



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: 4/22/2024 **VisitType:** Complaint Investigation Follow Up **Arrival:** 2:00 PM **Departure:** 5:00 PM

CCLC-46535

Gems Learning Academy

8850 High Point Road Union City, GA 30291 Fulton County
(404) 625-5842 syma_rauf@yahoo.com

Special Investigations Unit Specialist

Raquel Roberts

Phone: (404) 782-3279

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raquel.roberts@dec.al.ga.gov

Mailing Address

6 Velma Rd
Wakefield, GA 01880

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.
04/22/2024	Complaint Investigation Follow Up	Good Standing	
04/15/2024	Incident Investigation & Follow Up	Good Standing	
02/06/2024	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-Pearls	Infants	1	6	C	12	C	NA	NA	Free Play,Diapering
Main	B- Turquoise		0	0	C	8	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Main	C- Amber	Two Year Olds	1	7	C	20	C	NA	NA	Snack
Main	D- Garnet	Two Year Olds	2	17	C	10	NC	NA	NA	Snack
Main	E- Aquamarine		0	0	C	16	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Main	F- Topaz		0	0	C	15	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Main	G- Sapphire		0	0	C	16	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Main	H- Amethyst		0	0	C	19	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Main	I- Jasper	Four Year Olds	1	15	C	25	C	35	C	Snack
Main	J- Jade	GA PreK	1	12	C	25	C	NA	NA	Free Play,Transitioning
Main	K- Diamond		0	0	C	25	C	35	C	Not In Use
Main	L- Emerald	Four Year Olds	1	7	C	25	C	35	C	Story
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 216			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 216							
Total # Children this Date: 64			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 216							
			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 216							

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	A- Infants/Toddlers	27	C

Main	B- School age	116	C
Main	C- 2yrs-5yrs	80	C
Main	D- Toddler to 2yrs	13	C

Comments

The purpose of today's visit is to follow up on any citations from the visit conducted on February 6, 2024.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 04/22/2024

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!

Saima Qureshi, Program Official

Date

Raquel Roberts, Special Investigations Unit Specialist

Date



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(Findings Report)

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The following information is associated with a Complaint Investigation Follow Up:

Facility	
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591-1-1-.25 Physical Plant - Safe Environment(CR)

Not Met

Finding

591-1-1-.25(3) requires the Center and surrounding premises to be kept clean, free of debris and in good repair. Hygienic measures such as, but not limited to, screened windows and proper waste disposal procedures shall be utilized to minimize the presence of rodents, flies, roaches and other vermin at the Center. It was determined based on observation that the ceiling vents in the Jasper and Sapphire Classrooms were not clean or in good repair on this date.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will have the Center and surrounding areas cleaned, make repairs where needed, and remove all debris is removed. The Center will implement a plan to keep areas clean and in good repair that includes regular monitoring.

Correction Deadline: 4/22/2024

Recited on 4/22/2024

591-1-1-.26 Playgrounds(CR)

Not Met

Finding

591-1-1-.26(6) requires that playground equipment provide an opportunity for the children to engage in a variety of experiences and shall be age-appropriate. For example, toddlers shall not be permitted to swing in swings designed for School-age Children. The outdoor equipment shall be free of lead-based paint, sharp corners and shall be regularly maintained in such a way as to be free of rust and splinters that could pose significant safety hazard to the children. All equipment shall be arranged so as not to obstruct supervision of children. It was determined based on observation the yellow bucket swings were observed to have chipping paint on the right side playground on this date.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will provide a variety of age-appropriate equipment that is arranged so as not to obstruct supervision of children. Staff will check the equipment daily to ensure that the equipment is free of hazards, rust and splinters.

Correction Deadline: 4/22/2024

Recited on 4/22/2024

