



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: 10/17/2023 **VisitType:** Complaint Investigation & Monitoring Visit **Arrival:** 1:00 PM **Departure:** 4:25 PM

CCLC-39038

Chestnut Mountain Academy

4720 Winder Hwy Flowery Branch, GA 30542 Hall County
 (770) 967-7105 cmakids@yahoo.com

Regional Consultant

Leena Mitchell

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Mailing Address
 Same

Quality Rated: ★ ★

<u>Compliance Zone Designation</u>			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.
10/17/2023	Complaint Investigation & Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
08/15/2023	TA Follow Up	N/A	
08/10/2023	TA Follow Up	N/A	

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	A- 1L	Five Year Olds and Six Year Olds and Over	2	13	C	21	C	NA	NA	Centers
Main	B- 2L	Infants	2	7	C	12	C	NA	NA	Floor Play
Main	C- 3L	One Year Olds	2	6	C	11	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main	D- 4L		0	0	C	21	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Main	E- 5L		0	0	C	24	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Main	F- 3R	Two Year Olds	1	8	C	15	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main	G- 2R		0	0	C	24	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Main	H- 1R	Three Year Olds	1	14	C	23	C	NA	NA	Nap
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 150					Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0			Building @35 capacity limited by Heath Department Limitations		
Total # Children this Date: 48		Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 150			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	Playground Left	96	C
Main	Playground RT	25	C

Comments

The purpose of this visit was to conduct monitoring visit and to follow up on previous citations.

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!

Bentley Amy, Program Official

Date

Leena Mitchell, 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)

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)

Met

Comment

Center appears clean and well maintained.

Comment

Please be mindful to keep items that pose a hazard inaccessible to children.

Comment

Please ensure to monitor the playground areas for the following hazardous items:

- Fluff and redistribute resilient surface surrounding the fall zones.
- Biting and/or stinging insects (i.e., bees, ants, etc.).
- Vines protruding through the fence becoming accessible to the children present for care.
- Exposed tree roots (i.e., potential tripping hazard, etc.).
- Loose and/or weak tree branches.
- Normal wear and tear of playground equipment.
- Normal wear and tear of the fence surrounding the playground areas

Finding

591-1-1-.26(3) requires that the playground be adjacent to the Center or in an area which can be reached by a safe route or method approved by the Department. Except in School-age Centers, the playground shall have shaded areas. It was determined based on observation that the wooden canopy area was observed to have rotting wood and water damage underneath the canopy area located on playground Left.

Correction Deadline: 10/27/2023

Recited on 10/17/2023

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 playground equipment was not clean and in good repair:

- Playground Left - The green and yellow swing chain covers were observed to be peeling on two of four swings located on the back-left side of the playground. The first back-right basketball goal pole was observed to contain chipped paint and rust.

Correction Deadline: 11/3/2023

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

Proper diapering procedures observed.

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 changing table in classroom F-3R did not have a guard rail to prevent falls as required. Consultant discussed removing or replacing the changing pad in classroom B-2L as the edges are starting to tear.

Correction Deadline: 10/20/2023

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

Proper hand washing observed throughout the center.

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

Correction Deadline: 7/31/2023

Corrected on 10/17/2023

.20(1) - The consultant observed the previous citation to be corrected in that the consultant observed complete medication forms on this date.

Correction Deadline: 7/31/2023

Corrected on 10/17/2023

.20(3) - The consultant observed the previous citation to be corrected in that the consultant observed complete medication forms on this date.

	Safety
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591-1-1-11 Discipline(CR)	Met
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Comment

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

591-1-1-36 Transportation(CR)	Not Met
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Comment

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

Comment

The following vehicles were observed to have evidence of a current vehicle inspection report on file:

- Vehicle tag #PN29149 - Expires November 15, 2023.
- Vehicle tag #BKA 9452 - Expires November 19, 2023.

Comment

The vehicle had an approved fire extinguisher and first aid kit on this date. Please add missing goggles, thermometer and face mask to vehicle tag #PNZ 9149.

Finding

591-1-1-.36(3)(a-b) requires any Center that provides any type of transportation to obtain two (2) hours of state-approved or state-accepted transportation training, biannually, for the Director and for each person responsible for or who participates in the transportation of children. The training shall include, but is not limited to, a review of the transportation rules, a review of approved transportation forms and procedures, and instruction on the usage and completion of the forms and procedures. This training may be counted as part of the annual training requirements for Staff. It was determined based on review of records that staff member #1, date of hire December 20, 2020, did not have evidence of a current transportation training certificate on file. Staff member #1's training expired on March 21, 2023. In addition, staff member #11 did not have evidence of transportation training prior to participating in transportation the week of October 9, 2023.

Correction Deadline: 10/18/2023

Recited on 10/17/2023

Finding

591-1-1-.36(4)(b) requires that the interior of a transportation vehicle be clean, in safe repair and free of hazardous items, objects and/or other non-essential items which could cause injury. It was determined based on observation that three seats were observed to be torn with exposed foam on vehicle tag #PNZ 9149.

Correction Deadline: 10/27/2023

Recited on 10/17/2023

Correction Deadline: 10/27/2023

Corrected on 10/17/2023

.36(4)(f)1. - The consultant observed the previous citation to be corrected in that the consultant observed evidence that vehicle tag #PNZ 9149 only transports children aged five-year-old and up which is not required to have safety restraints. Provider stated that children four-year-old and under will not be transported on this vehicle.

Correction Deadline: 8/1/2023

Corrected on 10/17/2023

.36(7)(c)1 - The consultant observed the previous citation to be corrected in that the consultant observed evidence of complete transportation paperwork on this date.

Correction Deadline: 8/1/2023

Corrected on 10/17/2023

.36(7)(c)2. - The consultant observed the previous citation to be corrected in that the consultant observed evidence of complete transportation paperwork on this date.

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

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

Met

Comment

Discussed SIDS and infant sleeping position. Consultant discussed that staff must move sleeping babies to their bed immediately if they fall asleep in equipment other than their crib.

Comment

Pleasant naptime environment observed.

Comment

The correct number of mats, sheets and blankets were observed on this date. Cleaning and disinfecting of mats was discussed with the director on this date. Consultant discussed having top and bottom sheets available to each child daily.

Staff Records

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

Met

Comment

The director provided two files for staff members hired since the previous visit conducted on July 31, 2023. The consultant observed two of two newly hired staff members to have evidence of a satisfactory criminal record check letter on file.

591-1-1-.33 Staff Training

Met

Comment

Please ensure completed orientation checklists are documented and signed.

Comment

Discussed: Health and Safety Training is required for each staff member with direct care responsibilities within 90 calendar days of their hire date.

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)**Technical Assistance****Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.32 - Adequate supervision observed on this date. Please ensure that staff members are attentive and participating with all children during mealtimes and shall be seated within an arms length away from children 36-months of age and younger.