



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: 3/5/2024 **VisitType:** Licensing Study **Arrival:** 9:45 AM **Departure:** 1:20 PM

CCLC-35819

A Mark for Success Early Learning Center

1940 Brownsmill Road SW Atlanta, GA 30315 Fulton County
(404) 343-6265 amark4success71@yahoo.com

Exemption Unit Consultant

Sherri Thompson

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Mailing Address

1940 Brownsmill Road SE
Atlanta, GA 30315

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.
03/05/2024	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
12/27/2023	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
11/10/2022	Monitoring Visit	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	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	1	10	NC	31	C	43	C	Centers
Main	B	Infants and One Year Olds	0	3	NC	10	C	NA	NA	Feeding
Main	C	One Year Olds and Two Year Olds	2	7	C	5	NC	NA	NA	Feeding, Free Play
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 46			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 58							
Total # Children this Date: 20			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 46			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 58				

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	Playground	58	C

Comments

The purpose of today's visit was to conduct a Licensing Study.

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.decal.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@decal.ga.gov for more information. Free technical assistance is available!

Brenecia Ashley, Program Official

Date

Sherri Thompson, Exemption Unit 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-.03 Activities

Met

Comment

591-1-1-.03(7) - Outdoor time was observed on posted classroom schedules.

Correction Deadline: 3/5/2024

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

Met

Comment

A variety of equipment and toys were observed 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

Technical Assistance

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.08(1) - Please ensure each child's records has a name, address, and phone number for an emergency contact that is someone other than the child's parent or legal guardian

Correction Deadline: 3/5/2024

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.08(2) - Please ensure immunization records are maintained on each child.

Correction Deadline: 3/15/2024

Evening Care

591-1-1.03 Activities	Met
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Comment

591-1-1.03(15) - Program does not provide evening care.

Correction Deadline: 3/5/2024

591-1-1.32 Staffing/Supervision(CR)	Met
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Comment

No evening care hours provided

Facility

591-1-1.06 Bathrooms	Met
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Comment

Bathrooms observed to be clean and well maintained.

591-1-1.19 License Capacity(CR)	Met
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Comment

Licensed capacity observed to be routinely met by center.

591-1-1.25 Physical Plant - Safe Environment(CR)	Not Met
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Finding

591-1-1.25(18) requires the Center to have an operable telephone in the Center and to conspicuously post the following emergency numbers next to the telephone: physician or hospital, county health department, regional poison control Center, and all emergency numbers or numbers of local ambulance service, fire and police departments. It was determined based on the Specialist's observation that emergency phone numbers were not posted.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will ensure that an operable telephone is available at all times and that emergency numbers are posted next to the telephone.

Correction Deadline: 3/5/2024

591-1-1.25 Physical Plant-Structural/Mechanical	Technical Assistance
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Technical Assistance

591-1-1.25(16) - Please confirm with locality and or municipality that the center meets any criteria for sufficient parking for a business operating as child care.

Correction Deadline: 4/4/2024

591-1-1.26 Playgrounds(CR)	Technical Assistance
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Technical Assistance

591-1-1.26(8) - Please ensure that the expected delivery of resilient surfacing is distributed in a manner that is adequate for equipment fall zones and covers any areas of exposed landscape barrier.

Correction Deadline: 3/15/2024

Food Service

591-1-1.15 Food Service & Nutrition	Not Met
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Finding

591-1-1-.15(2)(a) requires Center Personnel to hold and feed infants less than six months of age and older children who cannot hold their own bottles or sit alone. Baby bottles shall never be propped; the infant's head shall be elevated while feeding. It was determined based on the Specialist's observations that an infant reported to be nine months of age was seated in a bouncy seat and had a bottle propped with a blanket or other material as they watched a video.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will train Staff to hold infants less than six months old or who can not hold their own bottle, to never prop bottles and to elevate infant's heads during feeding. The director will monitor Staff to ensure appropriate feeding procedures are followed.

Correction Deadline: 3/5/2024

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

Discussed proper steps for dishwashing.

Health and Hygiene

591-1-1-.07 Children's Health**Met****Comment**

591-1-1-.07(1) - Parents are notified for child pick up when a child displays symptoms of illness.

Correction Deadline: 3/5/2024

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

591-1-1-.10(1) - The ventilation for the diaper changing area needs to be above diaper changing station.

Correction Deadline: 3/5/2024

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

Proper hand washing observed throughout the center.

