



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: 3/12/2024 **VisitType:** Licensing Study

Arrival: 9:15 AM **Departure:** 1:50 PM

CCLC-53213

Emerging Leaders Learning Center

3408 Peach Orchard Road Augusta, GA 30906 Richmond County
(706) 432-9705 cantik1@hotmail.com

Regional Consultant

Ashley Richards

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ashley.richards@decal.ga.gov

Mailing Address

3408 Peach Orchard Rd
Augusta, GA 30906

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.
03/12/2024	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
10/02/2023	Complaint Investigation by Phone	Good Standing	
08/04/2023	Complaint Closure	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
Building 2	D- Preschool	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	1	15	C	12	NC	NA	NA	Circle Time
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 12					Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					
Main	A- (1R) 1's & 2's		0	0	C	10	C	NA	NA	
Main	B - (2R) 3-12 yrs	Two Year Olds	1	13	NC	14	C	NA	NA	Art
Main	C- (1L) Infants	Infants and One Year Olds	1	5	C	3	NC	NA	NA	Feeding, Nap, Breakfast
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 27					Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					
Total # Children this Date: 33			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 39			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0				

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	Playground - 1 - 12 years	11	C

Comments

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

Plan of Improvement: To Be Submitted 03/26/2024

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.state.ga.us/CCS/RuleAndRegulations.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.state.ga.us for more information. Free technical assistance is available!

Monica Griffin, Program Official

Date

Ashley Richards, Regional Consultant

Date



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(Findings Report)

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The following information is associated with a Licensing Study:

Activities and Equipment

591-1-1-.03 Activities

Technical Assistance

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.03(2) - Please ensure that Lesson Plans are up to date and posted weekly.

Correction Deadline: 3/12/2024

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

Not Met

Finding

591-1-1-.12(2) requires that all equipment and furniture be free from hazardous conditions such as, but not limited to, sharp rough edges or toxic paint; and be kept clean. It was determined that the following areas contained crayon, marker, and dirt debris on this date:

Classroom Man B – (2R)

- Mats used for comfortable seating within the Reading Nook

Building 2: D - Preschool

- Dramatic Play furniture

Correction Deadline: 3/12/2024

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.12(8) - Please repair or replace the Little Tikes piano with the rusty metal keys and the cardboard blocks as needed in classroom Main B: 2R.

Correction Deadline: 3/12/2024

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

N/A

Comment

Center does not provide swimming activities.

Children's Records

Records Reviewed: 5

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 4

Child # 1 Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.08(1)-Doctor, Clinic, Phone Numbers

Child # 3 Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.08(1)-Doctor, Clinic, Phone Numbers

Child # 4 Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.08(1)-Doctor, Clinic, Phone Numbers

Child # 5 Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.08(1)-Doctor, Clinic, Phone Numbers

Finding

591-1-1-.08(1) requires the Center Staff to maintain a file for each child while such child is in care and for one year after that child is no longer enrolled. In order for the file to be complete, the file shall contain the following: child's name, birth date, sex, address, living arrangement, name of school if applicable; names of both Parents, home and work addresses, and home and work telephone numbers; name(s) and addresses of the person(s) to whom the child may be released including address, telephone numbers, relationship to child and to Parent(s), and other identifying information; name(s) and telephone number(s) of person(s) to contact in emergencies when the Parent cannot be reached; name and telephone number of the child's primary source of health care; and a statement regarding known allergies, physical problems, mental health disorders, intellectual disabilities or developmental disabilities which limit the child's participation in the program. It was determined based on a review of records that Children #1, #3, #4, and #5 were missing contacts for their primary source of health care on this date.

Correction Deadline: 3/12/2024

Correction Deadline: 10/12/2023

Corrected on 3/12/2024

.08(2) - Correction of previous citation in that immunizations audits were not required on this date.

	Facility
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Finding

591-1-1-.19(1) requires a Center to provide 35 square feet of usable space per child, which will determine the Center's License capacity. It was determined based on observation that Building 2 - Room D - Preschool had 15 children within the classroom on this date when the maximum capacity was 12.

Correction Deadline: 3/12/2024

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 on observation that the following hazards were accessible to children on this date:

Building 2: D – Preschool

- A broom was located to the left of the hand washing sink within the classroom.
- A toilet brush and toilet brush holder were located inside a plastic grocery bag to left of the children’s toilet.
- The light switch to the children’s bathroom was missing a covering that had exposed wiring.

Correction Deadline: 3/12/2024

Finding

591-1-1-.25(8) requires protective caps on all unused electrical outlets within children's reach and requires that electrical outlets in use be made inaccessible to children. It was determined based on observation that the following hazards were accessible to children on this date:

Main – B (2R)

- Two outlets were missing bottom safety caps.

Main C (1L)

- One outlet was missing the top safety cap.

