



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

Cover Sheet

Date: 2/1/2022 **VisitType:** Complaint Investigation & Licensing Study **Arrival:** 10:00 AM **Departure:** 12:30 PM

CCLC-38386

Little Einsteins Learning Center

4323 Dasher Grove Road Hahira, GA 31632 Lowndes County
 (229) 247-2557 ecarlo@littleeinsteinslearning.com

Regional Consultant

Beth Houtz

Phone: (229) 238-2130

Fax: (229) 238-2955

beth.houtz@decal.ga.gov

Mailing Address
 Same

Quality Rated: No

<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.
02/01/2022	Complaint Investigation & Licensing Study	Good Standing	
08/31/2021	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
03/01/2021	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	Ants D-Infant-Tod	One Year Olds	2	12	C	13	C	NA	NA	Diapering, Floor Play
Main	Bees C-Toddler	One Year Olds	2	13	C	12	NC	NA	NA	Outside
Main	Doves B-1-2 yrs	Two Year Olds	2	11	C	13	C	NA	NA	Story, Diapering
Main	Eagles F-3-12 yrs	Four Year Olds	1	5	C	22	C	30	C	Circle Time
Main	Giraffes G-3-12 yrs	Four Year Olds	1	12	C	24	C	33	C	Centers
Main	Lions A-1-2 yrs	Three Year Olds	2	12	C	13	C	NA	NA	Centers
Main	Tadpoles H-infant	Infants	3	11	C	15	C	NA	NA	Feeding, Floor Play, Nap
Main	Whales E-3-12 yrs	Three Year Olds	4	19	C	19	C	27	C	Centers, Story
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 131						Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 156				
Total # Children this Date: 95			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 131			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 156				

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	A	40	C
Main	B	16	C
Main	C	11	C
Main	Playground D	31	C
Main	Playground E	7	C

Comments

An in-person walkthrough of the facility was conducted on February 1, 2022. A letter requesting documents be uploaded by February 8, 2022, for the annual review was left with the director after the walkthrough. The center does provide transportation and had taken a field trip within the last 3 months. Background checks for all staff were reviewed during the walk through visit. The annual review was completed on February 15, 2022 and a copy of the report was emailed to the provider on this day.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 02/07/2022

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



Important New Deadlines:

Due to the ongoing COVID restrictions, the deadline to become Quality Rated for programs who want to continue to receive Childcare and Parent Services (CAPS), has been extended to at least December 31, 2021.

Get started today! Sign up by completing a short online application: <https://qualityrated.dec.state.ga.us/>
Request free technical assistance to help you earn your star rating by contacting the Quality Rated help desk at 855-800-7747 or qualityrated@dec.state.ga.us

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), e-mail the following information to CCSRefutations@dec.state.ga.us.

- 1) Facility name, license number and visit date
- 2) Your name, title/relationship to the facility, e-mail address & up to two phone number(s) where you can be reached
- 3) Specific rule number(s) that you are refuting, along with your concerns or questions regarding the rule citation

Refutations must be submitted to Child Care Services (CCS) within 10 business days of the completion date.

A sample form for submitting a refutation can be found at: <http://dec.state.ga.us/ChildCareServices/RefutationInformation.aspx>

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)

Ellen Carlo, Program Official

Date

Beth Houtz, Consultant

Date



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Findings Report

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The following information is associated with a Licensing Study Visit:

Activities and Equipment

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

Met

Comment

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

Comment

Discussed rotating toys to support the procedures of daily disinfecting.

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

Met

Comment

Center does not provide swimming activities.

Children's Records

Records Reviewed: 5

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 0

Child # 1	Met
Child # 2	Met
Child # 3	Met
Child # 4	Met
Child # 5	Met

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

Not Met

Comment

Records were observed to be complete and well organized.

