



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: 6/28/2024 **VisitType:** Complaint Investigation Closure from visit on 05/17/2024

CCLC-695

Northside Hospital Child Development Center

1000 Johnson Ferry Road NE Atlanta, GA 30342 Fulton County
(404) 851-8660 pamela.whitney@northside.com

Special Investigations Unit Sr. Specialist

Brittany Sawyers

Phone: (229) 317-9647

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brittany.sawyers@dec.al.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.
06/28/2024	Complaint Closure	Good Standing	
05/17/2024	Complaint Investigation Follow Up	Good Standing	
05/14/2024	Complaint Closure	Good Standing	

Comments

6/28/2024/2024: The purpose of the visit was to conclude a complaint investigation.

Advisement of Potential for Repeated Rule Violations during Pending Investigations

This report shall serve as official notice of potential rule violations. These potential rule violations have been detailed in this report and discussed with you by the consultant. The department shall conduct a thorough investigation to determine if in fact the alleged rule violation(s) should or should not be substantiated. Please be aware that the investigation may take some time to be finalized to ensure fairness and accuracy. During this investigation period, any violations of an identical rule or rules will require the department to treat any and all substantiated rule violations identified in the investigation as repeated rule violation(s).

Further, from time to time the department discovers additional rule violations during the course of an investigation. If there are new rule violation(s), your consultant shall inform you of the violation(s) as soon as possible. However, as stated above, any violations of identical rule(s) will require the department to treat any and all additional rule violations identified in the investigation as repeated rule violations.

All rule violations found in relation to a complaint or incident investigation will be associated with the date the investigation was closed.



Please refer to the website, <http://www.dec.al.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)

I have read and understand the Rules and Regulations for Child Care Learning Centers, 591-1-1. I acknowledge that the items noted in this report have been discussed with me and I have agreed to a Plan of Improvement (POI) as indicated in this report. I understand that correction of these deficiencies, while required, will not necessarily prevent DECAL from taking adverse action against this facility. I understand that if I disagree with any of the deficiencies cited, I have the right to refute them on this report or any other form that I choose to send to Child Care Services.



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Summary Report

Date: 6/28/2024 **VisitType:** Complaint Investigation Closure **Arrival:** 3:00 PM **Departure:** 6:00 PM
from visit on 05/17/2024

CCLC-695

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The following information is associated with a Complaint Closure:

Activities and Equipment

591-1-1-.03 Activities

Not Met

Finding Associated with Complaint

591-1-1-.03(9) requires center staff to refrain from engaging in, or allowing children or other adults to engage in, activities that could be detrimental to a child's health or well-being, such as but not limited to, horse play, rough play, wrestling, and picking up a child in a manner that could cause injury. It was determined based on an investigation that on March 26, 2024, at 10:55 a.m., a one-year-old child in the Younger Toddler Classroom fell from an ottoman while attempting to climb onto a toy shelf. The child was initially running in the classroom with another child, when the child was told multiple times to stop running. The child proceeded to climb on top of an ottoman that was pushed against the toy shelf, where the child was told to get down from the ottoman multiple times. Staff members failed to physically intervene while the child was running, as the child was not physically redirected by staff members to join the children that were sitting on the floor to prevent the child from harm or injury.

Correction Deadline: 5/17/2024

591-1-1-.12 Equipment & Toys(CR)

Not Met

Finding Associated with Complaint

591-1-1-.12(3) requires that equipment and furniture be placed so as to permit the children's freedom of movement and to minimize danger of accident and collision. It was determined based on an investigation that on March 26, 2024, at 10:55 a.m., a one-year-old child in the Younger Toddler Classroom fell from on top of a ottoman while attempting to climb onto a toy shelf. The ottoman was pushed against a toy shelf. The ottoman was used in the classroom for the staff members when feeding the children and during art projects. However, the ottoman was not positioned in an area to prevent harm or to minimize danger of an accident.

Correction Deadline: 6/28/2024

Policies and Procedures

591-1-1-.29 Required Reporting	Not Met
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Finding Associated with Complaint

591-1-1-.29(3) requires the Director or designated person-in-charge to report or cause to be reported to the Department within twenty-four (24) hours or the next work day: any death of a child while in the care of the Center; any serious illness or injury requiring hospitalization or professional medical attention other than first aid of a child while in the care of the Center; any situation when a child in care becomes missing, such as, but not limited to, a child who is left on a vehicle, a child who leaves the building, playground, or property, or a child who is left behind on any trip; any fire; any structural disaster; any emergency situation that requires temporarily relocating children; and any time the program's operating status changes (i.e., open to closed or temporarily closed and temporarily closed to open). It was determined based on an investigation that on April 29, 2024, at approximately 11 a.m., a one-year-old child from the Younger Toddler Classroom was left outside and unattended on the toddler playground for 10 to 15 minutes. The child later received professional medical attention as a precaution. The center was aware of the incident and failed to report this incident to the Department within the required 24 hours or the next work day.

Correction Deadline: 6/28/2024

Staffing and Supervision

591-1-1-.32 Supervision(CR)	Not Met
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Finding Associated with Complaint

591-1-1-.32(7) requires that children be supervised at all times appropriate to the individual age, needs and capabilities of each child. Such supervision must include, but not be limited to, indoor and outdoor activities, mealtimes, naptime, transportation, field trips, and transitions between activities. "Supervision" means that the appropriate number of Staff members are physically present in the area where children are being cared for and are providing watchful oversight to the children, volunteers and Students-in-Training. The persons supervising in the child care area must be alert, positioned to maximize their ability to hear and see the children at all times, and able to respond promptly to the needs and actions of the children being supervised, as well as the actions of the volunteers and Students-in-Training, and provide timely attention to the children's actions and needs. Staff shall be attentive and participating with all children during mealtimes and shall be seated within an arm's length away from children thirty-six (36) months of age and younger. It was determined based on an investigation that on April 29, 2024, at approximately 11 a.m., a one-year-old child from the Younger Toddler Classroom was left outside and unattended on the toddler playground for 10 to 15 minutes. Staff members were locked outside of the classroom in efforts to finding the child, leaving the remaining eight children inside of the classroom without staff supervision. The center failed to ensure that watchful oversight was provided, as staff members were not physically present to hear and see the children when one child was left on the playground and eight children were inside of the classroom alone and unattended.

Correction Deadline: 6/28/2024

