



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: 10/10/2024 **VisitType:** Licensing Study

Arrival: 8:30 AM **Departure:** 12:30 PM

CCLC-53257

Excel Early Learning Center

54 Seventh Street Emerson, GA 30137 Bartow County
(770) 382-9040 Viron@excelca.org

Regional Consultant

Sharnette Glenn

Phone: (404) 651-8365

Fax: (404) 334-4612

sharnette.glenn@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.
10/10/2024	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
11/09/2023	Incident Investigation Closure	Good Standing	
11/07/2023	Incident Investigation/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	Cafeteria		0	0	C	72	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Main	Room A	Infants	2	9	C	20	C	NA	NA	Floor Play, Nap
Main	Room B	Two Year Olds	1	10	C	16	C	NA	NA	Centers
Main	Room C	Two Year Olds	2	10	C	12	C	NA	NA	Transitioning, Centers
Main	Room D	Infants and One Year Olds	2	3	C	10	C	NA	NA	Floor Play
Main	Room E	Two Year Olds and Three Year Olds	2	10	C	16	C	NA	NA	Centers
Main	Room F	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	1	14	C	22	C	NA	NA	Centers
Main	Room G		0	0	C	22	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 144			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0			Building @35 capacity limited by Playground Limitations				
Total # Children this Date: 56			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 144			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0				

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	Front Playground	48	C

Enrolled Children						
Under 1 years	1 years	2 years	3 years	4 years	5 years (Prekonly)	5 years and older
15	8	15	12	14	20	0

Comments

The purpose of this visit is to conduct a licensing study. The consultant left the provider Georgia Safe Siting Program Guidelines and Find Help Georgia Reference Guide For Families. The consultant emailed the technical assistance within child care services to the provider. The consultant also assists the provider in submitting an amendment.

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!



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

(Findings Report)

Date: 10/10/2024 **VisitType:** Licensing Study

Arrival: 8:30 AM **Departure:** 12:30 PM

CCLC-53257

Excel Early Learning Center

54 Seventh Street Emerson, GA 30137 Bartow County
(770) 382-9040 Virons@excelca.org

Regional Consultant

Sharnette Glenn

Phone: (404) 651-8365

Fax: (404) 334-4612

sharnette.glenn@decal.ga.gov

Mailing Address

Same

The following information is associated with a Licensing Study:

Activities and Equipment

591-1-1-.03 Activities

Met

Comment

591-1-1-.03(2) - The consultant discussed with the provider to ensure lesson plans are posted within the current week.

Correction Deadline: 10/10/2024

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

Met

Comment

A variety of equipment and toys were observed throughout the center.

Comment

Equipment and furniture observed to be properly secured, as applicable.

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

Parent agreements observed obtained/completed.

Comment

Parent authorizations obtained/completed.

Comment

Records were observed to be complete and well organized.

Facility

591-1-1-.06 Bathrooms	Met
------------------------------	------------

Comment

Bathrooms observed to be clean and well maintained.

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)	Not Met
--	----------------

Comment

Please be mindful to keep items that pose a hazard inaccessible to children.

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 classrooms C, D, and E have ceiling tiles that need to be replaced. It was further observed that in classroom B, the brown wooden climbing equipment in the middle of the classroom has chipped paint, and the colorful mat underneath the wooden climbing equipment is torn apart. It was also further observed that Classroom B's brown shelves and Classroom C's blue shelves had chipped paint.

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: 10/10/2024

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

Comment

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

Discussed proper steps for dishwashing.

Comment

Kitchen appears clean and well organized.

Health and Hygiene

591-1-1-.07 Children's Health	Not Met
--------------------------------------	----------------

Finding

591-1-1-.07(5) requires Center Staff to not permit children to wear around their necks or attach to their clothing pacifiers or other hazardous items. It was determined based on the observation that in classroom D, a child had an attached pacifier to their clothing.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will instruct Staff regarding this safety requirement.

Correction Deadline: 10/10/2024

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

Comment

Proper diapering procedures observed.

