



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: 10/8/2024 **VisitType:** LS POI Follow Up

Arrival: 10:30 AM **Departure:** 2:00 PM

CCLC-29170

Homer Baptist Learning Center and Afterschool

1170 Historic Homer Hwy Homer, GA 30547 Banks County
(706) 677-0065 homerbaptistdaycare@windstream.net

CCS Coordinator

Margarita Collier

Phone: (770) 342-7934

Fax: (678) 891-5989

margarita.collier@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.
10/08/2024	LS POI Follow Up	Good Standing	
09/30/2024	TA Follow Up	NA	
08/22/2024	TA Follow Up	NA	

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-5-10 Years-Garage		0	0	C	16	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Main	B 1 L		0	0	C	6	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Main	C-2L -2 Year Olds	Three Year Olds and Six Year Olds and Over	1	2	C	9	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main	D-Infnats		0	0	C	7	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Main	E- 3L-3-4 Years	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds and Five Year Olds	1	5	C	12	C	NA	NA	TV,Story
		Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 50			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0			Building @35 capacity limited by Heath Department Limitations		
Total # Children this Date: 7		Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 50			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	Playground A	38	C
Main	Playground B	25	C

Comments

The purpose of the visit was to conduct a licensing study visit and to follow up on the previous visit conducted on May 7, 2024.

Plan of Improvement: To Be Submitted 10/23/2024

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/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

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 user id 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!



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(Findings Report)

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The following information is associated with a LS POI Follow Up:

Activities and Equipment

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

Met

Correction Deadline: 5/7/2024

Corrected on 10/8/2024

The previous citation was observed to be corrected. The consultant observed the television in classroom E to be secured to the wall located on the front-left entrance of the classroom.

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: 4

Child # 1

Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.08(1)(a)-Work Address Missing,.08(1)(a)-Work Number Missing

Child # 3

Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.08(1)(a)-Work Address Missing,.08(1)(a)-Work Number Missing,.08(1)-Doctor, Clinic, Phone Numbers

Child # 4

Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.08(1)(a)-Work Number Missing,.08(3)-Address of Release Person Missing

Child # 5

Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.08(3)-Address of Release Person Missing

Comment

Parent authorizations obtained/completed.

Finding

591-1-1-.08(1) requires the Center Staff to maintain a file for each child while such child is in care and for one year after that child is no longer enrolled. In order for the file to be complete, the file shall contain the following: child's name, birth date, sex, address, living arrangement, name of school if applicable; names of both Parents, home and work addresses, and home and work telephone numbers; name(s) and addresses of the person(s) to whom the child may be released including address, telephone numbers, relationship to child and to Parent(s), and other identifying information; name(s) and telephone number(s) of person(s) to contact in emergencies when the Parent cannot be reached; name and telephone number of the child's primary source of health care; and a statement regarding known allergies, physical problems, mental health disorders, intellectual disabilities or developmental disabilities which limit the child's participation in the program. It was determined based on review of records the following children's files were incomplete:

- Child #1 - Parents' work address and work telephone number.
 - Child #3 - Parents' work address, work telephone number, and doctor's contact information.
 - Child #4 - Parent's work telephone number and release to persons' address.
 - Child #5 - Release to persons' address.
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-
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-
-
-

Correction Deadline: 10/8/2024

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)**Met****Comment**

Classroom A-Garage was temporarily closed due to the light bulbs being replaced. All light bulbs will be replaced by Monday, October 14, 2024.

Correction Deadline: 5/7/2024

Corrected on 10/8/2024

The previous citation was observed to be corrected. The consultant observed all hazardous items to be stored in a locked cabinet and/or drawer inaccessible to the children present for care during the visit.

Correction Deadline: 5/17/2024

Corrected on 10/8/2024

The previous citation was observed to be corrected. The consultant observed the baseboards in classroom E to be secured to the wall.

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 based on observation that there was a four inch gap on the bottom of the fencing causing a potential entrapment hazard located on the front-left side of playground B. It was further determined that there was a four to six inch gap on the bottom of the fencing located on the front-left side causing a potential entrapment hazard along the back side of Playground A .

Correction Deadline: 10/25/2024

Recited on 10/8/2024

Finding

591-1-1-.26(8) requires climbing and swinging equipment to have a resilient surface beneath the equipment and the fall zone from such equipment must be adequately maintained by the Center to assure continuing resiliency. It was determined based on observation that the red, blue, tan, and green "Little Tikes" sliding and climbing structure did not have any resilient surface surrounding the fall zones of the slide and the climbing wall. Further observation revealed that the yellow, red, and blue "Little Tikes" sliding structure did not have any resilient surface surrounding the fall zones of the slide.