Finding

591-1-1-.08(6) requires the Center to maintain records of a child's daily arrival and departure for the twelve (12) preceding months that the Parent or person(s) authorized by the Parent documents, in written or electronic format, each time the Parent or authorized person drops off and picks up the child. The documentation shall include at least the date, the child's name, the arrival and departure times, and the signature or initials of the Parent or authorized person at the time of arrival and departure. These records shall be made available to the Department in printed or written form upon request. It was determined based on a review of records that for the week of January 31, 2022 - February 4, 2022, there was no signature or initials of the Parent or authorized person at the time of arrival and departure for any of the children listed on the sign-in and out sheets.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will maintain arrival and departure records as required, will ensure the documentation includes all of the required information, and will provide the records to the Department when requested.

Correction Deadline: 2/1/2022

Facility	
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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)	Met
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Comment

Center appears clean and well maintained.

591-1-1-.26 Playgrounds(CR)	Not Met
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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 that the following hazards were present on the playground and accessible to children in care.

- On the toddler playground there were two red and yellow cozy coupes and one pink and red cozy coupe that were missing doors and gas caps. The pink and red car was also missing the steering wheel.
- On the older playground there was a toy storage box that was cracked and had exposed jagged edges on the side.
- On the older playground there was a tan and green play house that had a broken door.
- On the baby swing areas in the back there were four swings that had cracked plastic on the area that had the buckles.
- On the side playground there was a yellow Tonka truck that was rusted and had chipping paint.
- On the side playground there was a high chair with mildew in it.

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: 2/11/2022

Finding

591-1-1-.26(9) requires 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. It was determined based on observation that the following hazards were on the playgrounds and accessible to children in care.

- On the side playground there were two brooms, a floor squeegee, an exposed outlet, and a stack of poles in the corner against the building.
- On the toddler playground there was exposed concrete where the rubber mulch had worn away at the bottom of the pink and red slides.
- On the back infant swing area there was a tree with low branches that was in a swing's path.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will remove any litter and fix or remove hazards from the playground and will routinely monitor the playground and remove litter and hazards.

Correction Deadline: 2/1/2022

Food Service

591-1-1-.15 Food Service & Nutrition**Not Met****Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.15(1) - Please ensure that all required components are served at lunch. The 5 Components for lunch are as follows – Grains, Meat/Meat alternates, Fruits, Vegetable, and Milk OR Grains, Meat/Meat alternates, 2 different types of vegetables, and Milk. On the menu for the week of January 31, 2022 there was no fruit serving on three of the five days for lunch.

Correction Deadline: 2/1/2022

Comment

CACFP Meal Pattern Requirements effective October 1, 2017 will be implemented October 1, 2018: 3

Components for breakfast: Grains, Vegetables, Fruits or both, Milk

5 Components for lunch – Grains, Meat/Meat alternates, Fruits, Vegetable, and Milk OR Grains, Meat/Meat alternates, 2 different types of vegetables, and Milk

2 of 5 Components for snack

Provided Updated CACFP Infant Meal pattern and Child/Adult Meal pattern flyers.

The Crediting Handbook for the CACFP can be located on DECAL and USDA's website:

DECAL

<http://dec.al.ga.gov/CACFP/Handbook.aspx>

USDA

<http://www.fns.usda.gov/cacfp/cacfp-handbooks>

Finding

591-1-1-.15(2)(g) requires that Center Personnel ensure that children do not have excessive amounts of food in their mouths while eating and are chewing their food appropriately to prevent instances of choking. Children shall always be seated when eating and shall not be allowed to lie down or be put to sleep while food is present in their mouths. It was determined based on observation that in the one-year-old Ants classroom two children were walking around playing and not seated as required while drinking a bottle.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will ensure that Staff are monitoring the amount of food children put into their mouths and will ensure that children are always seated while eating, and are not laying down.

Correction Deadline: 2/1/2022

Finding

591-1-1-.15(3) requires baby bottles and formula to be labeled with the individual child's name; supplied by the Parent daily in bottles; and refrigerated at a temperature of forty (40) degrees Fahrenheit or less. Only the current day's formula or breast milk shall be served. If formula must be provided by the Center, only commercially prepared, ready-to-feed formula shall be used. Refrigerated or frozen breast milk shall only be heated or thawed under warm running water or in a container of warm water. It was determined based on observation that in the Bees classroom there were two bottles in the refrigerator not labeled, in the Ants classroom four bottles were in the refrigerator not labeled, and in the Doves room there was one bottle not labeled as required.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will train Staff to follow the required procedures, ensure that parents are fully informed, and will review and monitor regularly.

