



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: 9/26/2023 **VisitType:** Licensing Study

Arrival: 9:05 AM **Departure:** 4:20 PM

CCLC-54900

Greater Horizons Enrichment Center

2834 Milledgeville Road Augusta, GA 30904 Richmond County
(706) 496-3784 mendingfamilylives@gmail.com

Regional Consultant

Ashley Richards

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Joint with: Carrie Spangler

Mailing Address

2029 Bassford Drive
Hephzibah, GA 30815

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.
09/26/2023	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
11/29/2022	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
06/02/2022	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	A: Infants	Infants and One Year Olds	1	5	C	5	C	NA	NA	Diapering, Floor Play, Feeding, Free Play
Main	B: Ones & Twos		0	0	C	9	C	NA	NA	
Main	C: 3s/4s & Afterschool		0	0	C	17	C	NA	NA	
Main	Front Classroom	Infants and Two Year Olds and Three Year Olds	0	6	NC	6	C	NA	NA	Free Play
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.:			37		Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					
Total # Children this Date: 11			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.:		Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	Playground	24	C

Comments

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

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 09/26/2023

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.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!



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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 updated and posted weekly.

Correction Deadline: 9/26/2023

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.03(3) - Please ensure that toys that require batteries are replaced as recommended by manufacturer's instructions.

Correction Deadline: 9/26/2023

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

Not Met

Finding

591-1-1-.12(1) requires each Employee and child in attendance to use all indoor and outdoor furniture, activity materials, and equipment in a safe and appropriate manner and in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions, recommendations, and intended use. All equipment and furniture shall be used only by the age-appropriate group of children. It was determined based upon observation that a child was sitting in a high chair without the use of safety straps in the Front Room.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will ensure Staff are trained in and children are taught the proper use of all furniture, materials and equipment; will implement a plan for this information to be reviewed with both groups on an ongoing basis; and for monitoring proper and age-appropriate usage.

Correction Deadline: 9/26/2023

Recited on 9/26/2023

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.12(2) - Please ensure that protruding staples located on the front of the blue shelving in Room B are flush with the shelving and that the red shelving is secure.

Correction Deadline: 9/26/2023

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

N/A

Comment

Center does not provide swimming activities.

Records Reviewed: 5

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 5

Child # 1	Not Met
<u>"Missing/Incomplete Components"</u>	
.08(1)-Allergies and Disabilities	
Child # 2	Not Met
<u>"Missing/Incomplete Components"</u>	
.08(1)-Parent Names, Work Numbers	
Child # 3	Not Met
<u>"Missing/Incomplete Components"</u>	
.08(1)-Parent Names, Work Numbers	
Child # 4	Not Met
<u>"Missing/Incomplete Components"</u>	
.08(1)-Emergency Contact information Missing,.08(1)-Parent Names, Work Numbers,.08(1)-Allergies and Disabilities,.08(3)-Name of Release Person Missing	
Child # 5	Not Met
<u>"Missing/Incomplete Components"</u>	
.08(1)-Parent Names, Work Numbers	

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

Not Met

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 review of records that after review of five children's files the following information was observed to be missing:

- Child #1 was missing allergy information.
- Child #2 was missing parent names and work number information.
- Child #3 was missing parent names and work number information.
- Child #4 was missing emergency contacts, parent work number, allergies, and name of release person information
- Child #5 was missing parent names and work numbers.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

Center staff will develop a plan that includes how to obtain all required information for currently enrolled children and how to ensure this is done for future enrollees as well. The plan will also include how and where to maintain files for the required amount of time. The plan will be implemented and followed.

Correction Deadline: 9/29/2023

Recited on 9/26/2023

Facility

591-1-1-.06 Bathrooms**Not Met****Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.06(1) - Please ensure that the warm water is turned on, available, and running for children to use for handwashing in the Boys and Girls bathroom.

