



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: 2/29/2024 **VisitType:** Complaint Investigation & Monitoring Visit **Arrival:** 10:45 AM **Departure:** 6:00 PM

CCLC-54683

Cadence Academy Preschool

921 Haymon Morris Road Winder, GA 30680 Barrow County
(770) 867-5439 director.winder@cadence-academy.com

Regional Consultant

Lynn Schnitzer

Phone: (678) 717-5720

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lynn.schnitzer@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.
02/29/2024	Complaint Investigation & Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
01/24/2024	Incident Investigation & Follow Up	Good Standing	
09/27/2023	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 1R Infants	Infants and One Year Olds	2	12	C	16	C	NA	NA	Floor Play
Main	B 2R	One Year Olds and Two Year Olds	2	15	C	21	C	NA	NA	Circle Time, Story
Main	C 3R- 2's	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	2	18	C	24	C	NA	NA	Circle Time, Centers
Main	D 4R - Preschool	Two Year Olds and Three Year Olds	2	18	C	24	C	NA	NA	Lunch
Main	E 5R	GA PreK	2	17	C	23	C	NA	NA	Transitioning, Lunch
Main	F 6R- GA PreK	GA PreK	1	18	C	23	C	NA	NA	Transitioning, Lunch
Main	G 1L	Infants	2	12	C	13	C	NA	NA	Floor Play, Nap
Main	H 2L- PreK	One Year Olds and Two Year Olds	2	15	C	17	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main	I 3L- 3's	Three Year Olds	1	15	C	22	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main	J 4L- 2's	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	1	15	C	22	C	NA	NA	Transitioning
Main	K 5L- 1's	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	2	22	C	22	C	NA	NA	Transitioning, Lunch
Main	L Rear Middle Infants		0	0	C	21	C	29	C	

Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 298

Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0

Building @35 capacity limited by Fire Marshall Limitations

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	PG A Front Right	32	C
Main	PG B 2R	61	C
Main	PG C Rear	24	C
Main	PG D Front Left	25	C
Main	PG E 2nd Left	67	C

Comments

The purpose of today's visit was to conduct a complaint investigation and to follow up from the previous visit conducted on January 24, 2024.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 02/29/2024

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.decga.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!

Lisa Goss, Program Official

Date

Lynn Schnitzer, Regional Consultant

Date



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(Findings Report)

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The following information is associated with a Monitoring Visit:

Activities and Equipment

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

Technical Assistance

Comment

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

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.12(2) - Consultant discussed with the director to ensure that the torn sectional reading area and sofa in room B2R and the torn beige chair in room C3R are replaced.

Correction Deadline: 2/29/2024

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

Met

Comment

Pool not in use at this time, gates observed locked.

Facility

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

Finding

591-1-1-.25(13) requires that potentially hazardous equipment, materials and supplies be stored in a locked area inaccessible to children. It was determined based on observation that the following hazards were observed accessible to children:

B2R-wipes in an unlatched cabinet under the sink

C3R-wipes in the restroom on the right, lotion and plunger in restroom on the left

D4R-wipes and hair detangler spray in the restroom

F6R-plunger in restroom in restroom on the left

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will identify all hazardous items and keep them in a locked area inaccessible to children. The Center will inform all Staff about hazardous items and the safe storage of those items.

Correction Deadline: 2/29/2024

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 wood was peeling on the window sills in classroom B2R, the screen on the left window was bent and the screen on the right window was torn in classroom C3R, and the light fixture was loose in the left restroom in classroom E5R.

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: 2/29/2024

591-1-1-.26 Playgrounds(CR)**Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.26(4) requires that playgrounds be protected from traffic or other hazards by a (4) four foot high fence or other barrier approved by this Department. Fencing material shall not present a hazard to children and shall be maintained so as to prevent children from leaving the playground area by any means other than through an approved access route. Fence gates shall be kept closed except when persons are entering or exiting the area. It was determined It was determined based on observation that the gate between playground PGB 2R and PGC Rear had a protruding wire and gate between PGC Rear and PGE 2 Left had a gap measuring approximately six inches. Further, a the cap had come off a fence post on PGC Rear.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will routinely check the fence to determine if it is in good repair and remains at least 4 feet high, and will repair any hazards. The Center will train Staff to identify and report any fence hazards and to keep the fence gates closed when not in use.

Correction Deadline: 2/29/2024

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.26(8) - Consultant discussed with the director to redistribute the mulch under the swings on playground PGC Rear.

Correction Deadline: 3/10/2024

Health and Hygiene

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

Staff stated proper knowledge of diapering procedures.

591-1-1-.17 Hygiene(CR)**Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.17(8) requires staff to wash their hands with liquid soap and warm running water upon arrival for the day, when moving from one child care group to another, upon re-entering the child care area after outside play, before and after diapering each child, dispensing medication, applying topical medications, handling and preparing food, eating, drinking, preparing bottles, feeding each child, assisting children with eating and drinking, after toileting or assisting children with toileting, using tobacco products, handling garbage and organic waste, touching animals or pets, handling bodily fluids and after contamination by any means. It was determined based on observation that a staff member did not wash their hands before feeding an infant in classroom G1L. The staff member was observed to put their finger on the nipple of the bottle and shake it before giving it to the child.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will ensure liquid soap and warm running water are available for handwashing, train Staff on the handwashing requirements, review the requirements with Staff periodically, and monitor handwashing.

Correction Deadline: 2/29/2024

591-1-1-.20 Medications(CR)**Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.20(1) requires Personnel to obtain specific written authorization from the child's physician or parent in order to dispense prescription or non-prescription medications, except for first aid. Such authorization will include when applicable, date; full name of the child; name of the medication; prescription number, if any; dosage; the dates to be given; the time of day to be dispensed; and signature of parent. It was determined based on review of records that authorization forms for "epinephrine" injection and "albuteral HFA 90 MCB" were not dated. The authorization form for "epinephrine" injection did not have the parent's signature. The medication was for emergency use and was not administered.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will train Staff to obtain and review parental authorizations to ensure the authorization contains complete information. The designated person(s) will monitor daily.

Correction Deadline: 2/29/2024

Safety

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

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

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(7)(b) - Consultant discussed with the director to ensure that emergency medical forms have the physician's phone number or that the parents indicate that the information is not applicable. Consultant observed that three of fifty forms did not have the physician's phone number.

Correction Deadline: 3/1/2024

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

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

Staff stated knowledge of infant safe sleep practices.

Staff Records

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

Criminal record checks were observed to be complete.

Comment

Director provided two files for employees hired since last visit January 24, 2024.

Comment

Staff observed to be compliant with applicable laws and regulations.

Staffing and Supervision**Comment**

Center observed to maintain appropriate staff:child ratios.

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 center staff was not seated with two-year-old children during lunch in classroom D4R. One staff member was serving milk to the children and a second staff member was setting out cots.

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.

Correction Deadline: 2/29/2024