



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: 9/11/2024 **VisitType:** Complaint Investigation & Licensing Study **Arrival:** 8:45 AM **Departure:** 5:00 PM

CCLC-51765

Cedars Preschool at Mt. Zion

7665 Mt. Zion Blvd. Jonesboro, GA 30236 Clayton County
 (770) 477-7850 mtzion@cedarspreschool.com

Regional Consultant

Nadia Bernard

Phone: (404) 670-9398

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nadia.bernard@decal.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.
09/11/2024	Complaint Investigation & Licensing Study	Good Standing	
08/07/2024	Incident Investigation & Follow Up	Good Standing	
04/12/2024	POI 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	Rm A: 1L - Infants	Infants	2	7	C	7	C	NA	NA	Floor Play,Breakfast, Nap,Transitioning
Main	Rm B : 1R -Infants	Infants	1	6	C	12	C	NA	NA	Floor Play,Feeding
Main	Rm C : 2L - 1 yr olds	One Year Olds	1	8	C	20	C	NA	NA	Outside
Main	Rm D : 3L-Toddlers	One Year Olds	2	9	C	10	C	NA	NA	Outside,Transitioning
Main	Rm E: 4L-3 yr olds		0	0	C	15	C	NA	NA	
Main	Rm F: 5L - School age	Four Year Olds	2	16	C	26	C	NA	NA	Centers
Main	Rm G: 6L-School age		0	0	C	25	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Main	Rm H: 6R-4 yr olds	GA PreK	2	20	C	20	C	NA	NA	Transitioning
Main	Rm I: 5R -4 yr olds		0	0	C	21	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Main	Rm J:4R - 3-4 yr old	Three Year Olds	2	15	C	25	C	NA	NA	Transitioning,Outside
Main	Rm K: 3R- 3yr olds	Two Year Olds	2	16	C	16	C	NA	NA	Transitioning,Snack
Main	Rm L:2R - 2-3yr olds	Two Year Olds	3	20	C	25	C	NA	NA	Snack,Outside,Transitioning

	Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 222	Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0
Total # Children this Date: 117	Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 222	Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	A - Infants	16	C
Main	B - School age	99	C
Main	C - Preschool	32	C
Main	D - Two year olds	27	C

Enrolled Children						
Under 1 years	1 years	2 years	3 years	4 years	5 years (Prekonly)	5 years and older
13	21	35	19	17	20	53

Comments

The purpose of this visit was to conduct a Licensing Study and a complaint investigation.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 09/11/2024

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



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(Findings Report)

Date: 9/11/2024 **VisitType:** Complaint Investigation & Licensing **Arrival:** 8:45 AM **Departure:** 5:00 PM
Study

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The following information is associated with a Licensing Study Visit:

Activities and Equipment

591-1-1-.03 Activities

Technical Assistance

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.03(2) - The consultant discussed with the director to ensure current lesson plans are on site that reflect appropriate instruction practices and activities to support children's development. The Center shall have sufficient and varied play and learning equipment and materials to support the above program of activities in all developmental areas.

Correction Deadline: 9/11/2024

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

Not Met

Comment

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

Finding

591-1-1-.12(8) requires toys for children under three years of age to be age-appropriate; non-toxic and lead-free; too large to be swallowed by a child and not capable of causing asphyxiation or strangulation; free of sharp pieces, edges or points; free of small parts which may be pried off by a child, free of rust; and easily cleaned with a disinfectant daily. It was determined based on observation that the cardboard blocks in Room H were not in good repair.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

Center staff will provide age-appropriate toys and remove any toys that are not age-appropriate in each room housing children under three years of age. The Center will implement a plan to train Staff to regularly examine toys for the listed hazards and remove toys when hazards are identified and to clean toys with a disinfectant daily.

Correction Deadline: 9/11/2024

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

Met

Comment

Pool not in use at this time, gates observed locked.

Comment

The consultant observed current swim pool permit on this date.

Children's Records

591-1-1-.08 Children's Records**Met****Comment**

Records were observed to be complete and well organized.

Facility**591-1-1-.06 Bathrooms****Met****Comment**

Bathrooms observed to be clean and well maintained.

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****Comment**

Please secure cleaning tools (i.e., broom, plunger) out of reach of children.

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.25(3) - The consultant discussed with the director to ensure the Center and surrounding premises to be kept clean, free of debris and in good repair. The consultant observed work orders for minor repairs.

Correction Deadline: 9/11/2024

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

591-1-1-.26(8) requires climbing and swinging equipment to have a resilient surface beneath the equipment and the fall zone from such equipment must be adequately maintained by the Center to assure continuing resiliency. It was determined based on observation that on Playground A had two inches of resilient surface under the swing fall zones. It was further observed that on Playground C the fall zones surrounding the pyramid climbing structure and the swings measured two inches.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will add additional resilient surfacing to the fall zones where needed and check daily, adding resilient surfacing as needed to maintain adequate resiliency.

