



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: 1/24/2024 **VisitType:** Licensing Study

Arrival: 10:20 AM

Departure: 2:00 PM

CCLC-16954

Northwest Georgia Christian Academy

1301 Dews Pond Road Calhoun, GA 30701 Gordon County
(706) 625-8677 earlylearningcenter50@yahoo.com

Regional Consultant

Marquita Brown-Opeloyeru

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Mailing Address

1301 Dews Pond Road SE
Calhoun, GA 30701

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.
01/24/2024	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
03/17/2023	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
01/31/2023	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	Room # 16 Toddlers	One Year Olds	1	6	C	7	C	NA	NA	Centers
Main	Room # 6- One Year Olds		0	0	C	6	C	NA	NA	
Main	Room #1	One Year Olds	1	6	C	5	NC	NA	NA	Floor Play
Main	Room #11 and #13	Two Year Olds and Three Year Olds	1	9	C	13	C	NA	NA	Centers
Main	Room #12 and #14		0	0	C	13	C	NA	NA	
Main	Room 0 (Nursery)	Infants	2	11	C	18	C	NA	NA	Floor Play
Main	Room 15 & 17	Three Year Olds	1	10	C	18	C	NA	NA	Centers
Main	Rooms # 19 & #21		0	0	C	13	C	NA	NA	
Main	Rooms # 7 & # 9 One Year Olds	One Year Olds	1	8	C	13	C	NA	NA	Lunch
Main	Rooms # 8 & #10 Infants		0	0	C	8	C	NA	NA	
Main	Rooms #18 & # 20, 22	Four Year Olds and Five Year Olds	1	8	C	20	C	NA	NA	Centers
Main	Rooms #2 & #4	Two Year Olds	1	7	C	14	C	NA	NA	Centers
Main	Rooms #3 & #5	One Year Olds	2	10	C	12	C	NA	NA	Music
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 160					Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					
Total # Children this Date: 75					Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	Playground A (Older Playground)	128	C
Main	Playground B (Younger)	22	C

Comments

The purpose of this visit was to conduct a Licensing Study on this date.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 01/24/2024

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.state.ga.us/CCS/Regulations.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!

Christie Wilbanks, Program Official

Date

Marquita Brown-Opeloyeru, Regional 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

Consultant observed a variety of equipment and toys throughout the center.

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

N/A

Comment

Center does not provide swimming activities.

Children's Records

591-1-1.08 Children's Records

Met

Comment

Consultant observed parent agreements to be obtained and completed.

Comment

Consultant observed parent authorizations to be obtained and completed.

Comment

Consultant observed records to be complete and well organized.

Facility

591-1-1.06 Bathrooms

Met

Comment

Consultant observed bathrooms to be clean and well maintained.

591-1-1-.19 License Capacity(CR)**Technical Assistance****Technical Assistance**

Ensure to provide 35 square feet of usable space per child, which will determine the Center's License capacity. In Room #1, the room capacity is five children.

Correction Deadline: 1/24/2024

591-1-1-.25 Physical Plant - Safe Environment(CR)**Technical Assistance****Comment**

Consultant observed the center to appear clean and well maintained.

Technical Assistance

Please be mindful to keep items that pose a hazard inaccessible to children. Ensure adult chairs in classrooms are open and not leaning on walls while children are present.

Comment

Please secure cleaning tools (i.e., broom, dust pans) out of reach of children.

591-1-1-.26 Playgrounds(CR)**Not Evaluated****Comment**

Playground not observed on this date due to inclement weather.

Food Service

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

Consultant observed center menu to meet USDA guidelines.

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

Consultant observed the kitchen to appear clean and well organized.

Health and Hygiene

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

Consultant observed proper diapering procedures.

Technical Assistance

Ensure staff can state proper knowledge of diapering procedures in the nursery room.

Finding

591-1-1-.10(2) requires Centers first licensed after March 1, 1991, and Centers that renovate existing plumbing facilities, to have a hand washing sink with running heated water located adjacent to the diapering area. Flush sinks shall not be used for hand washing. Cleansing procedures in other facilities shall be approved by the Department. It was determined based on observation in room #16 (toddlers) the hand washing sink was not working.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will ensure that a hand washing sink is located adjacent to each diapering area, that flush sinks are not used for handwashing, and that the department has approved cleansing procedures in other facilities, if applicable.

Correction Deadline: 3/6/2024

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

Consultant observed proper hand washing throughout the center except in room #16 (toddlers).

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 room #16 (toddlers) that children were using clothes with water from a jug to wash hands without liquid soap and warm running water before and after eating lunch.

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: 3/6/2024

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 on observation that in room #16 (toddlers) that the staff was using clothes with a water jug to wash hands instead of using liquid soap and warm running water after handling and preparing food.

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: 3/6/2024

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

Consultant observed documentation for medication dispensing for three files to be complete during this visit.

Policies and Procedures

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

Consultant observed program complete emergency drills. The last fire drill was conducted December 29th at 10:26 A.M.

591-1-1-.27 Posted Notices**Met****Comment**

Consultant observed all required posted notices.

Safety

591-1-1-.05 Animals**N/A****Comment**

Center does not keep animals on premises.

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

Consultant observed age-appropriate discussion and redirection throughout the center.

Comment

Consultant observed staff to maintain a positive learning environment on this date.

591-1-1-.13 Field Trips(CR)	N/A
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Comment

Center does not participate in field trips at this time.

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

Center does not provide routine transportation.

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

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

Consultant observed pleasant nap time environment.

Comment

Consultant observed the correct number of mats, sheets and blankets on this date. Cleaning and disinfecting of mats was discussed with the staff on this date.

Staff Records

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

Director provided eight files for employees hired since last visit.

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

Consultant observed criminal records checks to be complete.

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

Evidence observed of 50% of center staff certified in First Aid and CPR.

Comment

Please be mindful of training expiration dates.

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

Consultant observed staff to be compliant with applicable laws and regulations.

Staffing and Supervision

591-1-1-.32 Staff:Child Ratios and Group Size(CR)	Met
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Comment

Consultant observed the center to maintain appropriate staff:child ratios.

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

Consultant observed the staff to provide direct supervision and be attentive to children's needs throughout the center.