



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: 4/17/2023 **VisitType:** Licensing Study **Arrival:** 1:10 PM **Departure:** 5:10 PM

CCLC-1385

Kids' Stop Learning Center

533 Grassdale Rd Cartersville, GA 30121 Bartow County
 (770) 386-7867 kidsstopinc@yahoo.com

Region Consultant

Chasity Baugh

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chasity.baugh@dec.al.ga.gov

Mailing Address

1700 Dean St.
 Rome, GA 31061

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.
04/17/2023	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
04/04/2023	Complaint Closure	Good Standing	
09/28/2022	Complaint Closure	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	Left Pre-K Wing-1R	GA PreK	3	40	C	37	NC	NA	NA	Transitioning, Nap
Main	Left Pre-K Wing-End of Hall	GA PreK	1	19	C	28	C	NA	NA	Nap, Transitioning
Main	1L -Right Wing Infant/Toddler Side	Two Year Olds	1	10	C	12	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main	2L- Right Wing-Infant Toddler Side	One Year Olds	1	9	NC	13	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main	3 L-Right Wing	One Year Olds	1	8	C	13	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main	4L Right Wing	Infants	2	11	C	15	C	NA	NA	Nap, Feeding
Main	E- Front Room Upon Entrance	Three Year Olds	3	22	C	34	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main	Middle Hallway-Back Pre-K	Four Year Olds	2	23	C	39	C	NA	NA	Transitioning, Nap
Main	Middle Rm b/f Dining Rm	Two Year Olds	1	16	NC	18	C	NA	NA	Nap, Transitioning
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 209					Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					
Total # Children this Date: 158					Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	back playground (toddler)	25	C
Main	left side (Pre-K/ASP)	81	C
Main	right side playground (infant/toddler)	35	C

Comments

A Licensing Study was completed on March 31, 2023. A Plan of Improvement was issued due to repeat rule violations. The center experienced a structural fire on December 28, 2022 and a water leak, which caused damage to much of the office equipment, including staff files. Consultant discussed organizing and maintaining staff member's files. Consultant unable to change date to reflect date of visit. Visit was completed on March 31, 2023, report shows April 17, 2023.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 04/17/2023

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 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!

Tracy Howell, Program Official

Date

Chasity Baugh, 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)

Met

Comment

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

Comment

Equipment and furniture observed to be properly secured, as applicable.

591-1-1.35 Swimming Pools & Water-related Activities(CR)

Met

Comment

Pool not in use at this time, gates observed locked.

Children's Records

591-1-1.08 Children's Records

Met

Comment

Records were observed to be complete and well organized.

Facility

Finding

591-1-1-.06(4) requires a Center first licensed after March 1, 1991, and Centers that remodel or add to existing plumbing facilities, to have the bathroom area fully enclosed and ventilated to the outside of the building with either an open screened window or functioning exhaust fan and duct system and requires Centers without fully enclosed bathrooms to ensure there is adequate ventilation to control odors and adequate sanitation measures to prevent the spread of contagious diseases. It was determined based on observation in classroom. In classroom Left Pre-K Wing-1R the boy's bathroom did not have operable ventilation and maintained a foul odor, also the girl's restroom did not have operable ventilation. Additionally, in classroom E- Front Room Upon Entrance the ventilation the restroom on the left was not operable.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will fully enclose and ventilate bathroom areas, as required, and will provide adequate ventilation and sanitation in bathrooms that are not fully enclosed.

Correction Deadline: 4/7/2023

Recited on 3/31/2023

Finding

591-1-1-.06(7) requires Center Staff to ensure bathrooms are cleaned daily with a disinfectant. It was determined based on observation that the boy's bathroom in Left Pre-K Wing-1R maintained an intense foul odor. Furthermore, in classroom Left Pre-K Wing-End of Hall the bathroom on the left maintained an intense foul odor that was noticeable upon entering the classroom.

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: 4/7/2023

Recited on 3/31/2023

591-1-1-.19 License Capacity(CR)**Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.19(1) requires a Center to provide 35 square feet of usable space per child, which will determine the Center's License capacity. It was determined based on observation Left Pre-K Wing-1R was over the classroom capacity. The classroom was licensed for 37 children. 40 children were present at time of visit. There were 42 children on roster. This room was a Pre-K room, with two Pre-K Classroom housed in the space.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will limit the number of children in this space to the licensed capacity.

