



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: 9/23/2024 **VisitType:** Licensing Study

Arrival: 8:30 AM **Departure:** 3:00 PM

CCLC-1786

Ware County Head Start Center

1235 McDonald Street Waycross, GA 31501 Ware County
(912) 285-1844 astaten@myactionpact.org

Regional Consultant

Connie Boatright

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connie.boatright@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.
09/23/2024	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
09/13/2023	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
02/27/2023	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	1 HS Inclusion	Infants and One Year Olds	2	7	C	21	C	NA	NA	Nap, Transitioning, Lunch, Outside, Feeding, Diapering
Main	1 Pre-K	GA PreK	3	13	C	31	C	NA	NA	Nap, Circle Time, Lunch, Transitioning
Main	10 Multi Purpose		0	0	C	22	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Main	11 Sensory Room		0	0	C	22	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Main	12 Extended Care		0	0	C	22	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Main	13 Outside Hall		0	0	C	21	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Main	14 Outside Hall		0	0	C	21	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Main	15 Outside Hall		0	0	C	21	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Main	1a Head Start Hall		0	0	C	22	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Main	2 HS Inclusion	Infants and One Year Olds	2	6	C	21	C	NA	NA	Nap, Outside, Transitioning, Lunch, Feeding
Main	2 Pre-K	GA PreK	3	14	C	25	C	NA	NA	Circle Time, Nap, Music, Transitioning
Main	2a Head Start Hall	Three Year Olds	2	11	C	21	C	NA	NA	Centers, Lunch, Clean Up, Nap, Transitioning

Main	3 HS Inclusion		0	0	C	22	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Main	3 Pre-K	GA PreK	3	13	C	25	C	NA	NA	Lunch, Transitioning, Nap, Circle Time
Main	3a Head Start Hall	Three Year Olds	3	12	C	21	C	NA	NA	Lunch, Centers, Nap, Transitioning
Main	4 HS Inclusion		0	0	C	22	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Main	4a Head Start Hall	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	2	12	C	21	C	NA	NA	Centers, Clean Up, Nap, Lunch, Transitioning
Main	5 Head Start Hall	One Year Olds and Two Year Olds	3	8	C	21	C	NA	NA	Circle Time, Nap, Transitioning, Lunch
Main	5a Head Start Hall	Three Year Olds	2	12	C	24	C	NA	NA	Transitioning, Nap, Circle Time, Lunch, Clean Up, Outside
Main	6 Head Start Hall	One Year Olds and Two Year Olds and Three Year Olds	2	8	C	21	C	NA	NA	Nap, Transitioning, Centers, Lunch
Main	7 Head Start Hall		0	0	C	24	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 471					Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					
Total # Children this Date: 116					Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	PG 1	56	C
Main	PG 2	67	C
Main	PG 3	30	C
Main	PG 4	93	C
Main	PG 5	49	C
Main	PG 6	52	C
Main	Playground 7	13	C
Main	Playground 8	27	C

Enrolled Children						
Under 1 years	1 years	2 years	3 years	4 years	5 years (Prekonly)	5 years and older
6	9	13	0	48	1	0

Comments

An in person Licensing Study was conducted on this day. The center coordinator stated medication is administered, no field trips, routine transportation, or swimming activities are provided.

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!



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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

The consultant observed lesson plans to be up to date through out all classrooms in use.

Correction Deadline: 9/23/2024

Comment

The consultant observed age appropriate activities through out the center.

Correction Deadline: 9/23/2024

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

Met

Comment

Toys and activities were observed to be clean and i good repair.

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

Met

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. The consultant observed one hundred and sixteen children to be present on this day.

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

Center appears clean and well maintained.

Comment

No hazards observed accessible to children on this date.

591-1-1-.26 Playgrounds(CR)**Technical Assistance****Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.26(8) - The center will ensure that the poured resilient surfacing is in good repair. The yellow and black poured surfacing on the playground with the red and yellow slide (playground 1). has a one and a half foot rip at the bottom of the surfacing near the yellow support beams of the shade tarp.

Correction Deadline: 10/3/2024

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.26(9) - The center will ensure that 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. Continue to monitor playgrounds for ant beds, and ensure that there is no exposed cement around the bottom of the yellow support beams for shade tarps.

Correction Deadline: 9/23/2024

Food Service

591-1-1-.15 Food Service & Nutrition**Met****Comment**

Center menu meets USDA guidelines.

Comment

The consultant observed infant feeding plans to be up to date.

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>

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

Kitchen appears clean and well organized.

Health and Hygiene

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

Staff state proper knowledge of diapering procedures.

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

Proper hand washing observed throughout the center.

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

Documentation for medication dispensing observed complete.

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

The consultant observed complete fire and tornado drill logs to be up to date.

Comment

The consultant observed the emergency preparedness plan to be up to date.

Correction Deadline: 9/28/2024

591-1-1-.22 Parental Access	Met
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Comment

The consultant observed the parental access notice to be posted on the parent bulletin board in the foyer of the center.

Correction Deadline: 9/23/2024

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

Observed all required posted notices.

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

Thank you for reporting as required.

	Safety
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591-1-1-.05 Animals	Met
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Comment

Center does not keep animals on premises.

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

Center does not participate in field trips at this time.

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

Center does not provide routine transportation.

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

Discussed SIDS and infant sleeping position.

Comment

Pleasant naptime environment observed.

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.

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 9 file(s) for employees hired since last visit.

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.

Comment

Please be mindful of training expiration dates.

591-1-1-.33 Staff Training**Technical Assistance****Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.33(3) - The center will ensure that each Staff member with direct care responsibilities to complete health and safety orientation training within the first 90 days of employment. The state-approved training hours obtained will count toward required first year training hours. The training must address the following health and safety topics: prevention and control of infectious diseases (including immunizations); prevention of sudden infant death syndrome and use of safe sleeping practices; administration of medication, consistent with standards for parental consent; prevention of and response to emergencies due to food and allergic reactions; building and physical premises safety, including identification of and protection from hazards that can cause bodily injury such as electrical hazards, bodies of water, and vehicular traffic; prevention of shaken baby syndrome, abusive head trauma and child maltreatment; emergency preparedness and response planning for emergencies resulting from a natural disaster or a human-caused event (such as violence at a child care facility); handling and storage of hazardous materials and the appropriate disposal of bio contaminants; precautions in transporting children; recognition and reporting of child abuse and neglect; and child development.

Correction Deadline: 10/23/2024

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.33(5) - The center will ensure that every calendar year after the first year of employment, all supervisory and caregiver Personnel, except independent contractors, Students-in-Training and volunteers shall attend ten (10) clock hours of diverse training which is task-focused in on-going health, safety and early childhood or child development related topics and which is offered by an accredited college, university or vocational program or other Department-approved source. The annual ten (10) clock hours of training shall be chosen from the following fields: child development, including discipline, guidance, nutrition, injury control and safety; health, including sanitation, disease control, cleanliness, detection and disposition of illness; child abuse and neglect, including identification and reporting, and meeting the needs of abused and/or neglected children; and business related topics, including parental communication, recordkeeping, etc.; provided however that such business related training shall be limited to no more than two (2) of the required ten (10) clock hours of training. Records of completion of such training shall be maintained, as required by these rules.

Correction Deadline: 10/23/2024

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**

Staff observed to provide direct supervision and be attentive to children's needs.