Correction Deadline: 10/18/2024

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 upon observation that the following hazards were observed throughout the playground areas:

- Playground A - The black mat in front of the gate entrance was not flush with the ground causing a potential tripping hazard. Three active spider webs were observed on the front-left side of the playground. Mushrooms were observed to be growing on the tree stump located on the front-right side of the playground. An active spider web was observed on the blue and yellow bus equipment located on the front-left side of the playground.
- Playground B - Active spider webs were observed on the front-right corner of the fence and on the front-left entrance of the playground. A mushroom was observed growing on the ground located on the front-left side across from the tire goal. An active ant mound was observed on the back-right side of the fence.

Correction Deadline: 10/25/2024

Recited on 10/8/2024

Health and Hygiene

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

Comment
The center is not currently caring for diapered children at this time.

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

Correction Deadline: 5/7/2024

Corrected on 10/8/2024
The previous citation was observed to be corrected. The consultant observed the children present for care during the visit to be clean, dry, and comfortable.

Correction Deadline: 5/7/2024

Corrected on 10/8/2024
The previous citation was observed to be corrected. The consultant observed the children to wash their hands prior to lunch time. The staff members also stated the proper handwashing procedures for children and staff members.

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 Not Met

Finding
591-1-1-.21(3) requires that the Center conduct drills for fire, tornado and other emergency situations. The fire drills will be conducted monthly and tornado and other emergency situation drills will be conducted every six months. The Center shall maintain documentation of the dates and times of these drills for two years. It was determined based on review of records the center did not have documentation of the fire, tornado, and other emergency drills conducted for the year January 2024 - September 2024.

Correction Deadline: 10/13/2024

591-1-1-.27 Posted Notices Met

Correction Deadline: 5/7/2024

Corrected on 10/8/2024
The previous citation was corrected. The consultant observed the center to have their 2024 license posted in the front entrance hallway.

Safety

Comment

Center does not keep animals on premises.

Correction Deadline: 5/7/2024

Corrected on 10/8/2024

The previous citation was observed to be corrected. The consultant observed staff members to redirect the children's behavior as needed and provide a positive learning environment.

Technical Assistance

The center only conducts field trips during the summer time. The consultant reviewed proper documentation of field trips with the director during the visit.

Correction Deadline: 10/8/2024

Finding

591-1-1-.13(6) requires Center Staff to have emergency medical information on each child who goes on a field trip that includes allergies, special medical needs and conditions, current prescribed medications required to be taken on a daily basis for a chronic condition, the name and phone number of the child's doctor, the local medical facility the Center uses in the area where the Center is located, and the telephone numbers where the parent can be reached. The emergency medical information shall be left at the Center as well as taken on the trip in the possession of the adult in charge of the trip. It was determined based on review of records that the center did not have evidence of an emergency medical information form on file for 11 children participating in field trip services during the summer.

Correction Deadline: 10/8/2024

Comment

Center does not provide routine transportation.

Comment

The vehicle had an approved fire extinguisher. Please ensure to replace the thermometer (current thermometer isn't working) and add insect string prep.

Technical Assistance

The vehicle was checked for compliance. Proper restraints (booster seats) were observed and discussed with the director.

Correction Deadline: 10/13/2024

Finding

591-1-1-.36(3)(a-b) requires any Center that provides any type of transportation to obtain two (2) hours of state-approved or state-accepted transportation training, biannually, for the Director and for each person responsible for or who participates in the transportation of children. The training shall include, but is not limited to, a review of the transportation rules, a review of approved transportation forms and procedures, and instruction on the usage and completion of the forms and procedures. This training may be counted as part of the annual training requirements for Staff. It was determined based on review of records that staff member #3, date of hire August 11, 2023, did not complete the required transportation training.

Correction Deadline: 10/18/2024

Finding

591-1-1-.36(4)(a) requires an annual safety check for each vehicle. The annual safety check, completed by a trained individual, should include a check of the: tires, headlights, horn, taillights, turn signals, brake lights, brakes, suspension, exhaust system, steering, windows, windshields and windshield wipers. A copy of the annual safety check will be kept in the Center or on the vehicle and should include evidence of any repairs and/or replacements that were identified as needed on the inspection report. It was determined based on review of records that the center did not have evidence of a current vehicle inspection report on file for vehicle tag number PQE1298.

Correction Deadline: 10/13/2024

Finding

591-1-1-.36(7)(c)2. requires that the driver or other designated person shall immediately document in writing, with a check or other mark/symbol to account for each child listed on the passenger transportation checklist each time a child enters and exits the vehicle. The driver or other designated staff person shall document in writing with a different mark/symbol to account for each child listed on the passenger transportation checklist who was not present on the vehicle for any reason. An explanation shall be documented in writing whenever a child is transported to a field trip site but is not present on the return trip to the Center. It was determined based on review of records that the center did not document the loading and unloading of children during a field trip conducted on July 31, 2024, to Atlanta Safari Park. Further review of records revealed that the center did not document the unloading of children during a field trip conducted on June 20, 2024, to Commerce Cinemas.

