



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: 8/20/2024 **VisitType:** Complaint Investigation & Licensing Study **Arrival:** 9:30 AM **Departure:** 5:45 PM

CCLC-58060

Cedars Preschool at Gainesville

2000 Candler Rd. Gainesville, GA 30507 Hall County
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Lead Consultant

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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.
08/20/2024	Complaint Investigation & Licensing Study	Good Standing	
07/18/2024	Incident Investigation Closure	Good Standing	
06/03/2024	Complaint Closure	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-1st Left	Three Year Olds	3	14	C	23	C	32	C	Transitioning, Outside
Main	B-Front	Two Year Olds and Three Year Olds	3	14	C	20	C	NA	NA	Outside, Transitioning
Main	C-Back Left	One Year Olds and Two Year Olds	2	12	C	20	C	29	C	Lunch, Outside
Main	D-Back Middle	GA PreK	2	14	C	20	C	28	C	Story, Centers
Main	E-Back Right	GA PreK	2	15	C	21	C	30	C	Transitioning, Centers
Main	F-3rd Right	Infants and One Year Olds	2	5	C	13	C	NA	NA	Free Play, Transitioning, Centers, Nap
Main	G-2nd Right	One Year Olds	2	10	C	16	C	NA	NA	Story, Outside
Main	H-1st Right	Infants	1	4	C	8	C	NA	NA	Free Play, Nap
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 117			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 117			Building @35 capacity limited by Heath Department Limitations				
Total # Children this Date: 88			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 117			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 117				
						Building @25 capacity limited by Heath Department Limitations				

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	Playground A - Infants, 1's & 2's	12	C

Main	Playground B - 3's & Up	131	C
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Enrolled Children						
Under 1 years	1 years	2 years	3 years	4 years	5 years (Prekonly)	5 years and older
12	24	20	16	42	0	10

Comments

The purpose of the visit is to conduct a Complaint Investigation and Licensing Study visit.

Reminders: Refer to the published communicable disease chart for guidance regarding communicable diseases. In most scenarios, only outbreaks/clusters should be reported to the local health districts.

Please be sure to contact the Hall County Department of Health, if there are any outbreaks/clusters of positive COVID-19 cases immediately and get their guidance. Please be sure to also complete a Required Report in DECAL KOALA for all individual cases of communicable diseases within 24 hours. Be sure to select "Notifiable Communicable Diseases" to report closures for COVID cases.

You must be sure to enter all temporary closures by 8 a.m. (vacation, emergencies, school closures, holidays etc...) in DECAL KOALA at all times under the Required Report tab whenever your facility is closed temporarily because you are not caring for children for one day or more. Please be sure to SAVE the report prior to exiting.

Incident Reports are to be submitted via DECAL KOALA with all signed staff statements for staff and the director within a 24 hour period of an incident occurring at the center, if medical attention was needed, injuries, child left unsupervised, suspected Child Abuse, DFCS notified etc...

All amendments are required to be electronically entered in DECAL KOALA effective August 2, 2021.

Please be sure to hide staff who are no longer employed in your DECAL KOALA account. Please reach out for help with this, if needed.

Please ensure that director and staff responsible for food preparation completes the four (4) hours of nutrition training as soon as possible but within the first year of employment.

For centers conducting or planning on conducting transportation, please remember that the transportation training certificates must be completed prior to participating in transportation and renewed every two years for anyone checking the vehicle, chaperoning on a trip, and signing the checklist, including the director. Please ensure that directors ensure that they also complete the transportation training upon being hired at the center. Please ensure to contact your consultant for guidance if you have not been conducting transportation and plan on conducting transportation.

**Beginning January 1, 2024, there is a free Transportation Training available on OLLI in Georgia PDS (GaPDS) as ProSolutions will no longer offer the class for free. Also, you will be able to find the Health and Safety Orientation Training, which will be 18 hours, for free as well.

Provided updated orientation checklist.

Share information regarding the indicator manual and utilizing it.

Discussed regarding ensuring to complete rechecks for Criminal Records checks at least 90 days before the five-year expiration. Suggestion: Check monthly or sooner to ensure that staff's criminal records checks are not about to expire.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 08/20/2024

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.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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Study

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The following information is associated with a Licensing Study Visit:

Activities and Equipment

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

Technical Assistance

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.12(2) - Please ensure to remove all vinyl equipment from the classroom that is not in good repair until it can be repaired or replaced.

Correction Deadline: 8/20/2024

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

Technical Assistance

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.08(1) - Please ensure that all information including physician's phone number is completed in all enrollment applications for all children attending.

Correction Deadline: 8/20/2024

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.08(6) - Please ensure that all families are signing their children in and out daily at all times.

Correction Deadline: 8/20/2024

Facility

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

Met

Comment

Licensed capacity observed to be routinely met by center.

Finding

591-1-1-.25(13) requires that potentially hazardous equipment, materials and supplies be stored in a locked area inaccessible to children. It was determined based on observation that the following hazards were observed to be accessible:

-B-Front: Plastic grocery bag was observed to be accessible in a child's cubby. Also, in an unlocked cabinet underneath the diaper changing table, diaper cream, wipes packaging which read "keep out of reach of children" were accessible. In the second bathroom shared with the 1L classroom, a plunger was observed to be accessible.

-C-Back Left: In an unlocked cabinet underneath the diaper changing table, diaper cream, wipes packaging which read "keep out of reach of children" were accessible.