Correction Deadline: 9/21/2024

Food Service**591-1-1-.15 Food Service & Nutrition****Met****Comment**

Center menu meets USDA guidelines.

Comment

The consultant observed current and updates infant feeding forms.

591-1-1-.18 Kitchen Operations**Met****Comment**

Kitchen appears clean and well organized.

Health and Hygiene**591-1-1-.10 Diapering Areas & Practices(CR)****Not Met****Comment**

Discussed labeling of "diapering only" areas and staff work stations.

Comment

Hand washing requirements for diapering were discussed with the director on this date.

Finding

)591-1-1-.10(5) requires that Center Staff shall not leave infants or children unattended while being diapered or having their clothes changed on the diaper changing surface. It was determined based on observation that in Room C the staff was observed to place the child on the changing table and briefly removing their hands from the child to gather supplies.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will ensure Staff are trained, procedures are reviewed periodically and diaper changing is monitored periodically.

Correction Deadline: 9/11/2024

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

Proper hand washing observed throughout the center.

Comment

Staff were observed to remind children to wash hands.

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

Documentation for medication dispensing observed complete.

Policies and Procedures**591-1-1-.21 Operational Policies & Procedures****Met****Comment**

Program observed complete emergency drills

591-1-1-.27 Posted Notices**Met****Comment**

Observed all required posted notices.

Safety**591-1-1-.05 Animals****Met****Comment**

Center does not keep animals on premises.

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

Staff were observed to maintain a positive learning environment on this date.

591-1-1-.13 Field Trips(CR)**Met****Comment**

Center does not participate in field trips at this time.

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

A current/completed inspection was observed for all vehicles used in transporting children this date.

Comment

Complete documentation of transportation observed.

Comment

Please include address of destinations on transportation checklist.

Comment

The vehicle had an approved fire extinguisher and first aid kit on this date.

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

Comment

Discussed SIDS and infant sleeping position.

Comment

Pleasant naptime environment observed.

Finding

591-1-1-.30(1)(d) requires that all sleeping and resting equipment shall be arranged to avoid obstructing access to exit doors, to provide the caregivers access to each child, and to prevent children's access to cords hanging from window treatments and other hazardous objects. To reduce the transfer of airborne diseases, sleeping and resting equipment shall be arranged as follows. There shall be a minimum of twenty-four inch (24") corridor between each row of sleeping or resting equipment. There shall be a minimum of twelve inches (12") between each piece of sleeping or resting equipment in each row of equipment. Children shall be placed on cots and mats so that one child's head is toward another child's feet in the same row. It was determined based on observation that the cribs in Room A and B did not have twelve inches between each crib.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will arrange and place sleeping and resting equipment according to the requirements in the rule; will train Staff; and will monitor for continued compliance.

Correction Deadline: 9/11/2024

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-.09 Criminal Records Check(CR)**Met****Comment**

Director provided five files for employees hired since last visit.

591-1-1-.14 First Aid & CPR**Met****Comment**

Evidence observed of 90% of center staff certified in First Aid and CPR.

591-1-1-.33 Staff Training**Not Met****Finding**

91-1-1-.33(5) requires that every calendar year after the first year of employment, all supervisory and caregiver Personnel, except independent contractors, Students-in-Training and volunteers shall attend ten (10) clock hours of diverse training which is task-focused in on-going health, safety and early childhood or child development related topics and which is offered by an accredited college, university or vocational program or other Department-approved source. The annual ten (10) clock hours of training shall be chosen from the following fields: child development, including discipline, guidance, nutrition, injury control and safety; health, including sanitation, disease control, cleanliness, detection and disposition of illness; child abuse and neglect, including identification and reporting, and meeting the needs of abused and/or neglected children; and business related topics, including parental communication, recordkeeping, etc.; provided however that such business related training shall be limited to no more than two (2) of the required ten (10) clock hours of training. Records of completion of such training shall be maintained, as required by these rules. It was determined based on a review of records that four applicable staff members did not complete the ten hours of annual training for the year 2023.

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. The staff will have until December 31, 2024 to complete the required training.

Correction Deadline: 12/31/2024

591-1-1-.31 Staff(CR)**Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.31(2)(b)2. requires teachers and lead caregivers to meet minimum academic requirements and qualifying experience at the time of employment. It was determined based on a review of records that three identified lead teachers did not meet the minimum academic requirements to be the lead teacher.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

A teacher/lead caregiver will be hired that meets the minimum academic requirements and qualifying work experience. The staff will enroll in a qualifying academic program and will submit a PLP to the consultant.

Correction Deadline: 10/31/2024

Staffing and Supervision

591-1-1-.32 Staff:Child Ratios and Group Size(CR)	Met
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Comment

Center observed to maintain appropriate staff:child ratios.

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

Adequate supervision observed on this date.