Correction Deadline: 3/12/2024

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

Not Met

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.26 - Please ensure that stationary equipment has the required amount of resilient surfacing as required by the Department.

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 on observation that the following fencing hazards were observed on this date:

- The top left middle fencing had a protruding wire which caused a potential scratching hazard.
- The left middle fencing was leaning backward and away from the playground which caused the posts to become unanchored from the ground.

Correction Deadline: 4/11/2024

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.26(6) - The Consultant and Director discussed removing the Little Tikes stationary equipment and the little red car with a broken steering wheel located on the back middle area of the playground.

Correction Deadline: 3/22/2024

Finding

591-1-1-.26(9) requires the playground to be kept clean, free from litter and free of hazards, such as but not limited to rocks, exposed tree roots and exposed sharp edges of concrete. It was determined based on observation that the following hazards were observed on the playground:

- Weed fabric was exposed on the playground causing a potential tripping hazard.
- A thorny vine was located on the back right fencing.

Correction Deadline: 3/31/2024

Recited on 3/12/2024

Food Service

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

Technical Assistance

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.15(3) - The Consultant and Director discussed that Parents must prepare their infant's bottles daily. The Consultant and Director further discussed that if formula is provided by the Center, only commercially prepared, ready-to-feed formula shall be used.

Correction Deadline: 3/12/2024

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.15(4) - Please ensure that children are strapped into low floor feeding chairs even when supervised.

Correction Deadline: 3/12/2024

Health and Hygiene

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

Met

Comment

Proper diapering procedures observed.

591-1-1-.17 Hygiene(CR)

Met

Comment

Proper hand washing observed throughout the center.

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

Met

Comment

The Consultant and Director discussed proper medication documentation and procedures on this date.

Policies and Procedures

591-1-1-.27 Posted Notices

Technical Assistance

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.27 - The Consultant and Director discussed adding additional documentation for Director Designees to the Posted Notices board in addition to the information that was provided on Pro-Care for parents of this date.

Correction Deadline: 3/12/2024

Safety

591-1-1-.05 Animals

Met

Comment

Animals maintained clean and appropriately caged.

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

Met

Comment

Age-appropriate discussion and/or redirection observed.

591-1-1-.13 Field Trips(CR)

N/A

Comment

Center does not participate in field trips at this time.

Comment

Center does not provide routine transportation.

Sleeping & Resting Equipment**Comment**

Discussed SIDS and infant sleeping position.

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.

Finding

591-1-1-.30(1)(a)1. requires that cribs be in good repair and free of hazards. Stack cribs and cribs with drop sides shall not be used. It was determined based on observation that the crib located on the left side of the room had a missing top wooden piece causing the Plexiglas to become unstable on this date.

Correction Deadline: 3/12/2024

Staff Records**Comment**

Criminal record checks were observed to be complete.

Finding

591-1-1-.33(3) requires each Staff member with direct care responsibilities to complete health and safety orientation training within the first 90 days of employment. The state-approved training hours obtained will count toward required first year training hours. The training must address the following health and safety topics: prevention and control of infectious diseases (including immunizations); prevention of sudden infant death syndrome and use of safe sleeping practices; administration of medication, consistent with standards for parental consent; prevention of and response to emergencies due to food and allergic reactions; building and physical premises safety, including identification of and protection from hazards that can cause bodily injury such as electrical hazards, bodies of water, and vehicular traffic; prevention of shaken baby syndrome, abusive head trauma and child maltreatment; emergency preparedness and response planning for emergencies resulting from a natural disaster or a human-caused event (such as violence at a child care facility); handling and storage of hazardous materials and the appropriate disposal of bio contaminants; precautions in transporting children; recognition and reporting of child abuse and neglect; and child development. It was determined based on a review of records that Staff # 6 did not have their Health and Safety Orientation training complete on this date.

Correction Deadline: 4/11/2024

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 the following Center Staff were missing annual training on this date:

- Staff # 2 lacked 10 hours of training for 2023.
 - Staff #3 lacked 10 hours of training for 2023.
 - Staff #4 lacked 6 hours of training for 2023.
 - Staff #5 lacked 10 hours of training for 2023.
 - Staff #6 lacked 10 hours of training for 2023.
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-
-
-

Correction Deadline: 4/11/2024

Comment

Staff observed to be compliant with applicable laws and regulations.

Staffing and Supervision

Defer

591-1-1-.32(1) - Please ensure that classrooms remain in ratio when Staff bathroom breaks are conducted.

Correction Deadline: 3/12/2024

Recited on 1/1/0001

Correction Deadline: 7/13/2023

Corrected on 3/12/2024

.32(4)(a) - Correction of previous citation in that children were children were combined according their age groups as required by the Department.

Correction Deadline: 7/13/2023

Corrected on 3/12/2024

.32(7) - Correction of previous citation in that children were adequately supervised on this date.