Correction Deadline: 2/1/2022

591-1-1-.18 Kitchen Operations**Met****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 observation that in the Ants classroom two children had an amber necklace on around their necks, two children had pacifiers in their mouths with objects attached to the pacifiers, and in the Tadpoles classroom one infant had an amber necklace on around their neck.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The consultant discussed with the director the possible hazards of the necklaces and objects hanging from the pacifiers. The necklaces were removed during the visit. The director stated that they would request pacifiers that did not have attachments be sent. Additionally, the consultant shared the Indicator manual with the director, specifically the page that discusses this rule and why amber necklaces are a potential hazard.

Correction Deadline: 2/7/2022

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

Proper diapering procedures observed.

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

Proper hand washing observed throughout the center.

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

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

Policies and Procedures

591-1-1-.21 Operational Policies & Procedures**Met****Comment**

Program observed to have documented and up to date emergency drills.

591-1-1-.22 Parental Access**Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.22 requires the Center to permit the custodial Parent(s) of the child access to all child care areas of the Center at any time the child is in attendance. The custodial Parent(s) shall make his or her presence known to Center Staff prior to removing the child from the Center. It was determined based on observation that there was a sign posted on the front door of the center stating that only teachers and children were allowed past the lobby.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will permit unlimited parental access. The director removed the sign during the visit and stated that they were unaware of the change in parental access would allow parents in if requested.

Correction Deadline: 2/7/2022

591-1-1-.27 Posted Notices**Met****Comment**

Observed all required posted notices.

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

Discussed reporting requirements for Annual Reviews, Communicable Diseases, and Temporary Closures.

Safety

591-1-1-.05 Animals**Met****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**

Field trip documentation observed to be complete.

591-1-1-.36 Transportation(CR)**Not Met****Comment**

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

Comment

Complete documentation of transportation observed.

Comment

The vehicle had an approved fire extinguisher and first aid kit on this date.

Finding

591-1-1-.36(4)(b) requires that the interior of a transportation vehicle be clean, in safe repair and free of hazardous items, objects and/or other non-essential items which could cause injury. It was determined based on observation that the bus ending in tag #9755 had a rip in the seat by the buckle on the second seat on the driver's side of the vehicle. additionally, Bus ending in tag #1748 had two puncture holes in the seat on the first seat on the passenger side of the vehicle.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The center will maintain that all transportation vehicles are clean, in safe repair, and free from hazards.

Correction Deadline: 2/2/2022

Correction Deadline: 9/1/2021

Corrected on 2/1/2022

.36(7)(c)2. - This citation was observed to be corrected on this date. The transportation checklists reviewed had all the required information.

Correction Deadline: 8/31/2021

Corrected on 2/1/2022

.36(7)(d)2. - This citation was observed to be corrected on this date. The transportation checklists reviewed had the second check signature as required.

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

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

Met

Comment

Discussed SIDS and infant sleeping position.

Comment

The correct number of mats, sheets and blankets were observed on this date. Cleaning and disinfecting of mats was discussed with the director on this date.

Correction Deadline: 8/31/2021

Corrected on 2/7/2022

.30(2) - This citation was observed to be corrected on this date. Safe sleep environment was observed for all infants in care.

