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: 6/4/2024 **VisitType:** Licensing Study **Arrival:** 9:05 AM **Departure:** 1:45 PM

CCLC-52770
Little Lambs Learning Center
8050 Highway 106 South Hull, GA 30646 Madison County
(706) 395-6470 merryhulin@bellsouth.net

Regional Consultant
Christina Jennings
Phone: (404) 463-0970
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Joint with: Carrie Spangler

Mailing Address
Same

Quality Rated: ★

Compliance Zone Designation		
06/04/2024	Licensing Study	Good Standing
12/21/2023	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing
05/26/2023	Complaint Investigation Follow Up	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
Building A	Room A-6w -18m	Infants and One Year Olds	3	18	C	22	C	NA	NA	Nap,Feeding,Diapering,Floor Play
Building A	Room B-18m-2y	One Year Olds and Two Year Olds	2	15	C	25	C	NA	NA	Diapering,Centers
Building A	Room C-3y	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	1	12	C	24	C	NA	NA	Centers
Building A	Room D-4y	Four Year Olds and Five Year Olds	1	16	C	22	C	NA	NA	Circle Time
		Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 97			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0			Building @35 capacity limited by Fire Marshall Limitations		
Total # Children this Date: 61		Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 97			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance

Comments
The purpose of this visit was to conduct a Licensing Study.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 06/04/2024

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.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)

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!

(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**

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 upon observation that the television on top of the white shelf against the back wall was not secured and unstable causing a potential tipping hazard in Classroom C.

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.

Correction Deadline: 6/4/2024

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**

Technical Assistance
591-1-1-.25(11) - The Consultant and the Provider discussed ensuring that the flooring is tight and smooth.

Correction Deadline: 7/4/2024

Finding
591-1-1-.25(12) requires 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. It was determined based upon observation that the HVAC heating and cooling equipment was accessible to children in an unlocked closet on the left side of the entrance door in Classroom D.

POI (Plan of Improvement)
The Center will re-position or re-install equipment, as needed, and will make all such equipment inaccessible to children.

Correction Deadline: 6/4/2024

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 upon that the following potential hazards were accessible to children:

Classroom B:
-One pack of Comfort wipes in the children's bathroom.
-Two pack of Parent's Choice wipes in the children's bathroom.
-One pack of Pamper's wipes in the children's bathroom.
-One box of Litter Box Liners in an unlocked cabinet under the hand washing sink in the children's bathroom.
-One box of Smart & Simple kitchen trash bags under the hand washing sink in the children's bathroom.
-One spray bottle that was labeled as Clorox on a shelf above the toilet in the children's bathroom.
-Five Expo markers on the bottom tray of the dry erase board.

Classroom D:
-Two cans of Equate Shave Foam behind the teacher's desk.
-One spray bottle of Rexall hand sanitizer on a shelf behind the teacher's desk.
-A toilet plunger in an unlocked closet on the left side of the entrance door.
-A pack of baby wipes in a clear container on the yellow shelf beside the children's bathroom.

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: 6/4/2024

591-1-1-.26 Playgrounds(CR) **Not Met**

Finding
591-1-1-.26(4) requires that playgrounds be protected from traffic or other hazards by a (4) four foot high fence or other barrier approved by this Department. Fencing material shall not present a hazard to children and shall be maintained so as to prevent children from leaving the playground area by any means other than through an approved access route. Fence gates shall be kept closed except when persons are entering or exiting the area. It was determined based upon observation that the following fencing hazards were accessible to children:

The Front Playground (A):
-A five inch gap at the bottom of the fencing on the right side of the playground.
-The fencing was not connected the pole causing an eight inch gap and a metal piece of the fencing to protrude approximately four inches on the back right side of the playground.

The Back Playground (B):
-A four inch gap at the bottom of the fencing on the back left side of the playground.
-Two out of two bolts protruding over two threads on the entrance gate on the right side of the playground.
-The left side of the back fencing of the playground measured three feet and one half inches in height due to weathering conditions when four feet in height is required.
-The fencing on the back left side of the playground measured three feet and one half inches in height due to weathering conditions when four feet in height is required.

POI (Plan of Improvement)
The Center will routinely check the fence to determine if it is in good repair and remains at least 4 feet high, and will repair any hazards. The Center will train Staff to identify and report any fence hazards and to keep the fence gates closed when not in use.

The fencing along the back right side of the playground in front of the trash dumpster was three feet and one half inches in height from the barrier to the top of the fencing.
-The fencing on the front left side of the playground beside the swings was two feet in height from the barrier to the top of the fencing.

Correction Deadline: 6/28/2024

Technical Assistance
591-1-1-.26(6) - The Consultant and the Provider discussed ensuring that the outdoor equipment is properly maintained and free of hazards.

Correction Deadline: 6/14/2024

Technical Assistance
591-1-1-.26(9) - The Consultant and the Provider discussed ensuring that the playground is free of hazards such as but not limited to exposed concrete and standing water.

Correction Deadline: 6/4/2024

Health and Hygiene

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

Technical Assistance
591-1-1-.10(4) - The Consultant and the Provider discussed ensuring that staff members are properly disinfecting the diaper changing surfaces.

Correction Deadline: 6/4/2024

591-1-1-.17 Hygiene(CR) **Not Met**

Technical Assistance
591-1-1-.17(2) - The Consultant and Provider discussed ensuring that children are kept clean, dry, and comfortable.

Correction Deadline: 6/4/2024

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 upon observation that a two-year-old child did not wash their hands with liquid soap and warm running water immediately after a staff member cleaned their nose in Classroom B. It was further determined that a one-year-old child did not wash their hands with liquid soap and warm running water immediately after diapering in Classroom A.

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: 6/4/2024

Finding
591-1-1-.17(8) 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. It was determined based upon observation that a staff member did not wash their hands with liquid soap and warm running water immediately after wiping a two-year-old child's nose in Classroom B. It was further determined that a staff member did not wash their hands with liquid soap and warm running water immediately after changing a one-year-old child's diaper in Classroom A.

POI (Plan of Improvement)
The Center will ensure liquid soap and warm running water are available for handwashing, train Staff on the handwashing requirements, review the requirements with Staff periodically, and monitor handwashing.

Correction Deadline: 6/4/2024

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

Comment
Discussed proper medication documentation and procedures.

Safety

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

Comment
Age-appropriate discussion and/or redirection observed.

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

Comment
Center does not provide routine transportation.

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

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

Comment
Discussed SIDS and infant sleeping position.

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-.14 First Aid & CPR **Not Met**

Finding
591-1-1-.14(1) requires the Center Director and, at any given time, at least fifty percent (50%) of the caregiver Staff to successfully complete a biennial training program in cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and a triennial training program in first aid. The first aid training must be done by certified or licensed health care professionals or trainers and must deal with the provision of emergency care to infants and children. The Center shall maintain current evidence of the successful completion of such training which shall be available to the Department for inspection. It was determined based upon a review of records that Staff member #1 (hire date July 10, 2023), Staff member #2 (hire date April 14, 2021), and Staff member #9 (hire date July 11, 2022) did not have evidence of current CPR/first aid training on file.

POI (Plan of Improvement)
The Center Director and at least 50% of the caregiver Staff will complete the needed training. The Director will send written verification to the consultant upon completion and will develop a plan to ensure that at least 50% of the caregiver Staff have completed this training at any given time and that evidence of successful completion of the training is on file available for inspection.

Correction Deadline: 7/4/2024

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
Adequate supervision observed on this date.

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

Comment
Adequate supervision observed on this date.