



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: 12/13/2023 **VisitType:** Monitoring Visit

Arrival: 10:00 AM

Departure: 3:00 PM

CCLC-37954

Next Generation Learning Center

325 Old Wrightsboro Rd. Grovetown, GA 30813 Columbia County
 (706) 868-9966 stnextgeneration@yahoo.com

Process & QI Unit Consultant

Melyn Smith

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Mailing Address

565 Wilkins Road
 Grovetown, GA 30813

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.
12/13/2023	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
02/09/2023	Complaint Closure	Good Standing	
02/06/2023	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
Single	A/1L	Infants and One Year Olds	3	9	C	17	C	NA	NA	Feeding, Floor Play, Nap
Single	B/2L	Two Year Olds	2	18	C	20	C	NA	NA	Outside, Lunch
Single	C/3L/PreK 1	Four Year Olds	1	11	C	20	C	27	C	Circle Time, Transitioning
Single	D/1R	One Year Olds	3	12	C	16	C	NA	NA	Centers, Transitioning
Single	E/2R	Three Year Olds	1	12	C	18	C	NA	NA	Centers, Outside
Single	F/3R/Pre-K 2	GA PreK	2	22	C	25	C	36	C	Transitioning, Centers

Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 116

Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 134

Total # Children this Date: 84

Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 116

Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 134

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Single	PG/A Left	27	C
Single	PG/B Middle	69	C
Single	PG/C Right	76	C

Comments

The purpose of this visit was to conduct a Monitoring Visit and to follow up on the previous citations.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 12/13/2023

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.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.ga.gov for more information. Free technical assistance is available!

Sharon Tolver, Program Official

Date

Melyn Smith, Process & QI Unit Consultant

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)

N/A

Comment

Center does not provide swimming activities.

Evening Care

591-1-1.32 Staffing/Supervision(CR)

Met

Comment

The program has sufficient lighting and staff present at all times.

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)

Technical Assistance

Technical Assistance

591-1-1.25(13) - The Consultant discussed with the Director to please ensure diapers and/or pull-ups were removed from the plastic bags on this date.

Correction Deadline: 12/13/2023

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.25(3) - The Consultant discussed with the Director to please ensure all ventilation/exhaust fans were free of dust in the bathrooms and above the diapering areas. Also, please ensure toilet bolts do not exceed two threads or were covered.

Correction Deadline: 12/13/2023

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 following was observed:

- Left Playground: The front fence facing the parking lot measured 42 inches in height, when they were required to be 48 inches, or four feet in height. Broken boards and missing boards were observed on the outer wooden fence, with gaps measuring five inches. Boards from the wooden fence were observed loose with nails exposed. A hole measuring three and a half inches by three inches was observed in the wooden barrier around the water meter. The gate to the middle playground had bolts protruding over two threads.
- Middle Playground: The fence around the front HVAC unit measured 43 inches in height and the fence around the back HVAC unit measured 46 inches in height, when 48 inches, or four feet was required. The gate leading to the Right Playground had bolts protruding over two threads and the fencing was separating from the top of the gate. The top bar of the fence between the Middle and Right Playgrounds was unattached with a gap near the gate.
- Right Playground: The front fence facing the railroad tracks was observed to be separated from the top horizontal bar and from the first two vertical bars and a vertical bar in the middle of the fence. The front fence facing the railroad tracks measured 43 inches in height, when 48 inches, or four feet in height was required. The rebar pieces anchoring the bottom of the fence to the ground were raised and open on this date.

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: 1/24/2024

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 the following potential equipment hazards were observed:

- Left Playground: The third and fourth bucket swings were observed to be cracked on the bottom.
- Middle Playground: The S hook on the back set of swings were observed to be open.
- Right Playground: The S hooks on the swings were observed to be open. The plastic covering on the swing chains were observed to be separating. One concrete bench under the pavilion was observed to be broken on both ends with rebar exposed.

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: 1/10/2024

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 potential hazards were observed on the Right Playground:

- An active ant bed was observed.
- Three holes measuring six inches in depth were observed at the bottom of the back wooden fence.

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: 1/10/2024

Food Service**591-1-1-.15 Food Service & Nutrition****Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.15(2)(c) requires age-appropriate solid foods (including cereal) not be given to infants or children less than one (1) year of age until recommended as developmentally appropriate by the child's primary care physician and indicated in writing by the Parent(s) and requires a child to be fed from individual spoons and individual containers or dishes as soon as the feeding plan indicates that a child is ready for solid foods. A child shall not be fed directly from the original baby food container if the contents are to be fed to the child at more than one (1) meal or to more than one (1) child. It was determined, based on observation, that three children in Room A had bottles with cereal mixed in, when it was required for cereal to be fed from individual spoons once it was developmentally appropriate for the children to have solid food.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will ensure that age-appropriate solid foods are given only as recommended by the child's physician and upon written instruction by the Parent(s). The Center will provide a sufficient number of spoons and dishes/containers and will train staff on proper feeding practices, review the procedures regularly and monitor to ensure procedures are followed.

Correction Deadline: 12/13/2023

Finding

591-1-1-.15(3) requires baby bottles and formula to be labeled with the individual child's name; supplied by the Parent daily in bottles; and refrigerated at a temperature of forty (40) degrees Fahrenheit or less. Only the current day's formula or breast milk shall be served. 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. It was determined, based on observation, that three bottles were observed in Room A to not be labeled with the individual child's name.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will train Staff to follow the required procedures, ensure that parents are fully informed, and will review and monitor regularly.

Correction Deadline: 12/13/2023

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.15(7) - The Consultant discussed with the Director to please ensure that foods that are associated with young children's choking incidents, such as, but not limited to, peanuts, hot dogs, raw carrots, popcorn, fish with bones, cheese cubes, grapes and any other food that is of similar shape and size of the trachea/windpipe shall not be served to the children less than four (4) years of age.

Correction Deadline: 12/13/2023

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

Staff state proper knowledge of diapering procedures.

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 diaper changing pads were observed to have tears in Rooms A, B, and D on this date.

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: 12/13/2023

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

Staff were observed to remind children to wash hands.

591-1-1-.20 Medications(CR)	N/A
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Comment

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

Safety

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

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

591-1-1-.36 Transportation(CR)	Not Met
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Comment

A current/completed inspection was observed for all vehicles used in transporting children this date.

Comment

Complete documentation of transportation observed.

Comment

The vehicle had an approved fire extinguisher and first aid kit on this date.

Finding

591-1-1-.36(4)(b) requires that the interior of a transportation vehicle be clean, in safe repair and free of hazardous items, objects and/or other non-essential items which could cause injury. It was determined, based on observation, that the following were observed in the vehicles used for routine transportation:

PVK7817: Tears were observed in the seats with foam exposed. One booster seat had a torn cover with foam exposed and one booster seat was lacking the cover.

RCZ4565: Two seat belts were observed to be frayed but operational on this date.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The center will maintain that all transportation vehicles are clean, in safe repair, and free from hazards.

Correction Deadline: 1/3/2024

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

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

Pleasant naptime environment observed.

Staff Records

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

Criminal record checks were observed to be complete.

591-1-1-.14 First Aid & CPR	Met
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Comment

Please replace the expired antibiotic ointment and ice packs in the first aid kits in the vehicles used for routine transportation.

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

Discussed: Health and Safety Training is required for each staff member with direct care responsibilities within 90 calendar days of their hire date.

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

Center observed to maintain appropriate staff:child ratios.

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

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