Staff Records

Records Reviewed: 56

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 0

Staff # 1	Met
Date of Hire: 01/11/2021	
Staff # 2	Met
Date of Hire: 03/02/2016	
Staff # 3	Met
Date of Hire: 02/01/2019	
Staff # 4	Met
Date of Hire: 08/26/2015	
Staff # 5	Met
Date of Hire: 10/02/2020	
Staff # 6	Met
Date of Hire: 05/24/2021	
Staff # 7	Met
Date of Hire: 06/09/2021	
Staff # 8	Met
Date of Hire: 10/06/2021	

Staff # 9	Met
Date of Hire: 08/16/2021	
Staff # 10	Met
Date of Hire: 09/23/2020	
Staff # 11	Met
Date of Hire: 08/26/2021	
Staff # 12	Met
Date of Hire: 03/17/2021	
Staff # 13	Met
Date of Hire: 07/15/2015	
Staff # 14	Met
Date of Hire: 05/23/2021	
Staff # 15	Met
Date of Hire: 09/18/2021	
Staff # 16	Met
Date of Hire: 03/01/2021	
Staff # 17	Met
Date of Hire: 01/19/2021	
Staff # 18	Met
Date of Hire: 08/13/2021	
Staff # 19	Met
Date of Hire: 01/27/2022	<u>Reminder - Health & Safety training is required within 90 calendar days of hired</u>
Staff # 20	Met
Date of Hire: 03/08/2017	
Staff # 21	Met
Date of Hire: 04/07/2021	
Staff # 22	Met
Date of Hire: 07/27/2015	
Staff # 23	Met
Date of Hire: 07/28/2020	

Staff # 24	Met
Date of Hire: 08/11/2021	
Staff # 25	Met
Date of Hire: 12/06/2021	<u>Reminder - Health & Safety training is required within 90 calendar days of hired</u>
Staff # 26	Met
Date of Hire: 08/23/2018	
Staff # 27	Met
Date of Hire: 08/07/2019	
Staff # 28	Met
Date of Hire: 06/11/2019	
Staff # 29	Met
Date of Hire: 08/27/2021	
Staff # 30	Met
Date of Hire: 04/19/2021	
Staff # 31	Met
Date of Hire: 01/23/2021	
Staff # 32	Met
Date of Hire: 01/08/2022	<u>Reminder - Health & Safety training is required within 90 calendar days of hired</u>
Staff # 33	Met
Date of Hire: 07/22/2015	
Staff # 34	Met
Date of Hire: 08/27/2019	
Staff # 35	Met
Date of Hire: 12/15/2017	
Staff # 36	Met
Date of Hire: 01/08/2027	<u>Reminder - Health & Safety training is required within 90 calendar days of hired</u>
Staff # 37	Met
Date of Hire: 01/10/2027	<u>Reminder - Health & Safety training is required within 90 calendar days of hired</u>
Staff # 38	Met

Date of Hire: 08/17/2020

Staff # 39 Met

Date of Hire: 07/27/2021

Staff # 40 Met

Date of Hire: 11/02/2020

Staff # 41 Met

Date of Hire: 08/27/2021

Staff # 42 Met

Date of Hire: 01/27/2022

Reminder - Health & Safety training is required within 90 calendar days of hired

Staff # 43 Met

Date of Hire: 02/02/2021

Staff # 44 Met

Date of Hire: 07/15/2015

Staff # 45 Met

Date of Hire: 02/07/2022

Reminder - Health & Safety training is required within 90 calendar days of hired

Staff # 46 Met

Date of Hire: 10/19/2020

Staff # 47 Met

Date of Hire: 08/18/2021

Staff # 48 Met

Date of Hire: 12/29/2026

Reminder - Health & Safety training is required within 90 calendar days of hired

Staff # 49 Met

Date of Hire: 04/19/2021

Staff # 50 Met

Date of Hire: 08/20/2020

Staff # 51 Met

Date of Hire: 08/24/2020

Staff # 52 Met

Date of Hire: 05/27/2021

Staff # 53	Met
Date of Hire: 01/27/2021	
Staff # 54	Met
Date of Hire: 08/13/2021	
Staff # 55	Met
Date of Hire: 08/25/2020	
Staff # 56	Met
Date of Hire: 09/14/2020	

Staff Credentials Reviewed: 18**591-1-1-.09 Criminal Records and Comprehensive Background Checks(CR) Met****Comment**

Criminal record checks were observed to be complete.

Comment

Director provided nine file(s) for employees hired since last visit.

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

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

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

Documentation observed of required staff training.

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

Center observed to maintain appropriate staff:child ratios.

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

Adequate supervision observed on this date.