



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: 9/14/2023 **VisitType:** Monitoring Visit

Arrival: 11:45 AM **Departure:** 4:40 PM

CCLC-157

The Sunshine House #8

330 N. Belair Road Evans, GA 30809 Columbia County
(706) 860-8507 center08@sshouse.com

Regional Consultant

Ashley Richards

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Joint with: Kaycee Purvis

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.
09/14/2023	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
05/08/2023	Incident Investigation Closure	Good Standing	
04/26/2023	Incident Investigation & 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	1st Right Rear		0	0	C	7	C	NA	NA	
Main	1st Left Rear	GA PreK	2	20	C	32	C	NA	NA	Transitioning, Story
Main	2nd Left Rear	One Year Olds	1	5	C	21	C	NA	NA	Nap, Transitioning
Main	2nd Right Rear	Infants	2	8	C	19	C	NA	NA	Nap, Feeding, Transitioning
Main	3rd Left Rear		0	0	C	34	C	NA	NA	
Main	Front Left	Two Year Olds	2	15	C	30	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main	Front Right	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	2	22	C	31	C	NA	NA	Lunch
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 174					Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					
Total # Children this Date: 70					Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 174					
					Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	PG- Back Right Playground	126	C
Main	PG- Front Playground	105	C
Main	PG- Infant Playground	10	C
Main	PG- Left Playground	84	C

Comments

The purpose of this visit was to conduct a Monitoring Visit.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 09/14/2023

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



(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)

Not Met

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.12 - The Consultants and Assistant Director discussed adding equipment and toys within centers to enhance variety.

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.12(2) - Please ensure that the right handle on the refrigerator door in the Dramatic Play center is replaced or repaired.

Correction Deadline: 9/14/2023

Finding

591-1-1-.12(3) requires that equipment and furniture be placed so as to permit the children's freedom of movement and to minimize danger of accident and collision. It was determined based upon observation that one wooden step stool was located on top of the children's hand washing sink located in the Second Rear Left Classroom.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

Center staff will re-position the identified equipment and/or furniture and the director will view each classroom to verify appropriate make changes, as needed, and have a system to monitor these items.

Correction Deadline: 9/14/2023

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.12(6) - The Consultants and Assistant Director discussed providing a variety of age-appropriate toys and play materials that are available, stored on low, open shelves that are accessible to children in each room.

Correction Deadline: 10/14/2023

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

N/A

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.

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

Front Right Classroom

- The shelf to the left of the classroom entry door had one Magic Eraser, one pair of adult scissors, and one stapler remover on the top of the shelf.
- The manipulative shelf in the middle of the classroom had one adult stapler accessible on the top middle shelf.
- A staff purse was in an unlocked cubby on the right side of the classroom.
- One bottle labeled bleach water containing an unknown substance, an iron, and a plastic bag were in an unlocked cabinet under the sink used for hand washing in the bathroom.

Second Left Rear Classroom

- A hot water heater was in an unlocked cabinet under the adult sink used for hand washing.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will identify all hazardous items and keep them in a locked area inaccessible to children. The Center will inform all Staff about hazardous items and the safe storage of those items.

Correction Deadline: 9/14/2023

Finding

591-1-1-.25(17) requires that the Center premises be free of plants and shrubs which are poisonous or hazardous. It was determined based upon observation that the following hazards were accessible to children on this date:

Front Playground

- Eleven mushrooms were located to the left of the stationary equipment in the grass.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The harmful item will be removed.

Correction Deadline: 10/5/2023

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.25(3) - Please ensure that the Left Playground exterior door of the 3rd Left Rear classroom is free from rust and chipping paint.

Correction Deadline: 9/14/2023

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

Discussed maintenance of resilient surface. Please fluff and redistribute.

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 upon observation that the following fencing hazards were present on this date:

Left Playground.

- The fencing on the back left side was bent at the top rail
- The locked gate on the left side of the playground had a gap to the wooded area which measured four inches wide causing potential entrapment.

Front Playground

- The top rail was not connected to the top bar of fencing on the back middle fence.
- The top fence rail was broken on the back right hand side.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will routinely check the fence to determine if it is in good repair and remains at least 4 feet high, and will repair any hazards. The Center will train Staff to identify and report any fence hazards and to keep the fence gates closed when not in use.

Correction Deadline: 10/5/2023

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

Left Playground

- The wooden play structure on the Left Playground had slats of wood with splintered wood causing splinters.

Front Playground

- One piece of green, black, and red equipment located near the stationary play structure equipment was broken.
- The beige and green stationary play equipment had chipping paint, was rusted, and had sharp edges.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will provide a variety of age-appropriate equipment that is arranged so as not to obstruct supervision of children. Staff will check the equipment daily to ensure that the equipment is free of hazards, rust and splinters.

Correction Deadline: 10/5/2023

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 upon observation that the following hazards were present on the playgrounds:

Left Playground

- A green hose on the wall across from the 3rd Left Rear exterior door was laying on the ground unsecured.
- Tree roots causing potential tripping hazards were located on the left outer sections of the playground near the fencing.
- Four active ant beds were present.

Front Playground

- Tree roots causing potential tripping hazards were located on the outer middle sections of the playground.
- Four active ant beds were present.
- Large rocks were located against the back and right sides of the fence line.
- Two protruding bolts were present on the front and right sides of the garden bed barrier.
- A large limb connected to a tree hung over from the wooded area and onto the back middle fencing and onto the playground causing a tripping hazard.

Back Right Playground

- Large rocks located under the green and white canopy posed a tripping hazard.
- The black barrier underneath the green and white canopy had five protruding bolts.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will remove any litter and fix or remove hazards from the playground and will routinely monitor the playground and remove litter and hazards.

Correction Deadline: 10/5/2023

Health and Hygiene

591-1-1-.10 Diapering Areas & Practices(CR)**Technical Assistance****Comment**

Proper diapering procedures observed.

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.10(4) - Please ensure that diapers are changed on a smooth and nonporous surface,

Correction Deadline: 9/14/2023

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.

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

Correction Deadline: 5/8/2023

Corrected on 9/14/2023

.11(2) - Correction of previous citation in that Personnel observed on this date did not physically or sexually abuse any child on the premises.

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

Complete documentation of transportation observed.

Comment

The vehicle was checked for compliance. Proper restraints were observed and discussed with the director.

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

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-.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**

Correction Deadline: 5/8/2023

Corrected on 9/14/2023

.32 - Correction of previous citation in that proper ratios and classroom capacities were maintained on this date.

Correction Deadline: 5/8/2023

Corrected on 9/14/2023

.32(7) - Correction of previous citation in that children were supervised at all times appropriate to the individual age, needs, and capabilities of each child on this date.