



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: 4/11/2024 **VisitType:** Licensing Study

Arrival: 9:20 AM **Departure:** 12:15 PM

CCLC-1100

Austell Learning Academy

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

Regional Consultant

Alison Benson

Phone: (866) 369-6921

Fax: (866) 370-1204

alison.benson@dec.al.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.
04/11/2024	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
08/16/2023	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
03/22/2023	Licensing Study	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 and One Year Olds	1	5	C	15	C	NA	NA	Floor Play, Feeding
Main	Rm B- 1L (2nd Room)	One Year Olds	2	8	C	15	C	NA	NA	Feeding
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	2	18	NC	21	C	30	C	Clean Up
Main	Rm G- Middle Far Back		0	0	C	28	C	NA	NA	
Main	Rm H- 5R	GA PreK	2	14	C	19	C	NA	NA	Art
Main	Rm I- 4R	GA PreK	1	10	C	22	C	NA	NA	Outside
Main	Rm J- 3R	Two Year Olds	1	9	C	22	C	NA	NA	Free Play
Main	Rm K- 2R	Two Year Olds	1	8	C	22	C	NA	NA	Free Play
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: 72					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

Comments

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

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 04/11/2024

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.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!

Marie Mackall, Program Official

Date

Alison Benson, 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-.12 Equipment & Toys(CR)

Not Met

Comment

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

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 based on observation, soft climbing shapes located in classrooms B and C were observed to be worn and torn.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will ensure all play items are in good condition regularly.

Correction Deadline: 4/25/2024

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

N/A

Comment

The center does not provide swimming activities.

Children's Records

591-1-1-.08 Children's Records

Met

Comment

Records were observed to be complete and well organized on this date.

Facility

591-1-1-.19 License Capacity(CR)	Met
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Comment

Licensed capacity observed to be routinely met by center.

591-1-1-.25 Physical Plant - Safe Environment(CR)	Technical Assistance
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Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.25 - Please be mindful to keep items that pose a hazard inaccessible to children.

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

591-1-1-.26 - Discussed maintenance of resilient surface. Please fluff and redistribute. Also discussed keeping grass cut throughout the outside play area.

Food Service

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

Kitchen appears to be clean and well organized.

Health and Hygiene

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

Staff stated proper knowledge of diapering procedures.

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

Proper hand washing was observed on this date.

591-1-1-.20 Medications(CR)	N/A
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Comment

No medication is being dispensed at this time.

Policies and Procedures

591-1-1-.21 Operational Policies & Procedures	Met
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Comment

The program was observed to complete emergency drills as required.

Safety

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

Age-appropriate discussion and/or redirection was observed.

591-1-1-.13 Field Trips(CR)	N/A
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Comment

The center does not participate in field trips at this time.

591-1-1-.36 Transportation(CR)**N/A****Comment**

The center does not provide routine transportation at this time.

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

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

Staff stated proper 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 staff 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-.14 First Aid & CPR**Met****Comment**

Evidence observed of 50% of center staff certified in First Aid and CPR.

591-1-1-.33 Staff Training**Not Met****Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.33(3) - Discussed: Health and Safety Training is required for each staff member with direct care responsibilities within 90 calendar days of their hire date.

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 less than half of the staff did not complete the 10 hours of annual training for 2023.

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 were observed to be compliant with applicable laws and regulations.

Staffing and Supervision

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

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

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

Adequate supervision was observed on this date.