



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: 5/1/2024 **VisitType:** Monitoring Visit

Arrival: 8:45 AM **Departure:** 10:15 AM

CCLC-47908

The Preferred Choice

214 N. 13th Street Griffin, GA 30223 Spalding County
(770) 233-8984 admin@thepreferredchoice.com

Regional Consultant

Brandi Mangino

Phone: (478) 314-9726

Fax: (478) 599-0169

brandi.mangino@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.
05/01/2024	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
11/13/2023	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
04/24/2023	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- BL	Infants and One Year Olds	2	3	C	7	C	NA	NA	Floor Play
Main	B- BR	One Year Olds	1	5	C	6	C	NA	NA	Floor Play
Main	C- 2R	Two Year Olds	1	4	C	7	C	NA	NA	Centers
Main	D- 1R	Four Year Olds	1	6	C	12	C	17	C	Centers
Main	E- 1L		0	0	C	8	C	11	C	
Main	F- Front Far Righ		0	0	C	4	C	NA	NA	

Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 44

Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 52

Total # Children this Date: 18

Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 44

Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 52

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	A	126	C

Comments

Developed on this date.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 05/01/2024

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.dec.state.ga.us/CCS/RuleAndRegulations.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.state.ga.us for more information. Free technical assistance is available!



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

(Findings Report)

Date: 5/1/2024 VisitType: Monitoring Visit Arrival: 8:45 AM Departure: 10:15 AM

CCLC-47908

The Preferred Choice

214 N. 13th Street Griffin, GA 30223 Spalding County
(770) 233-8984 admin@thepreferredchoice.com

Regional Consultant

Brandi Mangino

Phone: (478) 314-9726

Fax: (478) 599-0169

brandi.mangino@decal.ga.gov

Mailing Address

Same

The following information is associated with a Monitoring Visit:

Activities and Equipment

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) Met

Comment

Center does not provide swimming activities.

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) Technical Assistance

Technical Assistance

Consultant discussed that plastic should not be in cubbies due to suffocation hazard.

Correction Deadline: 5/31/2024

Technical Assistance

Consultant discussed that the ceiling in !R is in need of being painted and repaired in an area due to chipping.

Correction Deadline: 5/31/2024

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

Technical Assistance

Consultant discussed removal of vines from the right side fence line.

Health and Hygiene

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

Staff state proper knowledge of diapering procedures.

Consultant discussed that in !R before the diapering station is used again it must face the classroom.

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

Staff were observed to remind children to wash hands.

591-1-1-.20 Medications(CR)**Not Evaluated****Comment**

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

Safety

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

Age-appropriate discussion and/or redirection observed.

591-1-1-.36 Transportation(CR)**Technical Assistance****Technical Assistance**

Consultant discussed adding the transportation agreement and emergency form for one child to the book.

Correction Deadline: 5/6/2024

Correction Deadline: 11/18/2023

Corrected on 5/1/2024

.36(4)(a) - Clation corrected.

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.

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-.14 First Aid & CPR**Met**

Correction Deadline: 12/13/2023

Corrected on 5/1/2024

.14(2) - Citation corrected.

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

Correction Deadline: 5/24/2023

Corrected on 5/1/2024

.33(5) - Citation corrected.

Comment

Discussed that all lead staff must enroll in an approved education program within 6 months of hire and complete degree within 18 months.

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 in BR a one-year-old was eating breakfast and the staff member walked to the cubbies and was not seated within arms length of the child.

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: 5/1/2024