591-1-1-.20 Medications(CR)**N/A****Comment**

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

Organization

591-1-1-.04 Admission and Enrollment**Met****Comment**

591-1-1-.04(2) - Please ensure the center is aware of compliance with the American with Disabilities act when admitting a Child with Special Needs and to make a reasonable effort to accommodate the child's needs and to integrate the child with other children. These accommodations must be in writing and the result of a mutual agreement between the Center and the Parents of the Child with Special Needs. The agreement shall be made in connection with the child's enrollment or at the time that the special need becomes apparent to the Center or the Parents.

Correction Deadline: 3/5/2024

591-1-1-.38 Enforcement**Met****Comment**

591-1-1-.38(4)(n) - Center was not under any adverse action that required posting at the time of the visit.

Correction Deadline: 3/5/2024

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

Met

Comment

591-1-1-.16(h) - Please keep the center's email address current with the Department at all times.

Correction Deadline: 3/5/2024

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 the Specialist's request to view the emergency drill log the center failed to produce such documentation during the course of the visit.

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: 3/10/2024

591-1-1-.22 Parental Access

Met

Comment

591-1-1-.22 - Parental access policy was observed posted at center entry.

Correction Deadline: 3/5/2024

591-1-1-.27 Posted Notices

Technical Assistance

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.27 - Ensure all required posted notices are in place at the center's entry. A list of required postings was provided at the conclusion of the visit.

Correction Deadline: 3/5/2024

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.

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

Met

Comment

Center does not participate in field trips at this time.

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

Correction Deadline: 12/27/2023

Corrected on 3/5/2024

.36(4)(c) -

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

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

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.

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

Comment

Criminal records checks were observed to be complete.

591-1-1-.14 First Aid & CPR **Not Met**

Finding

591-1-1-.14(1)(a) requires, in a Center that provides transportation, that either the driver or another Staff person present on the vehicle have current evidence of successful completion of a biennial training program in cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and a triennial training program in first aid offered by certified or licensed health care professionals or trainers and which dealt with the provision of emergency care to infants and children. It was determined based on review of staff records that #2 and #3 did not have a first aid and CPR as required by Bright From the Start.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will verify proof of CPR/1st aid training and schedule Staff so that there is always a staff person on the vehicle with this training.

Correction Deadline: 3/12/2024

Recited on 3/5/2024

591-1-1-.24 Personnel Records **Met**

Comment

591-1-1-.24(1) - Staff records were reviewed and maintained at the center.

Correction Deadline: 3/10/2024

591-1-1-.28 Prohibited Substances **Met**

Comment

591-1-1-.28(1) - Center does not allow use of prohibited substances.

Correction Deadline: 3/5/2024

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

Comment

Discussed staff training documentation. Please maintain staff on going staff training year over year.

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)****Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.32(1) requires the Center to maintain the required Staff:child ratios as follows: under 1 year or under 18 months if not walking = 1:6; 1 year and walking = 1:8; 2 years = 1:10; 3 years = 1:15; 4 years = 1:18; 5 years = 1:20; and 6 years and older = 1:25. A Center must establish groupings of children for care with maximum group sizes as follows: under 1 year = 12; under 18 months/not walking = 12; 1 year and walking = 16; 2 years = 20; 3 years = 30; 4 years = 36; 5 years = 40; and 6 years and older = 50. It was determined based on the Specialist's observations and interviews with staff members regarding the children's ages in each grouping of children that the center failed to maintain required staff to child ratios. Upon arrival at the center the Specialist viewed the infant classroom as no one would answer the door. There were two infants determined to be nine months of age seated in bouncy seats and one child determined to be one-year-old standing in a crib. The room did not have a staff member present. It was determined that the staff member was standing in the neighboring classroom that is separated by a half wall and door. Both groupings of children were combined upon the Specialist's entry to the center.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will hire additional Staff or reschedule current Staff to meet required Staff:child ratios and will organize children into groups that meet requirements. The center Director stated that they are in the process of hiring another staff member.

Correction Deadline: 3/5/2024

591-1-1-.32 Supervision(CR)**Not Met****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 the Specialist's observations upon arrival at the center that a one-year-old child was observed standing in their crib crying for seven minutes. There was no staff member observed in the room and the Specialist's confirmed upon entry to the center that two staff were located in the neighboring classroom that is separated by a half wall and door. The child was picked up from their crib upon the Specialist's entry to the center.

Additionally, it was determined based on the Specialist's observation that during lunch time in the combined infant through two-year-old classroom that the staff member sat in a chair away from the two tables that children were eating at and was not within arm's length of children during the meal time.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will train Staff and monitor to ensure they are providing supervision and watchful oversight to the children at all times. Staff will not stand in the neighboring classroom when children are present in the infant classroom.

Correction Deadline: 3/5/2024