							
Total # Children this Date: 30			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 137			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0				

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	lower	113	C
Main	Upper	180	C

Comments

The purpose of this visit was to conduct a Licensing Study and to follow up on the previous visit.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 01/11/2024

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.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

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!

Betty Ann Jennings, Program Official	Date
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Jeanne Noble-Duncan, Process & QI Unit Consultant	Date
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Melyn Smith, Process & QI Unit Consultant	Date
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(Findings Report)

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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

Comment

A variety of equipment and toys were observed throughout the center.

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 red vinyl cushion on the chair in the library area was observed to have tears with foam exposed, which prevented the cushion from being thoroughly cleaned, as required.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

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

Correction Deadline: 1/18/2024

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

N/A

Comment

Center does not provide swimming activities.

Children's Records

Records Reviewed: 7

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 2

Child # 4

Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.08(3)-Address of Release Person Missing

Child # 6

Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.08(3)-Address of Release Person Missing

591-1-1-.08 Children's Records**Technical Assistance****Comment**

Records were observed to be well organized.

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.08(1) - The Consultant discussed with the Director to please ensure children's files were complete and updated, including the addresses for the children's authorized release persons on this date.

Correction Deadline: 1/11/2024

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, based on observation, that the following potential hazards were observed:

- Room 400 - A stapler and two tape dispensers with serrated edges were observed accessible to children on a shelf near the teacher's desk. The cords from the ClearTouch interactive board were observed loose and accessible to children in the block area.
- Room 401 - An unlocked cabinet under the handwashing sink and accessible to children was observed to contain plastic bags and cleaners on this date. A plunger was observed in the second bathroom on this date. The cords from the ClearTouch interactive board were observed to be loose and accessible to children on this date. A surge protector not in use but plugged in was observed accessible to children near the rocking chair on this date.
- Room 408 - The lamp in the library area was observed to have an accessible loose cord. A stapler and a tape dispenser with a serrated edge was observed to be accessible to children on the teacher's desk.
- Room 409 - The cords from the ClearTouch interactive board were observed to be loose and accessible to children on this date.

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: 1/12/2024

591-1-1-.26 Playgrounds(CR)**Technical Assistance****Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.26(9) - The Consultant discussed with the Director to please ensure accessible tree roots were covered or highly visible, as the pine straw covering the tree roots on the playground were blown away during a storm earlier in the week, making the tree roots a potential tripping hazard.

Correction Deadline: 1/11/2024

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

No children enrolled who require diapering.

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

Please ensure lids remain on trash containing organic waste.

Comment

Staff were observed to remind children to wash hands.

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

The Provider dispense/administer medication but currently does not have any enrolled children requiring medication.

Policies and Procedures

591-1-1-.21 Operational Policies & Procedures**Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.21(3) requires that the Center conduct drills for fire, tornado and other emergency situations. The fire drills will be conducted monthly and tornado and other emergency situation drills will be conducted every six months. The Center shall maintain documentation of the dates and times of these drills for two years. It was determined, based on documentation, that the Center failed to conduct fire drills during the months of September 2023 and November 2023 on this date, when fire drills were required to be conducted monthly.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will hold the drills as required and keep the documentation of the drills on file for two years.

Correction Deadline: 1/16/2024

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.21(1)(p) - The Consultant discussed with the Director to please update the emergency plans by adding what to do in case of a flood emergency.

Correction Deadline: 1/16/2024

Safety

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

Center does not keep animals on premises.

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

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

591-1-1-.13 Field Trips(CR)**N/A****Comment**

Center does not participate in field trips at this time.

591-1-1-.36 Transportation(CR)**N/A****Comment**

Center does not provide routine transportation.

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

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

Pleasant naptime environment observed.

Comment

The correct number of mats, sheets and blankets were observed on this date. Please ensure that the mats used were in good repair and contained no tears.

Staff Records**591-1-1-.09 Criminal Records and Comprehensive Background Checks(CR)****Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.09(1)(a) requires that a Center ensure that every actual and potential Director, Employee and Provisional Employee of a Child Care Learning Center submit both a Records Check Application to the Department and Fingerprints to an authorized fingerprinting site. It was determined, based on review of records, that Staff #4 identified as the Music Teacher and Staff #7 identified as the Spanish Teacher were present at the Center without submitting both a Records Check Application to the Department and Fingerprints to an authorized fingerprinting site on this date.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

IMMEDIATE CORRECTION - The Center will ensure that every actual and potential Director, Employee and Provisional Employee of a Child Care Learning Center submit both a Records Check Application to the Department and Fingerprints to an authorized fingerprinting site as required. The program's owner or an officer/member of the corporation must view the A to Z Background Check video units pertaining to this records check rule and return the signed affidavit within one week from this visit date. The Center will ensure the CRC rules are maintained.

Correction Deadline: 1/12/2024**Finding**

591-1-1-.09(1)(c) requires the Center to ensure that every Employee has a valid and current satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination on file prior to being present at the Center while any child is present for care or before an individual age 17 or older resides in the Center. The Comprehensive Records Check Determination must have a Records Check Clearance Date that is no older than the preceding 12 months of the hire date; provided, however, if the Employee has had a lapse of employment from the child care industry that lasted for 180 days (6 months) or longer, a new satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination is required. It was determined, based on review of records, that Staff #4 identified as the Music Teacher and Staff #7 identified as the Spanish Teacher were present at the Center without a current and valid satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination on file.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

IMMEDIATE CORRECTION - The Center will ensure that every Employee has a valid and current satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination on file prior to being present at the Center while any child is present for care or before an individual age 17 or older resides in the Center. The Comprehensive Records Check Determination must have a Records Check Clearance Date that is no older than the preceding 12 months of the hire date; provided, however, if the Employee has had a lapse of employment from the child care industry that lasted for 180 days (6 months) or longer, a new satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination is required. The program's owner or an officer/member of the corporation must view the A to Z Background Check video units pertaining to this records check rule and return the signed affidavit within one week from this visit date. The center will ensure the CRC rules are maintained.

Correction Deadline: 1/12/2024**591-1-1-.14 First Aid & CPR****Met****Comment**

Complete first aid kits observed in center.

Comment

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

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 documentation, that Staffs # 2, 4, and 5 did not have evidence of completing ten hours of annual training for 2023 on this date.

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: 4/11/2024

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**

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