Correction Deadline: 10/26/2023

Finding

591-1-1-.06(7) requires Center Staff to ensure bathrooms are cleaned daily with a disinfectant. It was determined based upon observation that:

Girls Bathroom

- The toilet seats on the right and the left had dried urine spots.
- The toilet on the right was not flushed and contained urine inside the bowl.
- The toilet on the left was not flushed and contained feces inside the bowl.

Boys Bathroom

- The toilet seats on the right and the left had dried urine spots.
- The toilet on the right was not flushed and contained feces inside the bowl.
- The toilet on the left would not flush properly. After the Consultant flushed the toilet, the toilet water rose inside the bowl and would not filter down.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will develop and implement a plan to ensure that bathrooms are cleaned and disinfected daily and that this is monitored daily.

Correction Deadline: 9/26/2023

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)**Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.25(11) requires that floor coverings be tight, smooth, free of odors and washable or cleanable. It was determined based upon observation that the following flooring hazards were observed on this date:

Girls Hallway Bathroom

- The threshold on the right side of the entry way was loose causing a potential tripping hazard.

Hallway and Boys Bathroom

- The flooring from the hallway was disconnected from the entry way threshold causing a potential tripping hazard.

Room B

- The flooring located on the front right and back left sections of the classroom were loose.

Room C

- The flooring located on the stairs had staples on the ends of the stairs on the right and left sides that were protruding.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

Floors will be maintained to be safe and sanitary.

Correction Deadline: 11/30/2023

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 observed in Room C:

- Three bottles of Hand Sanitizer
- One bottle of Hand Sanitizer Spray
- One spray bottle of an unknown substance
- One container of Disinfecting Wipes

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: 9/26/2023

Recited on 9/26/2023

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.25(3) - Please ensure that dead insects are discarded from Room C.

Correction Deadline: 9/26/2023

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.25(3) - Please ensure that the vent in the hallway located to the left of the kitchen is clean and free of dust.

Correction Deadline: 9/26/2023

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.25(8) - Please ensure that the outlet located on the back left wall of the Front Room and the outlet located on the left wall by the cots in room Main C are covered and inaccessible by children.

Correction Deadline: 9/26/2023

591-1-1-.25 Physical Plant-Structural/Mechanical

Met

Correction Deadline: 11/29/2022

Corrected on 9/26/2023

.25(19) - Correction of previous citation in that the Front Classroom was licensed on December 12, 2022.

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

Not Met

Technical Assistance

Please ensure that Staff are walking and playing with the children throughout the Playground.

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 gate on the left side of the playground had a gap that measured four inches wide causing a potential entrapment hazard. It was further determined that the left gate and fencing of the playground had rust which was accessible to children.

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: 10/31/2023

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 climbing wall was unsecured. The left screw at the top was unsecured from the main piece of the structure. The right screw was loose causing the wall to be unstable.

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: 10/27/2023

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.26(8) - Please ensure that the slide has resilient surfacing that is a minimum of five feet to the left, right, and front sections of the bottom of the slide.

Correction Deadline: 10/6/2023

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 observed on this date:

- The red railing on the ramp was rough with splintered wood.
- There were two loose boards located on the middle of the ramp.
- At the corner of the ramp was an exposed end of a fencing bar.
- There were five exposed and protruding nails located on the end of the ramp on the left side.
- A small hole located on the front left side of the playground caused a potential tripping and falling hazard.
- Two out of two picnic tables had rough and splintering wood on the top and bench areas of the tables.

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: 9/26/2023

Food Service

591-1-1-.15 Food Service & Nutrition**Not Met****Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.15(2) - Please ensure that Infant Feeding Plans are complete in its entirety with parent initials.

Correction Deadline: 9/26/2023

Finding

591-1-1-.15(3) requires baby bottles and formula to be labeled with the individual child's name; supplied by the Parent daily in bottles; and refrigerated at a temperature of forty (40) degrees Fahrenheit or less. Only the current day's formula or breast milk shall be served. If formula must be provided by the Center, only commercially prepared, ready-to-feed formula shall be used. Refrigerated or frozen breast milk shall only be heated or thawed under warm running water or in a container of warm water. It was determined based upon observation that nine out of ten bottles were not labeled with the individual children's name.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will train Staff to follow the required procedures, ensure that parents are fully informed, and will review and monitor regularly.