Correction Deadline: 4/7/2023

591-1-1-.25 Physical Plant - Safe Environment(CR)**Not Met****Comment**

No hazards observed accessible to children on this date.

Finding

591-1-1-.25(3) requires the Center and surrounding premises to be kept clean, free of debris and in good repair. Hygienic measures such as, but not limited to, screened windows and proper waste disposal procedures shall be utilized to minimize the presence of rodents, flies, roaches and other vermin at the Center. It was determined based on observation in classroom Left Pre-K Wing-1R the girl's restroom light was no operable, based on staff statements it had not been working consistently for at least three months. Children in the classroom were observed using the restroom, with the door shut in the dark. Additionally, in classroom 2L - Right Wing Infant Toddler Side near the ventilation, the ceiling was peeling.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will have the Center and surrounding areas cleaned, make repairs where needed, and remove all debris is removed. The Center will implement a plan to keep areas clean and in good repair that includes regular monitoring.

Correction Deadline: 3/31/2023

591-1-1-.26 Playgrounds(CR)**Not Met****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 on observation that the gate on the left side of the Pre-K Playground had a five inch gap. Furthermore on the Pre-K playground, the fence was observed broken as the top bar was not secure to the post. Also observed on the Pre-K Playground, at the bottom of the fence to the right of a yellow plastic structure, there was a six and a half inch gap. Additionally the fence that separated the Pre-K Playground and the toddler playground had a gap that was observed to be approximately ten inches wide and 18 inches in the top right corner. On the Toddler Playground, consultant observed the back of the fence to be loose from the post, creating a five inch gap, which extended to ten inches when children pressed on it. Additionally on the back of the Toddler Playground the double gate was observed to have a five inch gap, despite the chain connecting the double gate. Furthermore, on the older playground, the single gate on the side of the playground's latch was no secure, allowing the gate to be pulled open and the latch on the double gate on the older playground did not close, the two gates had an approximate four inch gap despite the chain connecting them. Also, the two gates which provided access to the unused swimming pool could easily be pulled and pushed open as the latch was not secure. master locks were observed on both gates as being locked, however the gates still easily opened. There was another gate to access the swimming pool, a master lock was attached to the latch, however it was not locked.

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: 4/7/2023

Recited on 3/31/2023

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 on observation on the toddler playground, the red hand rails on the climbing structure had rust on them. Additionally rust was observed on various portions of the fence surrounding the playground.

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: 4/7/2023

Recited on 3/31/2023

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

Center menu meets USDA guidelines.

Comment

Please ensure that bottles are covered and fully labeled with child's full name.

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 on observation and staff statements, the center mixes powder formula for infants. Consultant observed the formula stored in a closet in the infant room.

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: 3/31/2023

Finding

591-1-1-.15(4) requires that a feeding chair or similar equipment designed for feeding children shall be provided for the use of each child being fed who is capable of sitting up but who is unable to sit unassisted at a table and must be cleaned with a disinfectant after each use. Such chair or similar equipment shall have a broad base to prevent tipping, a surface that the child cannot raise, a strap or other device which prevents the child from sliding out of the chair, and a feeding surface free of cracks. It was determined based on observation two infants were sitting in a table top seat during feeding without being strapped in.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will inspect feeding equipment to ensure it meets each of the listed criteria and to verify a feeding chair or equipment is provided for each child who requires one. The Center will train staff and monitor to ensure that the feeding equipment is cleaned with a disinfectant after each use.

Correction Deadline: 3/31/2023

Finding

591-1-1-.15(6)(b) requires that food and beverages be served in individual plates or bowls and with individual glasses or cups. It was determined based on observation children in classrooms 1L -Right Wing Infant/Toddler Side and 2L- Right Wing-Infant Toddler Side were served snack without being placed on an individual plate, the snack was served directly on the table top.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The center will use individual food service items to serve food and beverages.

