



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: 6/4/2024 **VisitType:** Complaint Investigation Follow Up **Arrival:** 9:00 AM **Departure:** 2:45 PM

CCLC-14762

Bright Beginnings Learning Center

2327 Second Avenue Decatur, GA 30032 DeKalb County
(404) 941-7194 erikasherece2012@gmail.com

Regional Consultant

Jessica Johnson

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Mailing Address

Same

Quality Rated: ★

<u>Compliance Zone Designation</u>			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.
06/04/2024	Complaint Investigation Follow Up	Deficient	
06/04/2024	Complaint Closure	Good Standing	
04/15/2024	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
Main	A	Two Year Olds and Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	1	11	NC	12	C	NA	NA	Transitioning, Circle Time
Main	B infant room		0	0	C	7	C	NA	NA	
Main	C	Five Year Olds and Six Year Olds and Over	2	18	C	15	NC	21	C	Centers
Main	D		0	0	C	17	C	24	C	
			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 51			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 51				
Total # Children this Date: 29			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 51			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 51				

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	Playground	88	C

Comments

An on-site complaint investigation was conducted on June 4, 2024. Investigative findings were not concluded on June 4, 2024. Background checks were all reviewed on June 4, 2024. Investigative findings were concluded on June 4, 2024.

Plan of Improvement: To Be Submitted 06/18/2024

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/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), 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.state.ga.us 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 Complaint Investigation Follow Up:

Activities and Equipment

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

Technical Assistance

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.12(2) - The Consultant discussed with the Director gluing down the loose wooden piece on the yellow cabinet in classroom C near the television.

Correction Deadline: 6/4/2024

Children's Records

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

Technical Assistance

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.08(1) - The Consultant discussed with the program updating the no liability forms for children files.

Correction Deadline: 6/4/2024

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 on observation that 18 children were housed in classroom C which was licensed for 15.

Correction Deadline: 6/4/2024

Correction Deadline: 4/15/2024

Corrected on 6/4/2024

.25(13) - Citation corrected. The Consultant discussed with the Director that potentially hazardous equipment, materials and supplies be stored in a locked area inaccessible to children.

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.25(3) - The Consultant discussed with the Director tightening the door handle on the closet door in classroom A.

Correction Deadline: 6/4/2024

591-1-1-.26 Playgrounds(CR)**Technical Assistance**

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.26(4) - The Consultant discussed adding a pool noodle to the three and a half inch gap at the front entrance gate near the van.

Correction Deadline: 6/4/2024

Correction Deadline: 4/29/2024

Corrected on 6/4/2024

.26(9) - Citation corrected. No hazards observed. The Consultant discussed with the Director that 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

Health and Hygiene

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

Correction Deadline: 4/15/2024

Corrected on 6/4/2024

.10(3) - Citation corrected. The Consultant discussed the diapering procedure with the the staff member.

Policies and Procedures

591-1-1-.21 Operational Policies & Procedures**Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.21(1)(p) requires the Center to have a written plan for handling emergencies, including but not limited to severe weather, loss of electrical power or water and death, serious injury or loss of a child, a threatening event, or natural disaster which may occur at the Center; to have in place procedures for evacuation, relocation, shelter-in-place, lock-down, communication and reunification with families, and continuity of operations. The plan must apply to all children in care and include specific accommodations for infants and toddlers, children with disabilities, and children with chronic medical conditions and shall include assurance that no Center Personnel will impede in any way the delivery of emergency care or services to a child by licensed or certified emergency health care professionals. It was determined based on a review of records that the written plan for handling emergencies was incomplete on this date.

Correction Deadline: 6/18/2024

Safety

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

Correction Deadline: 5/2/2024

Corrected on 6/4/2024

.36(3)(a-b) - Citation corrected. Staff member no longer employed at the program.

Staff Records

591-1-1-.09 Criminal Records and Comprehensive Background Checks(CR) Technical Assistance

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.09(1)(c) - The Consultant discussed with the Director that the Center to ensure that every Employee has a valid and current satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination on file prior to being present at the Center while any child is present for care or before an individual age 17 or older resides in the Center. The Comprehensive Records Check Determination must have a Records Check Clearance Date that is no older than the preceding 12 months of the hire date; provided, however, if the Employee has had a lapse of employment from the child care industry that lasted for 180 days (6 months) or longer, a new satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination is required.

Correction Deadline: 6/4/2024

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

Correction Deadline: 5/15/2024

Corrected on 6/4/2024

.14(2) - Citation corrected. Staff member no longer at this program.

591-1-1-.33 Staff Training Met

Correction Deadline: 5/15/2024

Corrected on 6/4/2024

.33(3) - Citation corrected. Staff member no longer employed with the program.

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

Correction Deadline: 7/4/2024

Corrected on 6/4/2024

.31(2)(b)2. - Citation corrected. Staff #1 has a Professional Learning Plan on file.

Staffing and Supervision

591-1-1-.32 Staff:Child Ratios and Group Size(CR) Not Met

Finding

591-1-1-.32(4)(a) requires that during the early morning times of arrival and late afternoon times of departure, infants and children younger than three 3 years may be grouped with older children so long as Staff: child ratios and group size are met based on the age of the youngest child in the group. It was determined based on observation that children younger than three-years-old were grouped with older children during nap time in classroom A. It was further determined that two two-year-old children were grouped in classroom A with older children.

Correction Deadline: 6/4/2024

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 on observation that a staff member left 15 children unsupervised when they walked out of classroom C into classroom D for one minute leaving 15 children unsupervised in classroom C. It was further determined based on observation that a staff member was observed standing near the ramp at the front door while a child with a box walked towards the trash can which was located near the road.

Correction Deadline: 6/4/2024