



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: 10/24/2023 **VisitType:** Monitoring Visit

Arrival: 9:15 AM

Departure: 1:30 PM

CCLC-47213

Grace Academy

25 County Shop Road Ludowici, GA 31316 Long County
 (912) 545-9255 paustin@graceacademykids.com

Regional Consultant

Jerica Davis

Phone: (478) 314-9452

Fax: (478) 314-9443

jerica.davis@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.
10/24/2023	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
10/13/2023	Initial-TA	N/A	
03/17/2023	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
Building Three	A	GA PreK	2	9	C	43	C	NA	NA	Transitioning
		Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 43			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					
Building Two	A	Three Year Olds	1	8	C	18	C	NA	NA	Outside
Building Two	B	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	2	12	C	23	C	NA	NA	Outside,Transiti oning
		Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 41			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					
Main	A	Infants	3	5	C	13	C	NA	NA	Nap,Diapering,F loor Play
Main	B	One Year Olds and Two Year Olds	2	11	C	16	C	NA	NA	Diapering,Cente rs
Main	C	Two Year Olds and Three Year Olds	2	14	C	19	C	NA	NA	Centers
		Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 46			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0			Building @35 capacity limited by Fire Marshall Limitations		
Total # Children this Date: 59		Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 130			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	Playground A	58	C
Main	Playground B	24	C

Comments

The purpose of today's visit is to conduct a Monitoring Visit. The center provides routine transportation and the vehicles and logs were inspected on this date.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 10/24/2023

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.state.ga.us/CCS/Regulations.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.al.ga.gov for more information. Free technical assistance is available!

Patricia Austin, Program Official

Date

Jerica Davis, Regional Consultant

Date



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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)

Technical Assistance

Comment

A variety of equipment and toys were observed throughout the center.

Technical Assistance

Please ensure that all equipment and furniture be free from hazardous conditions such as, but not limited to, sharp rough edges or toxic paint; and be kept clean. Please inspect the climber in classroom B for tearing and peeling and repair or remove as needed.

Correction Deadline: 10/24/2023

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

Met

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)

Technical Assistance

Technical Assistance

Please ensure that heating and cooling equipment to be protected to prevent children from touching it. Fans, space heaters, etc. shall be positioned or installed so as to be inaccessible to the children. Please ensure all fans are stored inaccessible to children.

Correction Deadline: 10/24/2023

Technical Assistance

Please ensure that potentially hazardous equipment, materials and supplies be stored in a locked area inaccessible to children. Please ensure all plastic bags are stored inaccessible to children.

Correction Deadline: 10/24/2023

Technical Assistance

Please ensure all electrical cords are stored inaccessible to children.

Correction Deadline: 10/24/2023

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

Comment

Playground observed to be clean and in good repair.

Health and Hygiene

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

Comment

Proper diapering procedures observed.

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

Comment

Proper hand washing observed throughout the center.

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

Comment

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

Safety

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

Comment

Age-appropriate discussion and/or redirection observed.

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

Comment

Complete documentation of transportation observed.

Comment

Paperwork, checklist, permission forms, annual inspection form and proper check of the vehicle after transportation were discussed with the director.

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

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

Correction Deadline: 3/10/2023

Corrected on 10/24/2023

.30(1)(a)2 - This citation was observed to corrected on this date. All crib mattress were observed to be firm, flat, and in good repair.

Staff Records

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

Comment

Consultant requested to view all Criminal Record checks for employees hired after last visit. Director stated that there have been no new hires since last visit

Comment

Director provided four files for employees hired since the last visit.

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

Staff observed to be compliant with applicable laws and regulations.

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.