



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

Cover Sheet

Date: 11/15/2022 **VisitType:** Licensing Study

Arrival: 9:05 AM

Departure: 11:45 AM

CCLC-53257

Excel Early Learning Center

54 Seventh Street Emerson, GA 30137 Bartow County
 (770) 382-9040 Viron@excelca.org

Regional Consultant

Chasity Baugh

Phone: (770) 357-1717

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chasity.baugh@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.
11/15/2022	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
05/24/2022	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
12/29/2021	Complaint Closure	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	Cafeteria		0	0	C	72	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Main	Room A	Two Year Olds	1	10	C	20	C	NA	NA	Centers
Main	Room B	One Year Olds and Two Year Olds	2	11	C	16	C	NA	NA	Free Play
Main	Room C	Infants and One Year Olds	2	8	C	12	C	NA	NA	Floor Play, Diapering, Nap
Main	Room D	One Year Olds	1	5	C	10	C	NA	NA	Free Play
Main	Room E	Three Year Olds	1	5	C	16	C	NA	NA	Circle Time
Main	Room F	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	1	10	C	22	C	NA	NA	Story
Main	Room G	PreK	2	10	C	22	C	NA	NA	Centers
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 120			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0			Building @35 capacity limited by Playground Limitations				
Total # Children this Date: 59			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 120			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0				

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	Playground A	40	C

Comments

A Licensing Study was completed on November 15, 2022. Center started doing field trips as of this year.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 11/15/2022

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/RuleAndRegulations.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



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!

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)

Valerie Irons, Program Official

Date

Chasity Baugh, 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(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 on observation in classroom B, the black wooden cabinet to the left of the door was not secure and could be pulled over, also in classroom B, the tan metal cabinet to the left of the diapering area was not secure and could be pulled over. Furthermore, in classroom E, the white wooden shelf was not secure and could be pulled over. In classroom F, the plastic cubbies by the door were observed to be upright and could be easily pulled over.

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, and reposition plastic cubbies to ensure their stability.

Correction Deadline: 11/15/2022

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

N/A

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)**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 in classroom B loose black plastic bags were stored in a cabinet without doors under the changing table. Furthermore, in classroom E, cleaning solution and loose black plastic bags were stored under the sink, the second and third cabinet doors under the sink do not lock.

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: 11/15/2022**Recited on 11/15/2022**

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

Playground not observed on this date due to inclement weather.

Health and Hygiene

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

Proper diapering procedures observed.

591-1-1-.17 Hygiene(CR)**Technical Assistance****Comment**

Proper hand washing observed throughout the center.

Technical Assistance

Consultant discussed 591-1-1-.17(8) which 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.

Correction Deadline: 11/15/2022

591-1-1-.20 Medications(CR)**Met****Comment**

Discussed proper medication documentation and procedures.

Safety

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)**Met****Comment**

Field trip documentation observed to be complete.

Comment

A current/completed maintenance invoice was observed for all vehicles used in transporting children this date, consultant discussed annual inspections form. Consultant was not able to observe van on this date due to key not being available. Consultant discussed with provider requirements for transportation and what must be in the van, including fire extinguisher, first aid kit and child restraints.

Finding

591-1-1-.36(3)(a-b) requires any Center that provides any type of transportation to obtain two (2) hours of state-approved or state-accepted transportation training, biannually, for the Director and for each person responsible for or who participates in the transportation of children. The training shall include, but is not limited to, a review of the transportation rules, a review of approved transportation forms and procedures, and instruction on the usage and completion of the forms and procedures. This training may be counted as part of the annual training requirements for Staff. It was determined based on review of records, staff member #10 did not obtain two (2) hours of transportation training.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will ensure that the Director, Center Staff, and any person responsible for the transportation of children has completed the required transportation training.

Correction Deadline: 11/25/2022

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

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

Met

Comment

Discussed SIDS and infant sleeping position.

Correction Deadline: 5/24/2022

Corrected on 11/15/2022

.30(2) - The previous citation was observed to be corrected.

Staff Records

Records Reviewed: 22

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 1

Staff # 1	Met
Staff # 2	Met
Date of Hire: 10/14/1994	
Staff # 3	Met
Date of Hire: 07/18/2017	
Staff # 4	Met
Date of Hire: 10/20/2022	<u>Reminder - Health & Safety training is required within 90 calendar days of hired</u>
Staff # 5	Met
Date of Hire: 03/29/2022	
Staff # 6	Met
Date of Hire: 03/08/2021	

Staff # 7	Met
Date of Hire: 10/24/2022	<u>Reminder - Health & Safety training is required within 90 calendar days of hired</u>
Staff # 8	Met
Date of Hire: 08/16/2021	
Staff # 9	Met
Date of Hire: 06/25/2018	
Staff # 10	Not Met
Date of Hire: 03/02/2018	
<u>"Missing/Incomplete Components"</u>	
.36(3)(a-b)-2 hrs. Transportation Training missing	
Staff # 11	Met
Date of Hire: 08/24/2017	
Staff # 12	Met
Staff # 13	Met
Date of Hire: 02/12/2020	
Staff # 14	Met
Date of Hire: 10/07/2019	
Staff # 15	Met
Date of Hire: 09/05/2022	
Staff # 16	Met
Date of Hire: 07/26/2021	
Staff # 17	Met
Date of Hire: 07/31/2012	
Staff # 18	Met
Date of Hire: 06/01/2020	
Staff # 19	Met
Date of Hire: 01/28/2020	
Staff # 20	Met
Date of Hire: 08/16/1993	
Staff # 21	Met

Records Reviewed: 22

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 1

Date of Hire: 01/27/2021

Staff # 22

Met

Date of Hire: 12/21/2021

Staff Credentials Reviewed: 4

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

Met

Comment

Criminal record checks were observed to be complete.

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

Met

Comment

Evidence observed of 50% of center staff certified in First Aid and CPR.

Correction Deadline: 1/16/2022

Corrected on 11/15/2022

.14(2) - This previous citation was corrected.

591-1-1-.33 Staff Training

Met

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

Comment

Discussed that all lead staff must enroll in an approved education program within 6 months of hire and complete degree within 18 months.

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.