Correction Deadline: 9/27/2023

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.15(5) - The Consultants and Director discussed menu listing procedures for when food substitutions are made for meals and or snacks.

Correction Deadline: 9/26/2023

Correction Deadline: 11/29/2022

Corrected on 9/26/2023

.15(7) - Correction of previous citation in that string Colby Jack cheese sticks were not served to children less that four (4) years of age.

591-1-1-.18 Kitchen Operations

Not Met

Finding

591-1-1-.18(8) requires that containers of food be stored above the floor on clean surfaces protected from splash and other contamination. Containers for food storage other than the original container or package in which the food was obtained shall be impervious and non-absorbent, have tight-fitting lids or covers and labeled as to contents. It was determined based upon observation that paper plates were stored on the floor under the table to the right of the sink. It was further determined that two boxes of juice were stored on the floor to the right of the refrigerator.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will designate an appropriate area for the storage of containers of food, will make available containers, lids, and covers, and will train Staff on proper storage and labeling.

Correction Deadline: 10/6/2023

Health and Hygiene

591-1-1-.07 Children's Health

Not Met

Finding

591-1-1-.07(5) requires Center Staff to not permit children to wear around their necks or attach to their clothing pacifiers or other hazardous items. It was determined based upon observation that a child in Room A had a pacifier strap attached to the front of their shirt on this date.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will instruct Staff regarding this safety requirement.

Correction Deadline: 9/26/2023

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

Not Met

Finding

591-1-1-.10(5) requires that Center Staff shall not leave infants or children unattended while being diapered or having their clothes changed on the diaper changing surface. It was determined based upon observation that the Staff member in Room A left an infant on the diaper changing table for less than one minute unattended on this date.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will ensure Staff are trained, procedures are reviewed periodically and diaper changing is monitored periodically.

Correction Deadline: 9/26/2023

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

Not Met

Finding

591-1-1-.17(8) requires staff to wash their hands with liquid soap and warm running water upon arrival for the day, when moving from one child care group to another, upon re-entering the child care area after outside play, before and after diapering each child, dispensing medication, applying topical medications, handling and preparing food, eating, drinking, preparing bottles, feeding each child, assisting children with eating and drinking, after toileting or assisting children with toileting, using tobacco products, handling garbage and organic waste, touching animals or pets, handling bodily fluids and after contamination by any means. It was determined based upon observation that the Staff member in Room A did not wash their hands with warm running water and liquid hand soap before changing an infant's diaper.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will ensure liquid soap and warm running water are available for handwashing, train Staff on the handwashing requirements, review the requirements with Staff periodically, and monitor handwashing.

Correction Deadline: 9/26/2023

591-1-1-.20 Medications(CR)**Technical Assistance****Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.20(3) - The Consultants and Director discussed the proper requirements and steps necessary in order to document Medical Authorization forms.

Correction Deadline: 9/26/2023

Policies and Procedures**591-1-1-.27 Posted Notices****Met**

Correction Deadline: 11/30/2022

Corrected on 9/26/2023

.27 - Correction of previous citation in that all posted notices were posted, readable, and accessible to parents and visitors on this date.

Safety**591-1-1-.05 Animals****N/A****Comment**

Center does not keep animals on premises.

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

Age-appropriate discussion and/or redirection observed.

591-1-1-.13 Field Trips(CR)**Met****Comment**

Center does not participate in field trips at this time.

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

A current/completed inspection was observed for all vehicles used in transporting children this date.