-E-Back Right: A plunger was observed in the girls bathroom and was accessible. Also, two teachers bags were observed on the floor near the art area and a stapler was observed accessible on a shelf in the art area.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will identify all hazardous items and keep them in a locked area inaccessible to children. The Center will inform all Staff about hazardous items and the safe storage of those items. The teachers removed some of the items during the visit.

Correction Deadline: 8/20/2024

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

Met

Comment

Discussed maintenance of resilient surface. Please fluff and redistribute.

Health and Hygiene**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. Please ensure that children are washing their hands after diapering at all times.

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**

Technical Assistance

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.21(3) - Please ensure that the review of emergency procedures are completed and recorded on the fire drill form.

Correction Deadline: 8/25/2024

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

Met

Comment

Age-appropriate discussion and/or redirection observed.

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.36(4)(b) - Please ensure that the seats on the vehicle are in good repair at all times.

Correction Deadline: 8/21/2024

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 a review of records that the second signature was not recorded on the checklist for Myers Elementary and Chicopee Woods Elementary on Friday, August 9, 2024.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will train Staff who are or may be involved in transporting children in how to thoroughly inspect a vehicle and properly complete transportation documentation. The Center will review and monitor.

Correction Deadline: 8/20/2024

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

Technical Assistance

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.30(1)(a)3 - Please ensure that all crib sheets are tight fitting at all times.

Correction Deadline: 8/20/2024

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

Not Met

Finding

591-1-1-.09(1)(j) requires that for portability for Directors, Employees and Provisional Employees, excluding Students-in-Training, only the most recently issued determination letter is eligible for portability and must be ported electronically. A Center may accept a satisfactory Fingerprint Records Check Determination letter or a satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination letter issued by the Department if the Records Check Clearance Date is within the preceding 12 months from the hire date, the individual has not had a lapse of employment from the child care industry that lasted for 180 days (6 months) or longer, and the Center does not know or reasonably should not know that the individual's satisfactory status has changed. It was determined based on a review of records that staff #23 hired on September 15, 2022, did not have evidence of having been electronically ported.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

IMMEDIATE CORRECTION - The Center will be sure to complete portability request for all staff prior to them being present at the center to ensure that only the most recently issued determination letter is electronically ported for Directors, Employees and Provisional Employees, excluding Students-in-Training. A Center may accept a satisfactory Fingerprint Records Check Determination letter or a satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination letter issued by the Department if the Records Check Clearance Date is within the preceding 12 months from the hire date, the individual has not had a lapse of employment from the child care industry that lasted for 180 days (6 months) or longer, and the Center does not know or reasonably should not know that the individual's satisfactory status has changed. The program's owner or an officer/member of the corporation must view the A to Z Background Check video units pertaining to this records check rule and return the signed affidavit within one week from this visit date. The director and/or staff responsible for staffing will review the CRC modules regarding criminal records to ensure the CRC rules are maintained. Portability was completed during the visit.

Correction Deadline: 8/20/2024

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

Met

Correction Deadline: 9/20/2024

Corrected on 8/20/2024

.14(1) - The previous citation was observed to be corrected in that staff has completed the required CPR and First Aid. All eligible staff has evidence of CPR and First Aid. Please ensure that staff has evidence of CPR and First Aid at all times.

591-1-1-.24 Personnel Records

Not Met

Finding

591-1-1-.24(1) requires the center to maintain a personnel file on the Director, all Employees, Provisional Employees, Personnel, Staff, Students-in-Training, Volunteers, Clerical, Housekeeping, Maintenance, and other Support Staff for the duration of the term of employment plus one calendar year, and it shall contain the following: identifying information to include: name, date of birth, social security number, current address and current telephone number; employment history; as applicable to the position held: evidence of education and qualifying work experience; evidence of all training required by these rules which shall include: title of training, date of training, trainer's signature, location of training and number of clock hours obtained; a statement completed by the staff member that the information provided is true and accurate; any other records required by these rules; and as applicable to the position held, evidence of required orientation including date and signature of person providing the orientation; It was determined based on a review of records that the following staff were missing the following information:

- Staff #10 hired on May 17, 2024, was missing their application.
- Staff #23 hired on September 15, 2022, was missing their application.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will secure required information for all Personnel. The Center will ensure that complete information is in the personnel file for all Directors, Employees, Provisional Employees, Personnel, Staff, Students-in-Training, Volunteers, Clerical, Housekeeping, Maintenance and other Support Staff.

Correction Deadline: 8/25/2024

591-1-1-.33 Staff Training

Not Met

Finding

91-1-1-.33(5) requires 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. It was determined based on a review of records that the following staff did not have evidence of ten hours of annual training for 2023:

- Staff #1 hired on June 20, 2022.
- Staff #15 hired on November 18, 2022.
- Staff #16 hired on November 7, 2022.
- Staff #19 hired on June 16, 2021.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will plan and schedule the required 10 hours of annual training each year and follow up to ensure the training is completed.

Correction Deadline: 9/19/2024

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

Not Met

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 a review of records that staff #16, hired on November 7, 2022, did not have current evidence of their education credential on file.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

A teacher/lead caregiver will be hired that meets the minimum academic requirements and qualifying work experience.

Staffing and Supervision

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

Met

Comment

Center observed to maintain appropriate staff:child ratios.

The following information is associated with a Complaint Investigation Visit:

Staffing and Supervision

591-1-1-.32 Supervision(CR)

Met

Correction Deadline: 7/18/2024

Corrected on 8/20/2024

.32(7) - The previous citation was observed to be corrected in that it was reviewed during staff meeting, staff spoken with, and each staff completed essentials of outdoor safety. Please ensure that staff are supervising the children at all times.

Discussed the supervision rule which states: 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.