



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: 6/27/2023 **VisitType:** Complaint Investigation Follow Up **Arrival:** 9:00 AM **Departure:** 6:00 PM

CCLC-30916

Georgia Kids Academy

4336 Hwy. 53 Hoschton, GA 30548 Jackson County
 CCLC-30916 beb1692@gmail.com

Regional Consultant

Lynn Schnitzer

Phone: (678) 717-5720

Fax: (706) 654-2504

lynn.schnitzer@decal.ga.gov

Mailing Address

PO Box 568
 Hoschton, GA 30548

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.
06/27/2023	Complaint Investigation Follow Up	Good Standing	
06/24/2023	Complaint Closure	Good Standing	
06/21/2023	TA 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	1R	Two Year Olds and Three Year Olds	2	13	C	17	C	NA	NA	Floor Play, Diapering, Centers
Main	2R	One Year Olds and Two Year Olds	2	8	C	13	C	NA	NA	Transitioning
Main	3R	Three Year Olds	1	9	C	18	C	NA	NA	Transitioning
Main	4R	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds and Five Year Olds	2	15	C	19	C	NA	NA	Circle Time, Story
Main	D 1L	Six Year Olds and Over	2	12	C	21	C	NA	NA	Centers
Main	E 2L	Six Year Olds and Over	1	6	C	21	C	NA	NA	Centers
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 109					Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					
Total # Children this Date: 63			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 109			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0				

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	PG Back	20	C
Main	PG Front	34	C

Comments

The purpose of today's visit was to conduct a complaint investigation and to follow up from the previous visit conducted on March 9, 2023.

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

Brittany Seabolt, Program Official

Date

Lynn Schnitzer, Regional Consultant

Date



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(Findings Report)

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The following information is associated with a Complaint Investigation Follow Up:

Facility

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

Met

Correction Deadline: 2/7/2023

Corrected on 6/27/2023

.25(3) - The previous citation was observed to be corrected. Consultant observed the center to be free of debris and in good repair.

Health and Hygiene

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 on observation that children did not wash hands after returning from the playground in classroom 2R.

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: 6/27/2023

Safety

Correction Deadline: 3/9/2023

Corrected on 6/27/2023

.36(7)(b) - The previous citation was observed to be corrected. Consultant observed center to have an emergency medical information record for twenty-eight children who received school transportation services.

Staff Records

591-1-1-.09 Criminal Records and Comprehensive Background Checks(CR)**Not Met****Comment**

Director provided ten files for employees hired since last visit March 9, 2023.

Finding

591-1-1-.09(1)(j) requires that for portability for Directors, Employees and Provisional Employees, excluding Students-in-Training, only the most recently issued determination letter is eligible for portability and must be ported electronically. A Center may accept a satisfactory Fingerprint Records Check Determination letter or a satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination letter issued by the Department if the Records Check Clearance Date is within the preceding 12 months from the hire date, the individual has not had a lapse of employment from the child care industry that lasted for 180 days (6 months) or longer, and the Center does not know or reasonably should not know that the individual's satisfactory status has changed. It was determined based on observation that criminal background checks for staff #6, date of hire June 12, 2023, and staff #13, date of hire April 14, 2023, were not ported to the center. Staff #6 had a satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination letter dated for August 2, 2021, and staff #13 had a satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination letter dated for April 5, 2023. The director was able to port staff #13's satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination letter during the visit. Staff #6's letter was past the portability deadline. Staff #6 was registered for a new background check and left to be fingerprinted.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

IMMEDIATE CORRECTION - The Center will ensure that only the most recently issued determination letter is electronically ported for Directors, Employees and Provisional Employees, excluding Students-in-Training. A Center may accept a satisfactory Fingerprint Records Check Determination letter or a satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination letter issued by the Department if the Records Check Clearance Date is within the preceding 12 months from the hire date, the individual has not had a lapse of employment from the child care industry that lasted for 180 days (6 months) or longer, and the Center does not know or reasonably should not know that the individual's satisfactory status has changed. The program's owner or an officer/member of the corporation must view the A to Z Background Check video units pertaining to this records check rule and return the signed affidavit within one week from this visit date. The Center will ensure CRC rules are maintained.

Correction Deadline: 6/27/2023

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

591-1-1-.33(5)-The previous citation was deferred due to the center having until December 31, 2023, to correct the citation.

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: 2/9/2023