



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: 4/1/2025 VisitType: Licensing Study

Arrival: 11:40 AM Departure: 1:15 PM

CCLC-16124

Whitney Center Head Start

1129 W Whitney Avenue Albany, GA 31707 Dougherty County
(229) 436-2055 smckinney@swgacac.com

Regional Consultant

Jackqueline Frederick

Phone: (229) 386-3247

Fax: (229) 238-2435

jackqueline.frederick@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.
04/01/2025	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
11/21/2024	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
04/10/2024	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
			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	Room 1 (3's)		0	0	C	15	C	NA	NA	
Main	Room 2 (3's)		0	0	C	15	C	NA	NA	
Main	Room 3 (3's)		0	0	C	16	C	NA	NA	
Main	Room 4 (3's)		0	0	C	16	C	NA	NA	
Main	Room 5 (3's)		0	0	C	16	C	NA	NA	
Main	Room 6 (3's)		0	0	C	15	C	NA	NA	
Main	Room 7 (4's)		0	0	C	17	C	NA	NA	
Main	Room 8 (4's)		0	0	C	18	C	NA	NA	
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 128			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0							
Total # Children this Date: 0			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 128							
			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0							

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	Outside Playground	45	C

Enrolled Children						
Under 1 years	1 years	2 years	3 years	4 years	5 years (Prekonly)	5 years and older
0	0	0	27	60	0	23

Comments

The purpose of today's visit is to conduct a licensing study.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date

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.decga.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@decga.gov for more information. Free technical assistance is available!



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(Findings Report)

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Mailing Address

Same

The following information is associated with a Licensing Study:

Activities and Equipment

Records Reviewed: 44

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 4

Staff # 3 Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(5)-10 Hrs. Annual Training

Staff # 35 Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(5)-10 Hrs. Annual Training

Staff # 37 Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(5)-10 Hrs. Annual Training

Staff # 39 Not Met

Date of Hire: 05/20/2019

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(5)-10 Hrs. Annual Training

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

Met

Comment

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

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

Met

Comment

Center does not provide swimming activities.

Facility

Records Reviewed: 44

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 4

Staff # 3 Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(5)-10 Hrs. Annual Training

Staff # 35

Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(5)-10 Hrs. Annual Training

Staff # 37

Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(5)-10 Hrs. Annual Training

Staff # 39

Not Met

Date of Hire: 05/20/2019

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(5)-10 Hrs. Annual Training

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)**Met****Comment**

Center appears clean and well maintained.

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

Consider removing leaves from playground to minimize potential hazards.

Food Service

Staff # 3

Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(5)-10 Hrs. Annual Training

Staff # 35

Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(5)-10 Hrs. Annual Training

Staff # 37

Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(5)-10 Hrs. Annual Training

Staff # 39

Not Met

Date of Hire: 05/20/2019

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(5)-10 Hrs. Annual Training

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

Discussed minor repairs.

Comment

Kitchen appears clean and well organized.

Health and Hygiene

Records Reviewed: 44
Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 4

Staff # 3 Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(5)-10 Hrs. Annual Training

Staff # 35 Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(5)-10 Hrs. Annual Training

Staff # 37 Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(5)-10 Hrs. Annual Training

Staff # 39 Not Met

Date of Hire: 05/20/2019

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(5)-10 Hrs. Annual Training

591-1-1.10 Diapering Areas & Practices(CR)
Met
Comment

There were no children present on this date.

591-1-1.17 Hygiene(CR)
Met
Comment

There were no children present on this date. Proper hand washing of children and staff was discussed with the director on this date.

591-1-1.20 Medications(CR)
Met
Comment

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

Safety

Records Reviewed: 44
Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 4

Staff # 3 Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(5)-10 Hrs. Annual Training

Staff # 35 Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(5)-10 Hrs. Annual Training

Staff # 37 Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(5)-10 Hrs. Annual Training

Staff # 39 Not Met

Date of Hire: 05/20/2019

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(5)-10 Hrs. Annual Training

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

There were no children present on this date. The center's discipline policy was reviewed on this date. Regulations regarding proper discipline were discussed with the director 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**

Center does not provide routine transportation.

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

Staff # 3

Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(5)-10 Hrs. Annual Training

Staff # 35

Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(5)-10 Hrs. Annual Training

Staff # 37

Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(5)-10 Hrs. Annual Training

Staff # 39

Not Met

Date of Hire: 05/20/2019

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(5)-10 Hrs. Annual Training

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

No children present on this date.

Staff Records

Staff # 3

Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(5)-10 Hrs. Annual Training

Staff # 35

Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(5)-10 Hrs. Annual Training

Staff # 37

Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(5)-10 Hrs. Annual Training

Staff # 39

Not Met

Date of Hire: 05/20/2019

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(5)-10 Hrs. Annual Training

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

Criminal record checks were observed to be complete.

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 staff members did not complete the required annual training.

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.

Correction Deadline: 5/1/2025**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

Staff # 3

Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(5)-10 Hrs. Annual Training

Staff # 35

Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(5)-10 Hrs. Annual Training

Staff # 37

Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(5)-10 Hrs. Annual Training

Staff # 39

Not Met

Date of Hire: 05/20/2019

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(5)-10 Hrs. Annual Training

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

There were no children present on this date. Proper ratios and classroom capacities were discussed with the director on this date.

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

There were no children present on this date. Proper supervision of children, including being prompt to children's needs, was discussed with the director on this date.