



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: 7/17/2024 **VisitType:** Complaint Investigation & Monitoring Visit

Arrival: 10:00 AM **Departure:** 2:30 PM

CCLC-50207
Big Blue Marble - Evans Towne Center
7100 Evans Towne Center Blvd Evans, GA 30809 Columbia County
(706) 650-2369 center18@bbmacademy.com

Regional Consultant
Christina Jennings
Phone: (404) 463-0970
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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.
07/17/2024	Complaint Investigation & Monitoring Visit	Support	
04/29/2024	Complaint Closure	Good Standing	
04/15/2024	Complaint 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	A-Infant	Infants and One Year Olds	2	12	C	13	C	NA	NA	Floor Play
Main	B-Infant	Infants	1	5	C	6	C	NA	NA	Feeding, Nap, Floor Play
Main	Room 1 (C)	One Year Olds and Two Year Olds	3	13	C	17	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main	Room 2 (D)	One Year Olds	2	14	C	21	C	NA	NA	Lunch
Main	Room 3(E)	Three Year Olds	1	12	C	16	C	NA	NA	Lunch
Main	Room 4(F)	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	1	9	C	15	C	22	C	Lunch
Main	Room 5(G)	Two Year Olds	2	20	C	18	NC	26	C	Lunch
Main	Room 6-(H)	Two Year Olds and Three Year Olds	2	15	C	18	C	26	C	Lunch
Main	Room 7(I)	Six Year Olds and Over	2	27	C	25	NC	NA	NA	Lunch
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 145					Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 145			Building @35 capacity limited by Fire Marshall Limitations		
Total # Children this Date: 127					Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 145			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 145		
								Building @25 capacity limited by Fire Marshall Limitations		

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	Infant- Right Front	11	C
Main	PG A- Left Playground	62	C

Main	PG B- Center Playground	26	C
Main	PG C- Right Playground	36	C

Comments

The purpose of this visit was to conduct a CI/MV. The complaint investigation was not closed on site due to additional staff interviews needed to be conducted.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 07/17/2024

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.al.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.al.ga.gov 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 Monitoring Visit:

Activities and Equipment

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

Not Met

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 upon observation that there were two out of two screws protruding over two threads on the bottom of the white easel in Classroom C.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will ensure that equipment and furniture are used by the age-appropriate group of children.

Correction Deadline: 7/17/2024

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)

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 upon observation that there were 20 children in Classroom G when the Center's License max capacity was 18. It was further determined that there were 27 children in Classroom I when the Center's License max capacity was 25.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

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

Correction Deadline: 7/17/2024

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

Met

Comment

Please be mindful to keep items that pose a hazard inaccessible to children.

Correction Deadline: 12/8/2023

Corrected on 7/17/2024

.25(3) - Previous citation observed to be corrected in that the Consultant observed the Center to be in good repair on this date.

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 upon observation that the fencing had the following hazards:

Right Playground:

-A six inch gap at the bottom of the fencing on the backside of the playground causing a potential entrapment hazard.

Middle Playground:

-A four inch gap at the bottom of the gate door on the backside of the playground causing a potential entrapment hazard.

Left Playground:

-The gate latch was protruding four and one half inches from the gate door of the wooden fencing on the back of the backside of the playground causing a potential hazard.

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: 7/26/2024

Recited on 7/17/2024

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 there was an unsecured wooden piece creating a six inch gap causing a potential pinching hazard on the top of the red tunnel on the black wooden train structure.

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: 7/26/2024

Recited on 7/17/2024

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 accessible to children on the playground:

Front Right Playground:

- A metal pipe protruding approximately seven inches from the building between the two exterior classroom doors causing a potential tripping hazard.
- A metal drinking water fountain that was not in use and was protruding outwards approximately five inches from the building between the two exterior classroom doors causing a potential tripping hazard.
- The top of a large circular metal drain cover was missing three hole coverings causing two holes measuring five inches in diameter and one hole that measured three inches in diameter to be exposed on the left side of the exterior classroom door causing a potential entrapment hazard.

Middle Playground:

- A metal pipe protruding approximately seven inches from the building between the two exterior classroom doors causing a potential hazard.
- A metal drinking water fountain that was not in use and was protruding outwards approximately five inches from the building between the two exterior classroom doors causing a potential hazard.
- Exposed tree roots on the back right side of the playground causing a potential tripping hazard.

Left Playground:

- A metal drinking water fountain that was not in use and was protruding outwards approximately five inches from the building between the two exterior classroom doors causing a potential hazard.

Front Left Playground:

- An exposed piece of concrete at the bottom of the metal rain gutter on the front right corner of the playground causing a potential tripping hazard.
- Exposed tree roots on the back right side of the playground causing a potential tripping hazard.

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: 7/31/2024

Recited on 7/17/2024

Health and Hygiene

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

Staff state proper knowledge of diapering procedures.

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 upon observation that five out of five children did not immediately wash their hands with liquid soap and warm running water after having their noses cleaned and being in contact with bodily fluids as required in Classroom G.

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: 7/17/2024

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 Center Staff did not wash their hands immediately after cleaning the noses of five out of five children with liquid soap and warm running water as required in Classroom G.

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: 7/17/2024

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

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

Safety

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

Staff were observed to maintain a positive learning environment on this date.

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

Complete documentation of transportation observed.

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

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

Discussed SIDS and infant sleeping position.

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****Comment**

Center observed to maintain appropriate staff:child ratios.

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 Center Staff were laying out children's cots and were not seated within arm's length away while two one-year-old children and nine two-year-old children were seated and eating lunch in Classroom C. It was further determined that Center Staff were preparing for nap time and were not seated within arm's length away while 13 one-year-old children were seated and eating lunch in Classroom D. A one-year-old child was observed walking around the classroom while eating a medium-sized square ravioli and was not seated while eating in Classroom D. It was also determined that Center Staff were assisting other children after transitioning from lunch and were not seated within arm's length away while two two-year-old children were sitting and eating lunch in Classroom G. A two-year-old child was observed walking around the classroom eating an undetermined piece of food and was not seated while eating in Classroom G.

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: 7/17/2024