



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: 6/2/2023 VisitType: Licensing Study Arrival: 9:15 AM Departure: 1:30 PM

CCLC-2533

LEARNING TREE EDUCATIONAL CENTER

601 CARROL LANE Sylvester, GA 31791 Worth County
(229) 463-7177 phill31791@yahoo.com

Region Consultant

Angela Williams-Jackson

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Joint with: Rukiya Thomas

Mailing Address

P. O. BOX 5346
SYLVESTER, GA 31791

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.
06/02/2023	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
12/12/2022	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
05/20/2022	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	A Left Room	Infants and One Year Olds	1	5	C	6	C	NA	NA	Floor Play
Main	B - Middle Room	Three Year Olds and Five Year Olds and Six Year Olds and Over	2	9	C	22	C	NA	NA	Free Play
Main	C - Right Room	One Year Olds and Two Year Olds	1	6	C	8	C	NA	NA	Transitioning
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 36					Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					
Total # Children this Date: 20					Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	A	42	C

Comments

A plan of improvement was left on today and is due 6/16/2023.

Plan of Improvement: To Be Submitted 06/16/2023

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

Pamela Hill, Program Official

Date

Angela Williams-Jackson, Consultant

Date

Rukiya Thomas, 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

The consultant discussed with the director to please ensure that there are a variety of toys in classroom B.

Correction Deadline: 6/2/2023

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

Technical Assistance

Technical Assistance

The consultant discussed with the director to please ensure that the television in classroom B is secured to the shelf. Additionally, please ensure that the cords are out of reach of the children.

Correction Deadline: 6/2/2023

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

N/A

Comment

Center does not provide swimming activities at this time.

Children's Records

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

Met

Comment

Records were observed to be complete and well organized.

Evening Care

591-1-1-.32 Staffing/Supervision(CR)**Met****Comment**

The director stated there is no evening care hours provided at this time.

Facility**591-1-1-.06 Bathrooms****Met****Comment**

Please ensure to remove the rust at the bottom of the the toilet in bathrooms.

Correction Deadline: 6/2/2023

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(13) requires that potentially hazardous equipment, materials and supplies be stored in a locked area inaccessible to children. It was determined based on observation the following items were accessible to children and posed a hazard:

- Hand sanitizer on top off the cubby in classroom B.
- Red, yellow, and blue plastic storage container was cracked.
- Wipes were in the cubbies in classroom B.
- One grocery bag in a cubby and another grocery bag in a gray backpack inside the cubby.

Correction Deadline: 6/2/2023

591-1-1-.26 Playgrounds(CR)**Not Met****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 yellow and green metal bus had chipped paint.

Correction Deadline: 6/9/2023

Food Service

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

Center menu meets USDA guidelines.

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

Kitchen appears clean and well organized.

Health and Hygiene

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

Hand washing requirements for diapering were discussed with the director on this date.

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

Proper hand washing observed throughout the center.

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

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication at this time.

Policies and Procedures

591-1-1-.21 Operational Policies & Procedures	Technical Assistance
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Technical Assistance

The consultant discussed with the director to use the current emergency drill form that includes the lockdown drill and emergency plans. The director was provided the current emergency drill form.

Correction Deadline: 6/7/2023

Safety

591-1-1-.05 Animals	Met
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Comment

Center does not keep animals on premises.

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

Age-appropriate discussion and/or redirection observed.

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

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

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

The center does not provide routine transportation at this time.

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

591-1-1-.30 Safe Sleeping and Resting Requirements(CR)**Not Met****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 on observation that classroom A had seven out of seven cribs with loose fitting sheets.

Correction Deadline: 6/2/2023

Staff Records

591-1-1-.09 Criminal Records and Comprehensive Background Checks(CR)**Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.09(1)(a) requires that a Center ensure that every actual and potential Director, Employee and Provisional Employee of a Child Care Learning Center submit both a Records Check Application to the Department and Fingerprints to an authorized fingerprinting site. It was determined based on a review of records that Staff # 1 was present on site without having submitted both a Records Check Application to the Department and Fingerprints to an authorized fingerprinting site.

Correction Deadline: 6/2/2023

Finding

591-1-1-.09(1)(c) requires the Center to ensure that every Employee 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 Employee 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 a review of records that Staff # 1 was present on site without having submitted both a Records Check Application to the Department and Fingerprints to an authorized fingerprinting site.

Correction Deadline: 6/2/2023

591-1-1-.14 First Aid & CPR

Technical Assistance

Technical Assistance

The consultant discussed with the director to please ensure that all employees maintain a copy of the cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and a triennial training program in first aid card in the staff files.

Correction Deadline: 7/2/2023

591-1-1-.33 Staff Training

Not Met

Finding

591-1-1-.33(2) requires the initial Center orientation to include the following subjects: the Center's policies and procedures; the portions of these rules dealing with the care, health and safety of children; the Staff person's assigned duties and responsibilities; reporting requirements for suspected cases of child abuse, neglect or deprivation; communicable diseases and serious injuries; emergency weather plans; the program's emergency preparedness plan; childhood injury control; the administration of medicine; reducing the risk of Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS); hand washing; fire safety; water safety; and prevention of HIV/AIDS and blood borne pathogens. It was determined based on a review of records that two employees did not have orientation documented in their files.

Correction Deadline: 6/3/2023

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)

Met

Comment

Center observed to maintain appropriate staff:child ratios.

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

Met

Comment

Adequate supervision observed on this date.