



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: 2/13/2024 **VisitType:** Monitoring Visit **Arrival:** 2:00 PM **Departure:** 4:00 PM

CCLC-45823

Highland Kids Academy (Afterschool)

7300 Whittlesey Boulevard Columbus, GA 31909 Muscogee County
 (706) 221-5947 Linda@highlandkidsacademy.com

Regional Consultant

Penny Svenson

Phone: (470) 346-1037

Fax: (678) 891-5613

penny.svenson@decals.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.
02/13/2024	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
10/19/2023	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
04/28/2023	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
Lodge	Room A		0	0	C	13	C	NA	NA	Snack
Lodge	Room B		0	0	C	13	C	NA	NA	Snack
Lodge	Room D		0	0	C	12	C	NA	NA	
Lodge	Room E		0	0	C	12	C	NA	NA	
Lodge	Room F		0	0	C	11	C	NA	NA	
Lodge	Room G		0	0	C	12	C	NA	NA	
Lodge	Special Use		0	0	C	44	C	NA	NA	
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 0						Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0	Building @35 capacity limited by Insufficient Toilets/Sinks			
Main	G	Four Year Olds and Five Year Olds	2	7	C	15	C	NA	NA	Art
Main	H		0	0	C	10	C	NA	NA	
Main	I		0	0	C	9	C	NA	NA	
Main	Room A	Six Year Olds and Over	1	12	C	21	C	NA	NA	Snack
Main	Room B		1	0	C	16	C	NA	NA	Snack
Main	Room C	Five Year Olds and Six Year Olds and Over	1	14	C	15	C	NA	NA	Snack
Main	Room D	Six Year Olds and Over	1	7	C	16	C	NA	NA	Snack
Main	Room E	Six Year Olds and Over	1	10	C	16	C	NA	NA	Snack
Main	Room F	Six Year Olds and Over	1	8	C	0	NC	NA	NA	Snack, Transitioning
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 118						Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0				

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Lodge	Playground	293	C
Main	Playground A	109	C

Comments

February 13, 2024--The monitoring visit was completed on this date. There were no findings.

Plan of Improvement: No Plan Developed

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

Linda Fischer, Program Official

Date

Penny Svenson, Regional 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)

Met

Comment

Center does not provide swimming activities.

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

The Consultant discussed with the Director to replace any stained ceiling tiles that were present from heavy rain that occurred on February 13, 2024.

Correction Deadline: 2/13/2024

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

Met

Comment

Discussed maintenance of resilient surface and washed out areas on the playground due to heavy rain that occurred on February 12, 2024. The Director stated rubber mulch was due to be delivered on March 5, 2024.

Health and Hygiene

591-1-1-.10 Diapering Areas & Practices(CR)	Met
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Comment

No children enrolled who require diapering. School age children attend only for after school hours.

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)	Met
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Comment

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

	Safety
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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)	Met
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Comment

Complete documentation of transportation observed.

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

Sleeping/Naps are not required for this program. School age children attend only for after school hours.

	Staff Records
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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-.31 Staff(CR)	Met
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Comment

Staff observed to be compliant with applicable laws and regulations.

	Staffing and Supervision
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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.