



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: 7/8/2024

VisitType: Complaint Investigation &
Monitoring Visit

Arrival: 8:50 AM

Departure: 5:20 PM

CCLC-53834

Greater Minds Learning Academy

1285 McGarity Road McDonough, GA 30252 Henry County
(678) 272-7386 greatermindsla@gmail.com

Regional Consultant

April Brown

Phone: (770) 357-5101

Fax: (770) 357-5102

april.brown@decal.ga.gov

Joint with: Charlene Story

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.
07/08/2024	Complaint Closure	Good Standing	
07/08/2024	Complaint Investigation & Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
05/30/2024	POI 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
Main	1st Left	Infants	1	2	C	12	C	NA	NA	Floor Play
Main	A: 2L (inside L)	One Year Olds	1	4	C	12	C	NA	NA	Floor Play
Main	B: 2L (inside R)	Infants and One Year Olds	2	5	C	13	C	NA	NA	Floor Play
Main	C: 4L	One Year Olds	2	8	C	18	C	NA	NA	Free Play
Main	Cafeteria		0	0	C	19	C	NA	NA	
Main	D: Middle	Two Year Olds	2	8	C	15	C	NA	NA	Transitioning
Main	E: 2R		0	0	C	16	C	NA	NA	
Main	F: 3R	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	2	21	C	21	C	NA	NA	Free Play
Main	G: 4R	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	1	12	C	26	C	NA	NA	Free Play
Main	Gym	Six Year Olds and Over	1	15	C	20	C	NA	NA	Free Play
Main	H: 3rd Middle	Two Year Olds	2	19	C	24	C	NA	NA	Free Play
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 196					Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					
Total # Children this Date: 94					Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	A: Infants/Toddlers	38	C
Main	C: Left Back	116	C

Comments

CI/MV was completed on this date. The director will submit a plan of improvement summary

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 07/08/2024

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.decgal.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@decgal.ga.gov 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 Monitoring Visit:

Activities and Equipment

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

Met

Comment

Equipment and furniture observed to be properly secured, as applicable on this date.

591-1-1-.35 Swimming Pools & Water-related Activities(CR)

N/A

Comment

Center does not provide swimming activities.

Facility

591-1-1-.06 Bathrooms

Met

Correction Deadline: 10/30/2023

Corrected on 7/8/2024

Correction of citation in that the children's bathrooms were observed to clean on this date.

591-1-1-.19 License Capacity(CR)

Met

Comment

Licensed capacity observed to be met by the center on this date.

591-1-1-.25 Physical Plant - Safe Environment(CR)

Met

Correction Deadline: 5/30/2024

Corrected on 7/8/2024

Correction of citation in that there were no hazards observed accessible to children on this date.

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

Not Met

Technical Assistance

Please ensure playground 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.

Correction Deadline: 7/18/2024

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 items were observed accessible to children on the center playgrounds.

Front Left:

- An active wasp nest was under the wooden shelter.
- Exposed tree roots were present.
- Spider webs and a bird's nest were present underneath the play structure.
- Metal bolts were not level with the borders which posed as a tripping hazard.

Back Left:

- Exposed tree roots were present.
- Metal bolts were not level with the borders which posed as a tripping hazard.

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: 7/9/2024

Recited on 7/8/2024

Health and Hygiene

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

Met

Correction Deadline: 10/30/2023

Corrected on 7/8/2024

Correction of citation in that the diaper changing pads were replaced and were non porous on this date.

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

Met

Correction Deadline: 10/30/2023

Corrected on 7/8/2024

Correction of citation in that the director retrained the staff member and proper diapering procedures were posted in the classroom.

591-1-1-.20 Medications(CR)

Met

Comment

The center currently does not dispense or administer medication at this time.

Safety

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

Met

Comment

Age-appropriate discussion and redirection observed on this date.

591-1-1-.13 Field Trips(CR)

Met

Comment

Proper field trip documentation and regulations regarding checklists, name tags and permission forms was discussed with the director on this date.

591-1-1-.36 Transportation(CR)

Met

Comment

A current and completed inspection was observed for all vehicles used in transporting children on this date. Vehicles with tag numbers ending in T6656 and ending in EY9723 were completed on August 1, 2023. Vehicle with tag number ending in EY9722 was completed on January 18, 2024.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

Consultant discussed with the director to ensure invoices will be attached to any repairs made.

Correction Deadline: 10/31/2023

Corrected on 7/8/2024

Correction of citation in that the transportation documents were marked as corrected on May 30, 2024 visit. The children were out for the summer and routine transportation was not being conducted at this time.

Correction Deadline: 10/31/2023

Corrected on 7/8/2024

Correction of citation in that the designated person documented in writing the date, time of arrival and departure each time the vehicle departed, loaded and/or unloaded during routine transportation as required.

Correction Deadline: 10/31/2023

Corrected on 7/8/2024

Correction of citation in that the transportation documents were marked as corrected on May 30, 2024 visit. The children were out for the summer and routine transportation was not being conducted at this time.

Correction Deadline: 10/30/2023

Corrected on 7/8/2024

Correction of citation in that the transportation documents were marked as corrected on May 30, 2024 visit. The children were out for the summer and routine transportation was not being conducted at this time.

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

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

Please ensure that crib mattress are firm, tight-fitting without gaps, at least 2 inches thick and covered with a waterproof, washable material. Before a change of occupant, each mattress shall be cleaned with a disinfectant. Please ensure all crib mattresses meet the requirements.

Correction Deadline: 7/8/2024

Correction Deadline: 10/30/2023

Corrected on 7/8/2024

Correction of citation in that the crib sheets were tight fitted on this date.

Staff Records

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

Criminal record checks were observed to be complete on this date. Consultant discussed requirements for therapists with the director on this date.

591-1-1-.33 Staff Training**Defer****Defer**

This citation will be deferred and re-evaluated during the next licensing study visit.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will plan and schedule the required 10 hours of annual training each year and follow up to ensure the training is completed.

Correction Deadline: 4/25/2024

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

Correction Deadline: 10/30/2023

Corrected on 7/8/2024

Correction of citation in that the director completed a Specialist Degree in Teaching and Learning on August 31, 2013.

Staffing and Supervision

591-1-1-.32 Staff:Child Ratios and Group Size(CR)

Met

Comment

Center observed to maintain appropriate staff:child ratios on this date.

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

Not Met

Finding

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 observation a 10-year-old child and a five-year-old child were observed to be walking in the hallway of the center alone and unsupervised by staff members.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will train Staff and monitor to ensure they are providing supervision and watchful oversight to the children at all times.

Correction Deadline: 7/8/2024

Recited on 7/8/2024