Correction Deadline: 3/31/2023

Health and Hygiene

591-1-1-.10 Diapering Areas & Practices(CR)**Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.10(1) requires Centers first licensed after March 1, 1991, and Centers that are renovated after March 1, 1991, to provide ventilation in the diapering areas with functioning exhaust fans and a duct system or by the required amount of window space provided by operable windows when open. It was determined based on observation in diapering classrooms Right Wing, 2L, 3L and 4L there was no operable ventilation.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The responsible person(s) at the center will ensure that the exhaust fans and duct systems are functioning properly. ,

Correction Deadline: 4/7/2023

Recited on 3/31/2023

591-1-1-.17 Hygiene(CR)**Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-17(7) requires that children wash their hands with liquid soap and warm running water upon arrival for care, when moving from one child care group to another, upon re-entering the child care area after outside play, before and after eating meals and snacks, handling or touching food, playing in water; after toileting and diapering, playing in sand, touching animals or pets, and contact with bodily fluids and after contamination by any other means. It was determined based on observation in classroom 1L Right Wing Infant Toddler classroom, the children's sink was turned off at time of visit.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will train Staff on required handwashing for children and Staff will ensure children's hands are washed when required. The Director will monitor for compliance.

Correction Deadline: 3/31/2023**Recited on 3/31/2023**

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

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

Organization

591-1-1-.37 Inspections & Investigations**Technical Assistance****Technical Assistance**

Consultant discussed 591-1-1-.37(d) which requires the Center and Staff to cooperate with any inspection or investigation by responding truthfully to any legitimate departmental inquiry. Failure to cooperate with a Department inspection or investigation shall constitute good cause for the denial, restriction, revocation or suspension of a License, Permit or commission.

Correction Deadline: 3/31/2023

Policies and Procedures

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

Program observed complete emergency drills

Safety

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

Please be mindful of voice tone in redirecting children.

Correction Deadline: 5/24/2022**Corrected on 3/31/2023**

.11(2) - This previous citation in regard to discipline was corrected.

591-1-1-.36 Transportation(CR)**Technical Assistance****Comment**

A current/completed inspection was observed for two out of three vehicles used in transporting children this date.

Comment

Complete documentation of transportation observed.

Comment

The vehicle had an approved fire extinguisher and first aid kit on this date.

Technical Assistance

Consultant discussed 591-1-1-.36(4)(a) which requires an annual safety check for each vehicle. The annual safety check, completed by a trained individual, should include a check of the: tires, headlights, horn, taillights, turn signals, brake lights, brakes, suspension, exhaust system, steering, windows, windshields and windshield wipers. A copy of the annual safety check will be kept in the Center or on the vehicle and should include evidence of any repairs and/or replacements that were identified as needed on the inspection report.

Correction Deadline: 4/5/2023

Sleeping & Resting Equipment**591-1-1-.30 Safe Sleeping and Resting Requirements(CR)****Not Met****Comment**

Discussed SIDS and infant sleeping position.

Finding

591-1-1-.30(2)(c) requires that infants shall not sleep in equipment other than safety-approved cribs, such as, but not limited to, a car safety seat, bouncy seat, highchair, or swing. Infants who arrive at the Center asleep or fall asleep in such equipment, on the floor or elsewhere, shall be transferred to a safety-approved crib. It was determined based on observation in classroom 4L Right Wing, two infants were observed sleeping in swings for an undetermined amount of time.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will only place infants in safe cribs to sleep and will transfer them to a safe crib when the infants are asleep in other equipment.

Correction Deadline: 3/31/2023

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

Criminal record checks were observed to be complete.

Correction Deadline: 9/28/2022

Corrected on 3/31/2023

.09(1)(a) - This previous citation in regard to CBC was corrected.

Correction Deadline: 9/28/2022

Corrected on 3/31/2023

.09(1)(c) - This previous citation in regard to CBC was corrected.

Correction Deadline: 4/21/2022

Corrected on 3/31/2023

.09(1)(g) - This previous citation in regard to CBC was corrected.

591-1-1-.09 Criminal Records Check(CR)**Met****Comment**

Criminal records checks were observed to be complete.

