



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: 9/23/2024 **VisitType:** Licensing Study

Arrival: 10:00 AM **Departure:** 12:45 PM

CCLC-54295

Cozy Childcare & Learning Center

2731 Tobacco Rd. Hephzibah, GA 30815 Richmond County
(706) 793-5550 cozylearningcenter@gmail.com

Regional Consultant

Christina Jennings

Phone: (404) 463-0970

Fax: (770) 342-3177

christina.jennings@decal.ga.gov

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.
09/23/2024	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
06/26/2024	Complaint Closure	Good Standing	
06/21/2024	Complaint Investigation & 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	A-1st Left (1's&2's)	One Year Olds	2	11	C	24	C	NA	NA	Circle Time
Main	B-2nd Left (Preschool)	Three Year Olds	2	11	C	36	C	NA	NA	Outside
Main	C- Back (PreK-Schoolage)	GA PreK	2	19	C	38	C	NA	NA	Centers
Main	D-2nd Right (1's)	Two Year Olds	2	10	C	31	C	NA	NA	Outside
Main	E-1st Right (Infants)	Infants	1	5	C	14	C	NA	NA	Floor Play,Nap
		Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 143			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					
Total # Children this Date: 56		Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 143			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	PG- Left Playgd- 3yrs-12yrs	91	C
Main	PG- Right Playgd- 6wks-2yrs	23	C

Enrolled Children						
Under 1 years	1 years	2 years	3 years	4 years	5 years (Prekonly)	5 years and older
6	14	11	12	20	0	23

Comments

The purpose of this visit was to conduct a Licensing Study.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 09/23/2024

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!



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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

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 upon observation that the blue, green, blue, and tan vinyl play mat was peeling through out in Classroom E.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

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

Correction Deadline: 9/23/2024

Finding

591-1-1.12(4) requires that equipment and furniture is secured if it is of a weight or mass that could cause injury from tipping, falling, or being pulled or pushed over. It was determined based upon observation that 30 out of 30 nap mats were stacked against the back right wall causing a potential tipping hazard in Classroom B.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will ensure that the identified equipment or furniture and any other such existing or future items are secured adequately and will have a system for checking these for stability.

Correction Deadline: 9/23/2024

591-1-1.35 Swimming Pools & Water-related Activities(CR)

N/A

Comment

Center does not provide swimming activities.

Facility

Finding

591-1-1-.06(4) requires a Center first licensed after March 1, 1991, and Centers that remodel or add to existing plumbing facilities, to have the bathroom area fully enclosed and ventilated to the outside of the building with either an open screened window or functioning exhaust fan and duct system and requires Centers without fully enclosed bathrooms to ensure there is adequate ventilation to control odors and adequate sanitation measures to prevent the spread of contagious diseases. It was determined based upon observation that the vented exhaust fans were not free of dust preventing the exhaust fans to operate properly in two out of two children's bathrooms in Classroom C.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will fully enclose and ventilate bathroom areas, as required, and will provide adequate ventilation and sanitation in bathrooms that are not fully enclosed.

Correction Deadline: 9/27/2024

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****Comment**

Please be mindful to keep items that pose a hazard inaccessible to children.

Finding

591-1-1-.25(11) requires that floor coverings be tight, smooth, free of odors and washable or cleanable. It was determined based upon observation that the flooring was cracked causing a section of the cement to be exposed in front of the bathroom on the right side of Classroom D.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

Floors will be maintained to be safe and sanitary.

Correction Deadline: 10/23/2024

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.25(3) - The Consultant and Provider discussed ensuring that the classroom vents are properly maintained and free of dust.

Correction Deadline: 9/23/2024

591-1-1-.26 Playgrounds(CR)**Met**

Correction Deadline: 7/31/2024

Corrected on 9/23/2024

.26(4) - Previous citation observed to be corrected in that the Consultant observed the fencing to be greater than four feet in height as required on this date.

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

Staff state proper knowledge of diapering procedures.

591-1-1-.17 Hygiene(CR)**Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.17(7) requires that children wash their hands with liquid soap and warm running water upon arrival for care, when moving from one child care group to another, upon re-entering the child care area after outside play, before and after eating meals and snacks, handling or touching food, playing in water; after toileting and diapering, playing in sand, touching animals or pets, and contact with bodily fluids and after contamination by any other means. It was determined based upon observation that two out of two children did not immediately wash their hands with liquid soap and warm running water after cleaning their nose in Classroom D.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will train Staff on required handwashing for children and Staff will ensure children's hands are washed when required. The Director will monitor for compliance.

Correction Deadline: 9/23/2024

Finding

591-1-1-.17(8) requires staff to wash their hands with liquid soap and warm running water upon arrival for the day, when moving from one child care group to another, upon re-entering the child care area after outside play, before and after diapering each child, dispensing medication, applying topical medications, handling and preparing food, eating, drinking, preparing bottles, feeding each child, assisting children with eating and drinking, after toileting or assisting children with toileting, using tobacco products, handling garbage and organic waste, touching animals or pets, handling bodily fluids and after contamination by any means. It was determined based upon observation that a Staff member did not wash their hands with liquid soap and warm running water after wiping two out of two children's noses in Classroom D.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will ensure liquid soap and warm running water are available for handwashing, train Staff on the handwashing requirements, review the requirements with Staff periodically, and monitor handwashing.

Correction Deadline: 9/23/2024

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

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

Policies and Procedures

591-1-1-.29 Required Reporting**Met**

Correction Deadline: 6/26/2024

Corrected on 9/23/2024

.29(1) - Previous citation observed to be corrected in that the Provider stated to the Consultant what to submit as a Required Report on this date.

Safety

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

Correction Deadline: 6/26/2024

Corrected on 9/23/2024

.11(2) - Previous citation observed to be corrected in that Staff members stated to the Consultant proper discipline procedures when working with children on this date.

591-1-1-.36 Transportation(CR)**Met****Comment**

Complete documentation of transportation observed.

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**

Criminal record checks were observed to be complete.

591-1-1-.33 Staff Training	Met
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Correction Deadline: 7/21/2024

Corrected on 9/23/2024

.33(4) - Previous citation observed to be corrected in that the Consultant observed four clock hours of training in food and nutrition for Staff #8 on this 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

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

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

Center observed to maintain appropriate staff:child ratios.