



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: 6/17/2024 **VisitType:** Complaint Investigation & Monitoring Visit

Arrival: 11:30 AM **Departure:** 2:30 PM

CCLC-36048

Ms. Niecy's Home Away From Home Learning Center
2520 Old Hapeville Rd., SW Atlanta, GA 30315 Fulton County
(404) 767-4177 msniecyschildcare@yahoo.com

CCS Coordinator
Princess Walton
Phone: (770) 357-7030
Fax: (770) 357-7029
princess.walton@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.
06/17/2024	Complaint Investigation & Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
04/24/2024	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
04/19/2024	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
Bldg II	A 1L	Four Year Olds and Five Year Olds and Six Year Olds and Over	1	11	C	17	C	23	C	Nap
Bldg II	B 1R		0	0	C	15	C	21	C	
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 32			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 144							
Building III	Computer		0	0	C	0	C	NA	NA	
Building III	Main	Five Year Olds and Six Year Olds and Over	1	9	C	17	C	NA	NA	Transitioning, Outside, Free Play
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 19			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 144 Building @35 capacity limited by Zoning							
Main	A-Front Rm.	Two Year Olds	1	14	NC	15	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main	B- PreK Left Room		0	0	C	23	C	NA	NA	
Main	C- Right Room	One Year Olds	2	9	C	7	NC	NA	NA	Nap
Main	D- 3	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	1	11	C	20	C	NA	NA	Nap
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 65			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 144							
Main-Downstairs	Rm. E- 1's-2's		0	0	C	12	C	NA	NA	
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 12			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 144							

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	Playground	178	C

Comments

The purpose of this visit is to conduct a complaint investigation and to follow-up to previous visit.

Plan of Improvement: No Plan Developed

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-.03 Activities

Met

Correction Deadline: 4/24/2024

Corrected on 6/17/2024

.03(2) - Previous citation was corrected.

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

Met

Comment

Discussed rotating toys to support the procedures of daily disinfecting.

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

Defer

Defer

591-1-1-.08(1)- This rule will be check on next visit.

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: 4/24/2024

Defer

591-1-1-.08(1)(a)- This rule will be check on next visit.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

Center staff will develop a written plan with the parent or guardian for a child who requires special procedures to be followed and maintain the plan in the child's file.

Correction Deadline: 4/24/2024

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: 5/24/2024

Corrected on 6/17/2024

.25(11) - Previous citation was corrected.

Correction Deadline: 7/12/2024

Corrected on 6/17/2024

.25(3) -Previous citation was corrected.

Correction Deadline: 4/24/2024

Corrected on 6/17/2024

.25(8) -Previous citation was corrected.

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 the the playgrounds black barrier was observed to be detached in several areas, posing an entrapment hazard. It was further observed a mop, water hose, several wood pieces with nails, rake, tin barrel, cardboards on the ground, metal poles and equipment that was accessible to children in care. Additionally, goat feces was observed on the playground and was not clean as required. Lastly a animal cage was observed in the middle of 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: 7/19/2024

Recited on 6/17/2024

Health and Hygiene

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

Comment

Proper diapering procedures observed.

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

Comment

Staff were observed to remind children to wash hands.

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

Comment

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

Safety

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

Correction Deadline: 3/7/2024

Corrected on 6/17/2024

.05(2) - Previous citation was corrected.

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)**Defer****Defer**

591-1-1-.36(4)(b)- This rule be check on next visit.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The center will maintain that all transportation vehicles are clean, in safe repair, and free from hazards.

Correction Deadline: 4/25/2024

Defer

591-1-1-.36(7)(d)2.-This rule be check on next visit.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will train Staff who are or may be involved in transporting children in how to thoroughly inspect a vehicle and properly complete transportation documentation. The Center will review and monitor.

Correction Deadline: 4/24/2024

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-.33 Staff Training**Defer****Defer**

591-1-1-.33(5)- Training will be checked on next visit.

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: 5/24/2024

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

591-1-1-.31(1)(b)2.- Credential will be check on next visit.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will ensure that the Director meets the minimum education and work requirements and secure the necessary documentation.

Correction Deadline: 4/24/2024

Staffing and Supervision

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 classroom A had a ratio of one staff to 14 two-year-olds.

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.

Correction Deadline: 6/17/2024

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

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