



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: 6/17/2024 VisitType: Licensing Study

Arrival: 8:20 AM Departure: 11:30 AM

CCLC-23135

Mountain Area Christian Academy

14090 Old Hwy 76 Morganton, GA 30560 Fannin County
(706) 374-6222 tkincaid@macalions.org

Regional Consultant

LaToya Longshore

Phone: (470) 542-7388

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latoya.longshore@decal.ga.gov

Mailing Address
Same

Quality Rated: ★ ★

<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.
06/17/2024	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
04/25/2023	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
06/08/2022	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-Room 104		0	0	C	18	C	NA	NA	
Main	B-Room 105	Two Year Olds	1	4	C	17	C	NA	NA	Art
Main	C-Room 106	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	1	9	C	17	C	NA	NA	Centers
Main	D-Room 107	Six Year Olds and Over	1	14	C	20	C	NA	NA	Transitioning
Main	E-Room 108		0	0	C	16	C	NA	NA	
Main	F- Room 109		0	0	C	17	C	NA	NA	
Main	G- Room 103	One Year Olds	1	4	C	18	C	NA	NA	Centers,Breakfast
		Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 75			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0			Building @35 capacity limited by Fire Marshall Limitations		
Total # Children this Date: 31		Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 75			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	Playground	49	C

Comments

The purpose of this visit was to conduct a Licensing Study. Field trip documentation rules were discussed with the provider on this date.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 06/17/2024

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.al.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@dec.al.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

591-1-1-12 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)

Not Met

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 in Room 105, sunscreen cans were observed stored on a low shelf accessible to children. It was further determined based on observation in Room 107, Clorox wipes were observed in the bathroom accessible to children in care.

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.

Correction Deadline: 6/17/2024

591-1-1-26 Playgrounds(CR)

Technical Assistance

Technical Assistance

Discussed with the provider to refrain from using swings on the playground until swings are maintained to ensure all areas are secured properly.

Correction Deadline: 6/27/2024

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

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

	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

Staff were observed to maintain a positive learning environment on this date.

591-1-1-.13 Field Trips(CR)	Met
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Technical Assistance

Discussed with the provider to create and distribute a list of participants for each trip taken.

Correction Deadline: 6/17/2024

Technical Assistance

Discussed with the provider to review emergency medical information for each child who goes on a field trip and bring on all field trips.

Correction Deadline: 6/17/2024

Technical Assistance

Discussed with the provide to use name tags for each child to wear on field trips that include all of the required information and will check that each child has the name tag on their person.

Correction Deadline: 6/17/2024

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)	Not Met
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Finding

591-1-1-.30(4). requires that if cots and mats are stored in the children's activity room or area, they shall be stored to prevent children's access to them and to allow maximum use of play space. When storage is available and used for the storage of cots and mats that allows the cots, mats and any bedding to be stored without touching any other cots, mats or bedding, the bedding may be left on the cot or mat. When such storage is not available for the cots and mats, each child's bedding shall be kept separate from other children's bedding and stored in containers marked for individual use, such as, but not limited to, bins, cubbies, or bags. It was determined based on observation in Room 106, mats were stored on the floor in the bathroom next to the toilet accessible to children in care.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will store cots and mats so children do not have access to them and they don't take up play space and will store them so each child's bedding is separate from the others.

Correction Deadline: 6/17/2024

Staff Records**591-1-1-.09 Criminal Records and Comprehensive Background Checks(CR)****Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.09(1)(a) requires that a Center ensure that every actual and potential Director, Employee and Provisional Employee of a Child Care Learning Center submit both a Records Check Application to the Department and Fingerprints to an authorized fingerprinting site. It was determined based on a review of staff records, staff # 8 and staff # 33 did not have both an application submitted and fingerprints.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

IMMEDIATE CORRECTION - The Center will complete routine staff audits to ensure that every actual and potential Director, Employee and Provisional Employee of a Child Care Learning Center submit both a Records Check Application to the Department and Fingerprints to an authorized fingerprinting site as required. 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 Center will conduct audits to ensure the Criminal Records Check rules are maintained.

Correction Deadline: 6/17/2024

Finding

591-1-1-.09(1)(c) requires the Center to ensure that every Employee has a valid and current satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination on file prior to being present at the Center while any child is present for care or before an individual age 17 or older resides in the Center. The Comprehensive Records Check Determination must have a Records Check Clearance Date that is no older than the preceding 12 months of the hire date; provided, however, if the Employee has had a lapse of employment from the child care industry that lasted for 180 days (6 months) or longer, a new satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination is required. It was determined based on a review of staff records, staff # 8 and staff # 33 did not have a Comprehensive Records Check on file prior to being present at the center.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

IMMEDIATE CORRECTION - The Center will complete routine staff audits to ensure that every actual and potential Director, Employee and Provisional Employee of a Child Care Learning Center submit both a Records Check Application to the Department and Fingerprints to an authorized fingerprinting site as required. 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 Center will conduct audits to ensure the Criminal Records Check rules are maintained.

Correction Deadline: 6/17/2024

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

Discussed with the provider to ensure the kitchen manager completes four hour training in food nutrition within the first year of employment.

Correction Deadline: 7/17/2024

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.

Comment

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