



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: 9/16/2024 VisitType: Licensing Study

Arrival: 8:55 AM Departure: 12:00 PM

CCLC-25652

Joyful Journeys CEC

8358 Fortson Court Fortson, GA 31808 Muscogee County
(706) 507-7890 joyfuljourneys2008@yahoo.com

Regional Consultant

Penny Svenson

Phone: (470) 346-1037

Fax: (678) 891-5613

penny.svenson@decal.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.
09/16/2024	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
02/23/2024	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
09/05/2023	Incident Investigation 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	Rm A (BR2)	Infants	2	8	C	12	C	NA	NA	Nap,Feeding,Flo or Play
Main	Rm B (BR1)	Infants	2	6	C	12	C	NA	NA	Floor Play
Main	Rm C (K4)	Four Year Olds	1	12	C	14	C	NA	NA	Homework,Circle Time
Main	Rm F (K2A)	Two Year Olds	2	15	C	20	C	NA	NA	Circle Time
Main	Rm G (K1B)	One Year Olds	2	9	C	16	C	NA	NA	Centers,Free Play
Main	Rm H (K1A)	One Year Olds	2	9	C	16	C	NA	NA	Centers,Free Play
Main	Rm I (K2B)	One Year Olds and Two Year Olds and Three Year Olds	2	20	C	20	C	NA	NA	Circle Time
Main	Room D (K3)	Three Year Olds	3	25	C	30	C	NA	NA	Free Play,Centers
Main	Room E ASP		0	0	C	14	C	NA	NA	
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 154					Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					
Total # Children this Date: 104					Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	Playground-2 yrs	24	C

Enrolled Children						
Under 1 years	1 years	2 years	3 years	4 years	5 years (Prekonly)	5 years and older
19	25	40	30	14	0	12

Comments

September 16, 2024---The Licensing Study was conducted on this date. The findings were discussed with the Director.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 09/16/2024

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



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

(Findings Report)

Date: 9/16/2024 VisitType: Licensing Study

Arrival: 8:55 AM Departure: 12:00 PM

CCLC-25652

Joyful Journeys CEC

8358 Fortson Court Fortson, GA 31808 Muscogee County
(706) 507-7890 joyfuljourneys2008@yahoo.com

Regional Consultant

Penny Svenson

Phone: (470) 346-1037

Fax: (678) 891-5613

penny.svenson@dec.al.ga.gov

Mailing Address

Same

The following information is associated with a Licensing Study:

Activities and Equipment

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

Met

Correction Deadline: 2/23/2024

Corrected on 9/16/2024

The corrections were observed. The Consultant discussed with classrooms to continue ensuring chairs were not stacked, so that a fall hazard was not posed to children.

Correction Deadline: 3/24/2024

Corrected on 9/16/2024

The correction was observed on this date. No shelves were observed to be turned to the wall on this date.

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

Met

Comment

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.

Facility

591-1-1-.06 Bathrooms

Met

Comment

Bathrooms observed to be clean and well maintained.

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)**Met****Correction Deadline: 3/24/2024****Corrected on 9/16/2024**

The correction was observed on this date.

591-1-1-.26 Playgrounds(CR)**Met****Correction Deadline: 9/8/2023****Corrected on 9/16/2024**

The correction was observed on this date. The Consultant discussed with the Director to ensure the resilient surface was redistributed before children were on the playground for play, due to areas being washed out from heavy rain. Further, the Consultant discussed with the Director to ensure any standing water was emptied out of any toys or equipment before children were on the playground for play.

Food Service

591-1-1-.15 Food Service & Nutrition**Met****Correction Deadline: 2/23/2024****Corrected on 9/16/2024**

The correction was observed on this date. An infant was observed to be held while being fed a bottle. High chairs were observed to be present for feeding.

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

Kitchen appears clean and well organized.

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)**Met****Comment**

Proper hand washing observed throughout the center.

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

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

Policies and Procedures

591-1-1-.29 Required Reporting**Met****Comment**

Thank you for reporting as required.

Safety

591-1-1-.05 Animals**Met****Comment**

Center does not keep animals on premises.

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

Comment

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

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

Comment

Field trip documentation observed to be complete.

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

Pleasant naptime environment observed.

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 100% of center staff certified in First Aid and CPR.

591-1-1-.33 Staff Training	Technical Assistance
----------------------------	----------------------

Technical Assistance

The Consultant discussed with the Consultant to ensure Health and Safety was taken within 90 days of hire and every five years.

Correction Deadline: 10/16/2024

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
---	---------

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 on observation that there were three one-year-old children mixed with 14 two-year-old children and three three-year-old children in Room I, and it was not the first hour or the last hour of the day.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

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

Correction Deadline: 9/16/2024

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

Comment

Staff observed to provide direct supervision and be attentive to children's needs.