Finding

591-1-1-.14(2) requires a Staff member who is trained in CPR and first aid to be on the premises and on any field trip whenever any child is present. In addition, Staff who provide direct care to children must satisfactorily obtain certification in first aid and CPR by December 29, 2016 if employed prior to September 30, 2016 and within 90 days of their hire date if employed after September 30, 2016. It was determined based on observation no CPR and First aid certifications were available to review. Director stated the class was taken on October 10, 2022, and there was a roster with staff members names who attended the training at Hamilton Medical Center, they received all staff members cards with the exception of two, however no cards were available to review at time of visit.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will develop a schedule to ensure there is always a staff person with current first aid and CPR training present and will develop and implement a plan to ensure all staff members have satisfactorily completed first aid and CPR training by the specified date.

Correction Deadline: 4/30/2023

591-1-1-.24 Personnel Records

Technical Assistance

Technical Assistance

Consultant discussed 591-1-1-.24(1) which requires the center to maintain a personnel file on the Director, all Employees, Provisional Employees, Personnel, Staff, Students-in-Training, Volunteers, Clerical, Housekeeping, Maintenance, and other Support Staff for the duration of the term of employment plus one calendar year, and it shall contain the following: identifying information to include: name, date of birth, social security number, current address and current telephone number; employment history; as applicable to the position held: evidence of education and qualifying work experience; evidence of all training required by these rules which shall include: title of training, date of training, trainer's signature, location of training and number of clock hours obtained; a statement completed by the staff member that the information provided is true and accurate; any other records required by these rules; and as applicable to the position held, evidence of required orientation including date and signature of person providing the orientation. The center experienced a structural fire on December 28, 2022 and a water leak, which caused damage to much of the office equipment, including staff files. Consultant discussed organizing and maintaining staff member's files.

Correction Deadline: 4/5/2023

591-1-1-.33 Staff Training

Technical Assistance

Comment

Documentation observed of required staff training.

Comment

Discussed: Health and Safety Training is required for each staff member with direct care responsibilities within 90 calendar days of their hire date.

Technical Assistance

Consultant discussed 591-1-1-.33(6) which requires that evidence of orientation and training shall be documented in the Personnel file of each Staff member and shall be available to the Department for inspection.

Correction Deadline: 4/10/2023

591-1-1-.31 Staff(CR)

Technical Assistance

Comment

Discussed that all lead staff must enroll in an approved education program within 6 months of hire and complete degree within 18 months.

Technical Assistance

Consultant discussed 591-1-1-.31(2)(b)2. requires teachers and lead caregivers to meet minimum academic requirements and qualifying experience at the time of employment.

Correction Deadline: 3/31/2023

Technical Assistance

Consultant discussed 591-1-1-.31(2)(b)3.(ii)(I)-(VIII) requires the Center develop a written plan for newly hired teacher's who do not possess the educational credential or degree listed in 591-1-1-.31(2)(b)2.(i) through (xii).

Correction Deadline: 3/31/2023

Staffing and Supervision**591-1-1-.32 Staff:Child Ratios and Group Size(CR)****Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.32(1) requires the Center to maintain the required Staff:child ratios as follows: under 1 year or under 18 months if not walking = 1:6; 1 year and walking = 1:8; 2 years = 1:10; 3 years = 1:15; 4 years = 1:18; 5 years = 1:20; and 6 years and older = 1:25. A Center must establish groupings of children for care with maximum group sizes as follows: under 1 year = 12; under 18 months/not walking = 12; 1 year and walking = 16; 2 years = 20; 3 years = 30; 4 years = 36; 5 years = 40; and 6 years and older = 50. It was determined based on observation that in classroom 2L- Right Wing-Infant nine one-year-olds were present with one staff member during nap time and during afternoon snack. Furthermore, in classroom Middle Rm b/f DiningRm15 two-year-olds were present with one staff member during naptime.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will hire additional Staff or reschedule current Staff to meet required Staff:child ratios and will organize children into groups that meet requirements. ,The Center will hire additional Staff or reschedule current Staff to meet required Staff:child ratios and will organize children into groups that meet requirements. ,

Correction Deadline: 3/31/2023

Recited on 3/31/2023

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

Adequate supervision observed on this date.

Correction Deadline: 4/21/2022

Corrected on 3/31/2023

.32(7) - The previous citation in regard to supervision was observed to be corrected.