



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: 11/29/2023 **VisitType:** Monitoring Visit

Arrival: 10:00 AM

Departure: 1:30 PM

CCLC-27623

**Special Investigations Unit
Specialist**

ABC's for Tots

Tracey Caine

3312 Anvil Block Road Ellenwood, GA 30294 Clayton County
 (404) 366-2255 goss_kw@att.net

Phone: (706) 497-1536

Fax: (404) 567-6041

tracey.caine@decal.ga.gov

Joint with: Tasha McDonald

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.
11/29/2023	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
01/27/2023	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
09/26/2022	Licensing Study	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	Art Room		0	0	C	3	C	NA	NA	Transitioning
Main	Room A - 3 yr olds	Two Year Olds and Three Year Olds	1	13	NC	12	NC	NA	NA	Free Play, Transitioning
Main	Room B - Toddlers to 2 yr olds	One Year Olds and Two Year Olds	1	9	NC	4	NC	NA	NA	Floor Play
Main	Room C - Infants	Infants	1	4	C	11	C	NA	NA	Feeding
Main	Room D - 4 to 12 yr olds	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds and Five Year Olds	2	15	C	12	NC	17	C	Transitioning
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 42			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 47							
Total # Children this Date: 41			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 42							
			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 47							

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	Playground	177	C

Comments

The purpose of today's visit is to conduct a Monitoring Visit.

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.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!

Kathy Goss, Program Official	Date
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Tasha McDonald, Lead Consultant	Date
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Tracey Caine, Special Investigations Unit Specialist	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)

Met

Comment

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

Comment

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

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)

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 the following hazards were located:

- Classroom A-3 years old contained Parents Choice wipes on a shelf,
 - Classroom-B Toddlers to 2 years old contained Parents Choice wipes on a shelf,
 - Classroom D 4-12 years old contained Lysol disinfectant wipes in an unlocked/unsecured cabinet in the bathroom and Parents Choice wipes on a shelf that was accessible to children.
- All aforementioned listed items were marked by the manufacturer to "Keep out of reach of 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: 11/29/2023

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

Not Met

Finding

591-1-1-.26(6) requires that playground equipment provide an opportunity for the children to engage in a variety of experiences and shall be age-appropriate. For example, toddlers shall not be permitted to swing in swings designed for School-age Children. The 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. It was determined based on observation that the following hazards were observed on the playground:

- Unsecured turf that was accessible to the children and was a potential tripping hazard,
- Loose boards to one of four picnic tables that was accessible to the children,
- Sharp and bent metal edges at the bottom of the rain gutter located near the fence and was accessible to the children
- Green electrical cord located on the deck within the playground area.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will provide a variety of age-appropriate equipment that is arranged so as not to obstruct supervision of children. Staff will check the equipment daily to ensure that the equipment is free of hazards, rust and splinters.

Correction Deadline: 12/9/2023

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.26(8) - Consultant discussed with the provider that the resilient surface (mulch) underneath the slide is under the required 6-inches and should be routinely fluffed.

Correction Deadline: 12/9/2023

Food Service

591-1-1-.15 Food Service & Nutrition

Technical Assistance

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.15 - Consultant discussed with the provider that all bottles in Classroom-C Infants must be properly labeled with the correct name of the child and the correct date.

Health and Hygiene

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

Not Met

Comment

Staff state proper knowledge of diapering procedures.

Finding

591-1-1-.10(4) requires that if diapers are changed on a diaper changing surface, the surface shall be smooth, nonporous, and equipped with a guard or rails to prevent falls. Between each diaper change, the diaper changing surface shall be cleaned with a disinfectant and dried with a single-use disposable towel. It was determined based on observation that the diaper changing pad located in Classroom-B was torn with the foam exposed and was covered with plexiglass.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will ensure there is a smooth, nonporous changing surface that has a guard or rails for safety in each classroom that houses children wearing diapers. Center Staff will be trained and have adequate supplies to properly clean the diaper changing surface between each diaper change.

Correction Deadline: 11/29/2023

591-1-1-.17 Hygiene(CR)**Technical Assistance****Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.17 - Consultant discussed with the provider that the hot water in the sink of the bathroom located in Classroom D was too hot and was measured in excess of 80-degrees Fahrenheit. The provider shut the hot water off and stated that a repairman would be contacted to correct/lower the temperature.

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**

Center does not provide routine transportation.

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

591-1-1-.30 Safe Sleeping and Resting Requirements(CR)**Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.30(1)(a)3 requires that each crib shall have only an individual, tight-fitting sheet which is changed daily or more often as needed and prior to a change of occupant. It was determined based on observation that four of four crib sheets were not tight-fitting in Classroom-C Infants.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The center will ensure that each crib has an individual, tight-fitting sheet which is changed daily or more often as needed and prior to a change of occupant.

Correction Deadline: 11/29/2023

Staff Records

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

Correction Deadline: 1/27/2023

Corrected on 11/29/2023

.09(1)(c) - The previous citation was corrected on this date. All Staff were observed to have a valid, current, and satisfactory Comprehensive Records Checks.

Correction Deadline: 1/27/2023

Corrected on 11/29/2023

.09(1)(l)2. - The previous citation was corrected on this date. All staff were observed to have current, valid, and satisfactory Comprehensive Records Checks on this on this date.

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

Staff observed to be compliant with applicable laws and regulations.

Staffing and Supervision

Finding

591-1-1-.32(1) requires the Center to maintain the required Staff:child ratios as follows: under 1 year or under 18 months if not walking = 1:6; 1 year and walking = 1:8; 2 years = 1:10; 3 years = 1:15; 4 years = 1:18; 5 years = 1:20; and 6 years and older = 1:25. A Center must establish groupings of children for care with maximum group sizes as follows: under 1 year = 12; under 18 months/not walking = 12; 1 year and walking = 16; 2 years = 20; 3 years = 30; 4 years = 36; 5 years = 40; and 6 years and older = 50. It was determined based on observation that there were eleven two years old and three two years old children in Classroom A with one staff member when two staff members were required. It was further determined based on observation that there were two two years old and seven one year old children in Classroom B with one staff member when two staff members were required.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will hire additional Staff or reschedule current Staff to meet required Staff:child ratios and will organize children into groups that meet requirements.

Correction Deadline: 11/29/2023

Comment

Staff observed to provide direct supervision and be attentive to children's needs.