



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: 11/24/2021 **VisitType:** Licensing Study

Arrival: 2:35 PM

Departure: 3:35 PM

CCLC-1493

Children's Academy of Hickory Flat

4360 Hickory Rd. Canton, GA 30115 Cherokee County
 (770) 345-2929 cahf.parentinfo@gmail.com

Regional Consultant

Rachael Brown

Phone: (770) 342-7795

Fax: (678) 891-5887

rachael.brown@decal.ga.gov

Mailing Address

Same

Quality Rated: No

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.
11/24/2021	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
04/20/2021	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
11/16/2020	Licensing Study	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 1	C- Second Left Room		0	0	C	20	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Bldg 1	D- First Left	Three Year Olds	1	9	C	17	C	NA	NA	Art
Bldg 1	E- First Right	Two Year Olds and Three Year Olds	1	8	C	18	C	NA	NA	Art
Bldg 1	F-Second Right	Two Year Olds	2	11	C	18	C	NA	NA	Circle Time
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 73			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0							
Bldg 2	A- Downstairs	Five Year Olds and Six Year Olds and Over	2	18	C	25	C	NA	NA	Outside, Transitioning
Bldg 2	B- Upper Level	One Year Olds	1	4	C	11	C	NA	NA	Transitioning
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 36			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0							
Total # Children this Date: 50			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 109			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0				

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Bldg 1	Playground A:	31	C
Bldg 1	Playground B: Preschool	23	C
Bldg 1	Playground C	78	C
Bldg 1	Playground: Toddler Play Area	9	C

Comments

An Administrative Review was conducted on November 24, 2021. Staff files, children's files, training, and background checks were all reviewed. A virtual inspection was conducted on November 24, 2021 with the Director. An in-person visit was not conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

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.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), e-mail the following information to CCSRefutations@dec.state.ga.us.

- 1) Facility name, license number and visit date
- 2) Your name, title/relationship to the facility, e-mail address & up to two phone number(s) where you can be reached
- 3) Specific rule number(s) that you are refuting, along with your concerns or questions regarding the rule citation

Refutations must be submitted to Child Care Services (CCS) within 10 business days of the completion date.

A sample form for submitting a refutation can be found at: <http://dec.state.ga.us/ChildCareServices/RefutationInformation.aspx>

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 New Deadlines:

Your program must be Quality Rated by December 31, 2020 in order to continue to receive Childcare and Parent Services (CAPS).

Get started today! Sign up by completing a short online application: <https://qualityrated.dec.state.ga.us/>
Request free technical assistance to help you earn your star rating by contacting the Quality Rated help desk at 855-800-7747 or qualityrated@dec.state.ga.us

Morgan Thomas, Program Official

Date

Rachael Brown, 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 Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. A variety of equipment and toys were observed throughout the center.

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

Met

Comment

A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Pool not in use at this time, gates observed locked. Pool inspection and lifeguard credentials observed.

Children's Records

Records Reviewed: 4

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 0

Child # 1	Met
Child # 2	Met
Child # 3	Met
Child # 4	Met

591-1-1-.08 Children's Records

Technical Assistance

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.08(1) - Ensure a complete address is obtained for persons authorized to pick up children.

Correction Deadline: 11/24/2021

Facility

591-1-1-.06 Bathrooms	Met
Comment A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Bathrooms observed to be clean and well maintained.	
591-1-1-.19 License Capacity(CR)	Met
Comment A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Licensed capacity observed to be met by center.	
591-1-1-.25 Physical Plant - Safe Environment(CR)	Met
Comment A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. No hazards observed accessible to children on this date.	
591-1-1-.26 Playgrounds(CR)	Met
Comment A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Playground observed to be clean and in good repair.	
Food Service	
591-1-1-.15 Food Service & Nutrition	Met
Comment Center menu meets USDA guidelines.	
591-1-1-.18 Kitchen Operations	Met
Comment A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Kitchen appears clean and well organized.	
Health and Hygiene	
591-1-1-.10 Diapering Areas & Practices(CR)	Met
Comment A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Hand washing and sanitizing requirements for diapering were discussed with the Director on this date. During the virtual walk through the diapering area was observed and the provider displayed proper knowledge of the rules and regulations.	
591-1-1-.17 Hygiene(CR)	Met
Comment A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Proper hand washing observed.	
591-1-1-.20 Medications(CR)	N/A
Comment The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.	
Policies and Procedures	
591-1-1-.21 Operational Policies & Procedures	Met
Comment Program observed complete emergency drills	
591-1-1-.27 Posted Notices	Met

Comment

Observed all required posted notices.

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

Thank you for reporting as required.

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

A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Animals maintained clean and appropriately caged.

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

A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Staff were observed to maintain a positive learning environment on this date. Redirection and positive reinforcement stated to be used throughout the center.

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

Center does not participate in field trips at this time.

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

Complete documentation of transportation observed.

Comment

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

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.36(3)(a-b) - Ensure transportation safety training is re taken every two years.

Correction Deadline: 12/4/2021

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

A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The center does not care for infants. The correct number of mats, sheets and blankets were observed on this date. Cleaning and disinfecting of mats was discussed with the director on this date.

Staff Records**Records Reviewed: 17****Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 0**

Staff # 1

Met

Date of Hire: 11/22/2021

Reminder - Health & Safety training is required within 90 calendar days of hired

Staff # 2

Met

Date of Hire: 10/21/2021

Reminder - Health & Safety training is required within 90 calendar days of hired

Staff # 3	Met
Date of Hire: 07/01/2015	
Staff # 4	Met
Date of Hire: 08/30/2021	<u>Reminder - Health & Safety training is required within 90 calendar days of hired</u>
Staff # 5	Met
Date of Hire: 07/21/2017	
Staff # 6	Met
Date of Hire: 07/01/2015	
Staff # 7	Met
Date of Hire: 09/27/2021	<u>Reminder - Health & Safety training is required within 90 calendar days of hired</u>
Staff # 8	Met
Date of Hire: 07/15/2013	
Staff # 9	Met
Date of Hire: 01/14/2019	
Staff # 10	Met
Date of Hire: 09/09/2019	
Staff # 11	Met
Date of Hire: 11/30/2011	
Staff # 12	Met
Date of Hire: 05/03/2004	
Staff # 13	Met
Date of Hire: 05/27/2019	
Staff # 14	Met
Staff # 15	Met
Date of Hire: 02/17/2021	
Staff # 16	Met
Date of Hire: 03/21/2021	
Staff # 17	Met
Date of Hire: 11/15/2021	<u>Reminder - Health & Safety training is required within 90 calendar days of hired</u>

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

Criminal record checks were observed to be complete.

Comment

Director provided five files for employees hired since last visit.

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

A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Complete first aid kits observed in center and on vehicles.

Comment

Please be mindful of training expiration dates.

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

591-1-1-.33(5) - Ensure Georgia Pre-K staff obtain ten (10) clock hours of annual training every calendar year. Consultant discussed that Food Service and Nutrition training and Transportation Safety training do not count towards annual training.

Correction Deadline: 12/24/2021

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

A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. 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
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Comment

A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Center observed to maintain appropriate staff:child ratios.

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

A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Adequate supervision observed on this date.