Finding

591-1-1-.36(6) requires written Parental authorization for routine transportation provided by or on behalf of the Center. Written authorization must include the routine pick-up location, routine pick-up time, routine delivery location, routine delivery times and the name of any person authorized to receive the child. It was determined based upon observation that two out of three children transportation files were missing written authorization information on this date.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will obtain the required written parental authorization.

Correction Deadline: 9/29/2023

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.36(7)(c)5. - Please ensure that passenger transportation checklists are maintained and updated as needed based on transportation schedules.

Correction Deadline: 9/27/2023

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

Comment

Discussed SIDS and infant sleeping position.

Finding

591-1-1-.30(1)(a)3 requires that each crib shall have only an individual, tight-fitting sheet which is changed daily or more often as needed and prior to a change of occupant. It was determined based upon observation that three out of five cribs had loose fitting sheets on this date.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The center will ensure that each crib has an individual, tight-fitting sheet which is changed daily or more often as needed and prior to a change of occupant.

Correction Deadline: 9/26/2023

Correction Deadline: 11/29/2022

Corrected on 9/26/2023

.30(1)(b)3 - Correction of previous citation in that cot sheets were available for the children in Room B on this date.

Correction Deadline: 11/29/2022

Corrected on 9/26/2023

.30(1)(b)4 - Correction of previous citation in that a light covering was available and in use for each child in Room B on this date.

Staff Records

Comment

Criminal record checks were observed to be complete.

Comment

Please replace/add missing/expired item(s) in first aid kit(s).

Finding

591-1-1-.33(4) requires within the first year of employment, the Director and person with primary responsibility for food preparation shall have four clock hours of training in food nutrition planning, preparation, serving, proper dish washing and food storage. It was determined based upon observation that Staff #4 did not have four clock hours of training in food nutrition planning, preparation, serving, proper dish washing and food storage.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will schedule food preparation training, as required, and follow up to ensure the training is completed.

Correction Deadline: 11/16/2023

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 upon observation that Staff #4 lacked six hours of annual training on this date.

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: 10/26/2023

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)**Not Met**

Correction Deadline: 11/29/2022

Corrected on 9/26/2023

.32(3) - Correction of previous citation in that the child ratio of a Center with a licensed capacity of 18 or fewer children did not apply on this date.

Finding

591-1-1-.32(4) requires that children under three years old be housed in separate physical areas from older children and cannot be mixed with older children except at specified times and circumstances. It was determined based upon observation that children younger than three-years-old were housed with children older than three-years-old in classroom Front Room, at the time other than the first and last hour of operation.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will maintain separation of these children under three years old.

Correction Deadline: 9/26/2023

591-1-1-.32 Supervision(CR)**Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.32(7) requires that children be supervised at all times appropriate to the individual age, needs and capabilities of each child. Such supervision must include, but not be limited to, indoor and outdoor activities, mealtimes, naptime, transportation, field trips, and transitions between activities. "Supervision" means that the appropriate number of Staff members are physically present in the area where children are being cared for and are providing watchful oversight to the children, volunteers and Students-in-Training. The persons supervising in the child care area must be alert, positioned to maximize their ability to hear and see the children at all times, and able to respond promptly to the needs and actions of the children being supervised, as well as the actions of the volunteers and Students-in-Training, and provide timely attention to the children's actions and needs. Staff shall be attentive and participating with all children during mealtimes and shall be seated within an arm's length away from children thirty-six (36) months of age and younger. It was determined based upon observation that the following children had lack of supervision on this date:

Entry and Front Room

- Upon entry to the building, the Consultants witnessed the Director enter the Center from her car. It was further determined that one Staff member inside the Center was caring for 12 children when the Director entered the building. There were seven children in the Front Room and five children in Main A.

Main A

- The Director stepped inside the classroom while leaving children unattended in the hallway.
- A child walked out of the room and into the hallway without the teacher knowing.
- The Staff member left the room with five infants present to answer the front door.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will train Staff and monitor to ensure they are providing supervision and watchful oversight to the children at all times.

Correction Deadline: 9/26/2023