Comment

Staff state proper knowledge of diapering procedures.

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

Comment

Proper hand washing observed throughout the center.

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

Comment

Documentation for medication dispensing observed complete.

Organization

591-1-1-.16 Governing Body & License	Technical Assistance
--------------------------------------	----------------------

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.16(f) - The consultant discussed with the provider making sure an amendment is submitted for Room D to be a diaper classroom instead of the non-diapering classroom.

Correction Deadline: 10/10/2024

Policies and Procedures

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

Finding

591-1-1-.21(3) requires that the Center conduct drills for fire, tornado and other emergency situations. The fire drills will be conducted monthly and tornado and other emergency situation drills will be conducted every six months. The Center shall maintain documentation of the dates and times of these drills for two years. It was determined based on observation the center did not conduct a fire drill or tornado drill in September of 2024.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will hold the drills as required and keep the documentation of the drills on file for two years.

Correction Deadline: 10/15/2024

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

Comment

Discussed reporting requirements.

Safety

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

Comment

Center does not keep animals on premises.

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

Comment

Age-appropriate discussion and/or redirection observed.

Comment

Staff were observed to maintain a positive learning environment on this date.

591-1-1-.13 Field Trips(CR)	Technical Assistance
-----------------------------	----------------------

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.13(1) - The consultant discussed with the provider to make sure the center staff notifies parents in advance of a child's participation in any field trip with a notice that includes the name and address of the trip destination, the date of the trip, time of departure, and estimated arrival time back at the center and to keep a copy on file to attached to the field trip form.

Correction Deadline: 10/10/2024

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.13(2) - The consultant discussed with the provider that the center staff should obtain written permission from parents before the child participates in any field trip. Such permission must be signed and dated by a parent, and a copy on file must be attached to the field trip form.

Correction Deadline: 10/10/2024

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.13(6) - The consultant discussed with the provider that the center staff should have emergency medical information on each child who goes on a field trip that includes allergies, special medical needs, and conditions, currently prescribed medications required to be taken on a daily basis for a chronic condition, the name and phone number of the child's doctor, the local medical facility the center uses in the area where the center is located, and the telephone numbers where the parent can be reached. The emergency medical information shall be left at the center and taken on the trip in the possession of the adult in charge of the trip.

Correction Deadline: 10/10/2024

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

The consultant could not observe the transportation van due to the Pre-K being on a field trip today during the visit.

This center only makes field trips.

Comment

A current/completed inspection was observed for all vehicles used in transporting children this date.

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

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

Discussed SIDS and infant sleeping position.

Comment

Please ensure that cribs/cots are labeled for individual use.

Staff Records

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

Criminal record checks were observed to be complete.

Correction Deadline: 11/10/2023

Corrected on 10/10/2024

.09(1)(c) - The previous citation was corrected. The consultant reviewed all staff members satisfactory background checks.

Correction Deadline: 11/10/2023

Corrected on 10/10/2024

.09(1)(g) - The previous citation was corrected. The consultant reviewed all staff members satisfactory background checks.

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

Complete first aid kits observed in center and on vehicles.

Comment

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

591-1-1-.33 Staff Training**Met****Comment**

Discussed staff training. Please obtain required documentation.

Comment

Documentation observed of required staff training.

Comment

Discussed: Health and Safety Training is required for each staff member with direct care responsibilities within 90 calendar days of their hire date.

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

Discussed that all lead staff must enroll in an approved education program within 6 months of hire and complete degree within 18 months.

Comment

Staff observed to be compliant with applicable laws and regulations.

Staffing and Supervision

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

Center observed to maintain appropriate staff:child ratios.

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.32(4)(b) - The consultant discussed with the provider allowing children who turn three years old during the regular school year to remain with two-year-olds for the remainder of the school year, but it requires agreement from the older child's parent (s) for the continued placement.

Correction Deadline: 10/10/2024

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

Adequate supervision observed on this date.

Correction Deadline: 11/15/2023

Corrected on 10/10/2024

.32(7) - The previous citation was corrected. The consultant observed adequate supervision.