



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: 1/24/2024 VisitType: Initial Licensing Study Arrival: 10:00 AM Departure: 4:00 PM

CCLC-62686

Heart's Ease Academy

1570 Bells Ferry Rd Marietta, GA 30066 Cobb County
(516) 255-7266 admin@heartseaseacademy.com

Application Services Unit Consultant

Toni Williams

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Mailing Address
Same

Quality Rated: No

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.
01/24/2024	Initial Licensing Study	Good Standing	
			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.

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	1Left Upstairs		0	0	C	8	C	NA	NA	
Main	Downstairs		0	0	C	18	C	NA	NA	
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 26					Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					
Total # Children this Date: 0					Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	Main	23	C

Comments

An Administrative Review was conducted on January 12, 2024. Staff files, children's files, training, and background checks were all reviewed. An in person Initial Licensing Study was conducted on January 24, 2024. The exit conference was conducted on January 24, 2024 at 3:00 pm with the Provider. Permission to Operate was issued on this date. Facility does not carry Liability Insurance. The license capacity is 26.

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.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

You have received permission to operate and the form received with this report is intended to serve as a temporary license which is **valid for thirty(30) days**. Your actual license/ will be emailed to you upon receipt of the licensing fee. You may pay the licensing fee either online at <http://www.dec.ga.gov/> or by certified check or money order mailed to: Bright from the Start, 2 Martin Luther King Jr. Drive SE, Suite 670 East Tower, Atlanta, GA 30334

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

Darline Marcellin, Program Official

Date

Toni Williams, Application Services Unit Consultant

Date



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(Findings Report)

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The following information is associated with a Initial Licensing Study:

Activities and Equipment

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

Met

Comment

The consultant discussed adding equipment and toys to enhance variety.

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

N/A

Comment

Center does not provide swimming activities. No pool observed on site.

Facility

591-1-1-.19 License Capacity(CR)

Met

Comment

Licensed capacity observed to be routinely met by center. The overall licensed capacity is 20 children.

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

Met

Comment

No hazards observed accessible to children on this date

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

Not Met

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 the consultant's observation that the playground on this date was wet and muddy. There were widespread minor tripping hazards because of the uneven red, yellow, blue and green concrete walkway that wasn't flushed with the playground area. There were sticks and tree branches throughout the playground from the trees hanging over the playground and accessible to the children. Lastly, there were exposed tree roots throughout the playground that caused tripping hazards.

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.

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

No children enrolled who require diapering. School age children attend only for after school hours. Consultant discussed the American Disability Act guidelines and alternate methods used for diapering.

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

Proper hand washing of children and staff was discussed with the Owner on this date.

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

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication. The Consultant discussed medication documentation, administration, and storage.

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

Consultant discussed appropriate discipline and guidance techniques with the Owner.

591-1-1-.36 Transportation(CR)**N/A****Comment**

Consultant discussed transportation requirements if/when the facility decides to incorporate transportation. The center will contact their regional consultant and complete the required two (2) hours transportation training prior to transporting children.

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

Center does not plan to serve infants and no cribs were evaluated on this date. The correct number of cots/mats, sheets, and cover were observed on this date.

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

Four (4) of four (4) staff records were observed to have comprehensive satisfactory Criminal Background Check determination letters on file.

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**

There were no children enrolled on this date. Proper ratios and classroom capacities were discussed with the director on this date.

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

There were no children enrolled on this date. Proper supervision of children, including being prompt to children's needs, was discussed with the director on this date. A supervision plan was created for the downstairs classroom and another one was created for the playground areas behind the big tree in the bottom left hand corner as well as the right and left side of the building where there are blind spots.