



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: 8/23/2024 **VisitType:** Monitoring Visit

Arrival: 12:45 PM **Departure:** 3:00 PM

CCLC-1100

Austell Learning Academy

2081 Mesa Valley Way Austell, GA 30106 Cobb County
(770) 948-2020 austelllearningacademy@gmail.com

Regional Consultant

Alison Benson

Phone: (866) 369-6921

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alison.benson@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.
08/23/2024	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
04/11/2024	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
08/16/2023	Monitoring Visit	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	1	2	C	15	C	NA	NA	Floor Play
Main	Rm B- 1L (2nd Room)	One Year Olds	1	6	C	15	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main	Rm C- 3L		0	0	C	13	C	NA	NA	
Main	Rm E- Back L		0	0	C	28	C	39	C	
Main	Rm F- Far Back L	Three Year Olds	1	6	C	21	C	30	C	Nap
Main	Rm G- Middle Far Back		0	0	C	28	C	NA	NA	
Main	Rm H- 5R	GA PreK	1	16	C	19	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main	Rm I- 4R	GA PreK	2	14	C	22	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main	Rm J- 3R	Two Year Olds	1	4	C	22	C	NA	NA	Snack,Nap
Main	Rm K- 2R	Two Year Olds	2	11	C	22	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main	Rm L- 1R		0	0	C	23	C	NA	NA	

Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 228

Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 228

Total # Children this Date: 59

Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 228

Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 228

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	A	8	C
Main	B	97	C
Main	C	46	C
Main	D	34	C

Enrolled Children						
Under 1 years	1 years	2 years	3 years	4 years	5 years (Prekonly)	5 years and older
5	9	18	11	33	0	0

Comments

The purpose of today's visit was to conduct a Monitoring Visit and to follow-up from the previous visit.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 08/23/2024

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 user id 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)

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The following information is associated with a Monitoring Visit:

Activities and Equipment

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

Met

Correction Deadline: 4/25/2024

Corrected on 8/23/2024

.12(2) - The soft shapes have been removed and are not in use at this time.

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

N/A

Comment

The 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

Please repair the popcorn ceiling (throughout the center) where areas are peeling, as this could be hazardous to children in care.

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

Technical Assistance

Comment

Discussed maintenance of resilient surface. Please fluff and redistribute.

Health and Hygiene

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

Met

Comment

Staff stated proper knowledge of diapering procedures.

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

Met

Comment

Staff stated proper hand washing procedures.

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

N/A

Comment

No medication is being dispensed at this time.

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

Met

Comment

Staff stated proper age-appropriate discussion and/or redirection procedures.

591-1-1-.36 Transportation(CR)

N/A

Comment

The center does not provide routine transportation.

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

Met

Comment

Pleasant naptime environment observed.

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

Not Met

Finding

591-1-1-.09(1.) (b) requires the Center to ensure that every Director has a valid and current satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination on file prior to being present at the Center while any child is present for care or before an individual age 17 or older resides in the Center. The Comprehensive Records Check Determination must have a Records Check Clearance Date that is no older than the preceding 12 months of the hire date; provided, however, if the Director has had a lapse of employment from the child care industry that lasted for 180 days (6 months) or longer, a new satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination is required. It was determined based on review of staff records, employee #15, with a hire date of May 1, 1996 was present at the facility without a current fingerprint on file.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

IMMEDIATE CORRECTION - The Center will ensure that the Director has a valid and current satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination on file prior to being present at the Center while any child is present for care or before an individual age 17 or older resides in the Center. The Comprehensive Records Check Determination must have a Records Check Clearance Date that is no older than the preceding 12 months of the hire date; provided, however, if the Director has had a lapse of employment from the child care industry that lasted for 180 days (6 months) or longer, a new satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination is required. The program's owner or an officer/member of the corporation must view the A to Z Background Check video units pertaining to this records check rule and return the signed affidavit within one week from this visit date. The center will ensure the CRC rules are maintained.

1-day letter issued August 23, 2024.

Correction Deadline: 8/26/2024

Finding

591-1-1-.09(1)(l)3. requires the Center to immediately require a new Comprehensive Records Check Determination for a Director, Employee or Provisional Employee at least once every five years. It was determined based on review of staff records, employee #15, with a hire date of May 1, 1996 was present at the facility without a current fingerprint on file.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

IMMEDIATE CORRECTION - The Center will ensure that each Director, Employee and Provisional Employee has a Comprehensive Records Check Determination on file that has been issued within the past five years. The program's owner or an officer/member of the corporation must view the A to Z Background Check video units pertaining to this records check rule and return the signed affidavit within one week from this visit date. The Center will ensure CRC rules are maintained.

1-day letter issued August 23, 2024.

591-1-1-.33 Staff Training

Defer

Defer

591-1-1-.33(5)- The center will ensure that all employees complete 10 hours of annual training before December 31, 2024.

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: 4/25/2024

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

The center was observed to maintain appropriate staff:child ratios.

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

Met

Comment

The center was observed to maintain appropriate staff:child ratios.