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: 3/7/2024 **VisitType:** Initial Licensing Study **Arrival:** 10:00 AM **Departure:** 12:35 PM

CCLC-62308

BLAST LEARNING ACADEMY

320 Riverside Parkway, Suite 100 Austell, GA 30168 Cobb County
(678) 744-7310 blastceo@mhousechildcare.com

Temporary License

Mailing Address
Same

Application Services Unit Consultant

Twylah Tyner

Phone: (478) 599-9822
Fax: (478) 314-5868
twylah.tyner@decal.ga.gov

Quality Rated:

Compliance Zone Designation		
03/07/2024	Initial Licensing Study	Good Standing
11/28/2023	Initial Licensing Study	Good Standing

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.

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	!L - Infants	Infants and One Year Olds	2	4	C	14	C	NA	NA	Floor Play,Snack
Main	1R - 3's & 4's	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	2	10	C	24	C	NA	NA	Free Play
Main	2L - 1's		0	0	C	8	C	NA	NA	
Main	2R - 2's	One Year Olds and Two Year Olds	2	6	C	7	C	NA	NA	Free Play
		Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 53			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0			Building @35 capacity limited by Amount of Equipment Available		
Total # Children this Date: 20		Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 53			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	A All ages	22	C

Comments
The purpose of this visit was to conduct an Initial Licensing Study. An Administrative Review was conducted on March 7, 2024. Staff files, children's files, training, and background checks were all reviewed. Facility does not carry Liability Insurance.

Fire inspection report needed to issue a Renewable License.

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.decal.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)

QUALITY RATED CHILD CARE

CAPS

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 a1 855-800-7747 or qualityrated@decal.ga.gov **for more information. Free techincal assistance is available!**

Celithia Reams, Program Official Date

Twylah Tyner, Application Services Unit Consultant Date

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(Findings Report)

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The following information is associated with a Initial Licensing Study:

Activities and Equipment

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

Comment
Equipment and furniture observed to be properly secured, as applicable.

591-1-1-.35 Swimming Pools & Water-related Activities(CR) **N/A**

Comment
Center does not provide swimming activities. No pool observed on-site.

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 hand sanitizer was located on the diaper changing station in Classroom 2R and accessible to children. Additionally, bleach wipes were located in a hallway leading to the playground that was accessible to children and an unlocked hallway closest contained bleach, disinfectant spray and electrical components that were accessible to children.

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: 3/7/2024

Finding
591-1-1-.25(6) requires each child's personal items to be kept in individually labeled cubbies, lockers or racks separated from articles used by other children. The spaces shall be accessible to the children to whom they are assigned. It was determined based on observation that the individual storage in Classrooms 2R and 2L were not accessible to the children to whom they were assigned.

POI (Plan of Improvement)
The Center will provide each child with individually labeled and accessible storage.

Correction Deadline: 4/6/2024

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

Comment
Discussed maintenance of resilient surface. Please fluff and redistribute.

Health and Hygiene

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

Comment
Staff state proper knowledge of diapering procedures.

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

Comment
Proper hand washing observed throughout the center.

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

Comment
Discussed proper medication documentation and procedures.

Safety

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

Comment
Appropriate discipline observed.

591-1-1-.36 Transportation(CR) **N/A**

Comment
Center does not provide routine transportation or field trips. Consultant discussed transportation requirements if/when the facility decides to incorporate transportation. The center will contact their regional consultant and complete the required two (2) hours transportation training prior to transporting children.

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

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

Correction Deadline: 12/12/2023

Corrected on 3/7/2024
.30(1)(a)2 - Citation observed to be corrected on this date. All cribs mattresses were firm, tight-fitting without gaps, at least 2 inches thick and covered with a waterproof, washable material.

Staff Records

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

Comment
Criminal record checks were observed to be complete.

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.

Comment
The center has a supervision plan for all classrooms due to the shape of the classrooms and for Classroom 2L due to the location of the diaper changing station.