Correction Deadline: 10/9/2024

Finding

591-1-1-.36(7)(d)2. requires that the second designated Staff person conduct a check of the vehicle immediately upon the completion of the first check of the vehicle. The responsible person shall physically walk through the entire vehicle; visually inspect all seat surfaces, under all seats and in all compartments or recesses in the vehicle's interior; and sign the passenger transportation checklist(s), indicating all of the children have exited the vehicle. There shall be continuous watchful oversight of the vehicle between the first check and second check. It was determined based on review of records that the center did not document a second check of the vehicle during field trips conducted on July 31, 2024, to Atlanta Safari Park, and on June 4, 2024, to Commerce Cinemas.

Correction Deadline: 10/8/2024

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

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

Not Met

Comment

The center is not caring for infants at this time.

Finding

591-1-1-.30(1)(b)3 requires that sheets or similar coverings for cots or mats shall either be marked for individual use or laundered daily. If marked for individual use, they must be laundered weekly or more frequently if needed. It was determined based upon observation that the mats located in classroom C-2L and classroom E-3L did not have sheets available for children as needed for nap time.

Correction Deadline: 10/15/2024

Recited on 10/8/2024

Correction Deadline: 5/7/2024

Corrected on 10/8/2024

The previous citation was observed to be corrected. The consultant observed each child present for care to have a blanket available during nap time.

Staff Records

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

Met

Comment

Criminal record checks were observed to be complete.

Comment

The director provided two files for two staff members hired since the previous visit was conducted on May 7, 2024. The consultant observed two of two newly hired staff members to have evidence of a current satisfactory comprehensive determination letter on file.

591-1-1-.14 First Aid & CPR

Not Met

Finding

591-1-1-.14(2) requires a Staff member who is trained in CPR and first aid to be on the premises and on any field trip whenever any child is present. In addition, Staff who provide direct care to children must satisfactorily obtain certification in first aid and CPR by December 29, 2016 if employed prior to September 30, 2016 and within 90 days of their hire date if employed after September 30, 2016. It was determined based upon a review of records that Staff member #1, date of hire February 19, 2020, did not have evidence of a current first aid and CPR training card on file.

Correction Deadline: 10/31/2024

Recited on 10/8/2024

591-1-1-.33 Staff Training

Not Met

Finding

591-1-1-.33(1) requires all Employees and Provisional Employees to receive Initial Center orientation prior to assignment to children or task. It was determined based on review of records that staff member #2, date of hire September 2, 2024, and staff member #5, date of hire July 24, 2024, did not have evidence of receiving the initial center orientation prior to assignment to children and/or tasks.

Correction Deadline: 10/8/2024

Finding

591-1-1-.33(3) requires 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. It was determined based upon a review of records that staff member #4, date of hire October 4, 2023, did not complete the required health and safety orientation training within the first 90-days of their date of hire.

Correction Deadline: 10/31/2024

Recited on 10/8/2024

Defer

The previous citation was deferred. The consultant discussed ensuring current staff members complete the required 10-clock hours of annual training for the year 2024 by December 31, 2024.

591-1-1-.31 Staff(CR)

Not Met

Comment

Staff observed to be compliant with applicable laws and regulations.

Finding

591-1-1-.31(1)(b)2 requires the Director to possess at least one of the sets of minimum academic requirements and qualifying child care experience listed in Rule 591-1-1-.31(1)(b)2.(i-xiii). It was determined based on review of records that staff member #3, date of hire August 11, 2023, did not met the minimum academic requirements required of a director.

Correction Deadline: 10/8/2024

Finding

591-1-1-.31(2)(b)2. requires teachers and lead caregivers to meet minimum academic requirements and qualifying experience at the time of employment. It was determined based on review of records that staff member #2, date of hire September 2, 2024, staff member #4, October 4, 2023, and staff member #5, July 24, 2024, did not meet the minimum academic requirements required to be a lead teacher.

Correction Deadline: 10/8/2024

Staffing and Supervision

591-1-1-.32 Staff:Child Ratios and Group Size(CR)

Met

Comment

Center observed to maintain appropriate staff:child ratios.

Correction Deadline: 5/7/2024

Corrected on 10/8/2024

The previous citation was observed to be corrected. The consultant observed children a mixed-age ratio of 1:7 (two three-year-olds, two four-year-olds, two five-year-olds, and one eight-year-old). Staff members met the mixed-age ratio requirement during the visit.

Correction Deadline: 5/7/2024

Corrected on 10/8/2024

The previous citation was observed to be corrected. The consultant observed staff members to provide watchful oversight and attention to the children's needs during the visit.