



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: 9/11/2024 **VisitType:** Licensing Study

Arrival: 10:20 AM **Departure:** 2:45 PM

CCLC-52118

St. Paul's Lutheran Preschool

10 West 31st Street Savannah, GA 31401 Chatham County
(912) 234-4255 info@splpreschool.com

Regional Consultant

Jerica Davis

Phone: (478) 314-9452

Fax: (478) 314-9443

jerica.davis@dec.al.ga.gov

Mailing Address

Same

Quality Rated: No

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.
09/11/2024	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
04/19/2024	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
10/17/2023	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	A, down 1L - 1's	One Year Olds	1	7	C	13	C	NA	NA	Centers,Lunch
Main	B, down 2L- 2's	Two Year Olds	2	9	C	15	C	NA	NA	Diapering,Lunch,Transitioning,Outside
Main	C, down end- 2's	Two Year Olds	1	7	C	10	C	NA	NA	Outside,Diapering,Transitioning,Lunch
Main	D, down right - 6wks-24 mths	Infants and One Year Olds	4	14	C	27	C	NA	NA	Nap,Lunch,Floor Play,Feeding
Main	E, up end - 3's		0	0	C	11	C	NA	NA	
Main	F- up left	Three Year Olds	1	9	C	28	C	NA	NA	Outside,Lunch,Transitioning
Main	G, up right- 4's	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	1	9	C	20	C	NA	NA	Transitioning,Circle Time,Outside,Lunch
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.:			124		Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.:		0			
Total # Children this Date: 55			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.:		Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.:		0			

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	Playground A	42	C
Main	Playground B	12	C

Enrolled Children						
Under 1 years	1 years	2 years	3 years	4 years	5 years (Prekonly)	5 years and older
11	13	20	14	5	0	0

Comments

The purpose of today's visit is a Licensing Study.

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.dec.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.

Children's Records

Records Reviewed: 5

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 2

Child # 3

Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.08(1)-Allergies and Disabilities

Child # 5

Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.08(1)-Allergies and Disabilities

591-1-1-.08 Children's Records

Technical Assistance

Technical Assistance

Please ensure that the parents completes the portion of the enrollment form regarding known allergies, physical problems, mental health disorders, intellectual disabilities or developmental disabilities which limit the child's participation in the program. Please ensure if the child has no known allergies, disabilities, medications, or medical condition, that the parent writes none in those areas.

Correction Deadline: 9/11/2024

Facility

591-1-1-.06 Bathrooms	Met
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Comment

Bathrooms observed to be clean and well maintained.

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

Licensed capacity observed to be routinely met by center.

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

Please be mindful to keep items that pose a hazard inaccessible to children. Please ensure bathroom plungers are stored inaccessible to children. Additionally, please ensure plastic grocery bags are stored out of reach of children.

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

Playground observed to be clean and in good repair.

Food Service

591-1-1-.18 Kitchen Operations	Technical Assistance
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Technical Assistance

Please ensure kitchen lights to be shielded. Please ensure the fluorescent light bulbs in the kitchen are covered with a shield.

Correction Deadline: 9/21/2024

Health and Hygiene

591-1-1-.07 Children's Health	Technical Assistance
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Technical Assistance

Please ensure Center Staff to not permit children to wear around their necks or attach to their clothing pacifiers or other hazardous items. Please ensure children do not wear necklaces or use pacifier clips while at the center.

Correction Deadline: 9/11/2024

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

Proper diapering procedures observed.

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.

Safety

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-.36 Transportation(CR)	Met
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Comment

Center does not provide routine transportation.

591-1-1-.30 Safe Sleeping and Resting Requirements(CR)**Not Met****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.

Finding

591-1-1-.30(2) requires the Center to provide a safe sleep environment in accordance with American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP), Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) and American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM) recommendations as listed in these rules for all infants. Center Staff shall place an infant to sleep on the infant's back in a crib unless the Center has been provided a physician's written statement authorizing another sleep position for that particular infant that includes how the infant shall be placed to sleep and a time frame that the instructions are to be followed. When an infant can easily turn over from back to front and back again, Staff shall continue to put the infant to sleep initially on the infant's back but allow the infant to roll over into his or her preferred position and not re-position the infant. Sleepers, sleep sacks and wearable blankets that fit according to the commercial manufacturer's guidelines and will not slide up around the infant's face may be used when necessary for the comfort of the sleeping infant. Swaddling shall not be used unless the Center has been provided a physician's written statement authorizing its use for a particular infant that includes instructions and a time frame for swaddling the infant. Center Staff shall not place objects or allow objects to be placed in or on the crib with an infant such as but not limited to toys, pillows, quilts, comforters, bumper pads, sheepskins, stuffed toys, or other soft items and shall not attach objects or allow objects to be attached to a crib with a sleeping infant, such as, but not limited to, crib gyms, toys, mirrors and mobiles. It was determined based on observation that three infants were observed asleep in sleep sacks that were not approved for use at the center that posed a potential safe sleep hazard. One infant was observed asleep in a safety-approved crib wearing a sleep sack that swaddled the infant with arms in that posed a potential safe sleep hazard. The second infant was observed wearing a long sleeve quilted sleep sack that did not meet approved safety requirements. The third infant was observed asleep in a safety-approved crib wearing a Baby Merlin's Magic Sleepsuit that is not approved for child care use. Additionally, one infant was observed asleep in a crib with a pacifier clip attached to the child's clothing that posed a potential safe sleep hazard.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will take all steps necessary to provide a safe sleep environment for infants as listed in these rules; will train Staff to follow these rules; and will monitor for compliance.

Correction Deadline: 9/11/2024**Technical Assistance**

Please ensure 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. Please ensure mats and cots are covered when not in use.

Correction Deadline: 9/11/2024**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 records that staff member # 2, who was an independent contractor observed providing violin lessons to children, was observed present at the center and did not submit both a Records Check Application to the Department and Fingerprints to an authorized fingerprinting site before being present as required.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

IMMEDIATE CORRECTION - The Center will complete the provided affidavit form 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 complete all steps to ensure the CRC rules are maintained.

Correction Deadline: 9/11/2024

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 record that staff member # 2, who was an independent contractor observed providing violin lessons to children, and staff member # 16, who was observed working in the infant classroom, did not have a valid and current satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination on file prior to being present as required.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

IMMEDIATE CORRECTION - The Center will complete the provided affidavit form 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. 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 complete all steps to ensure the CRC rules are maintained.

Correction Deadline: 9/11/2024

Finding

591-1-1-.09(1)(l)3. requires the Center to immediately require a new Comprehensive Records Check Determination for a Director, Employee or Provisional Employee at least once every five years. It was determined based on a review of records that staff member # 16 had a Records Check Determination that expired on June 17, 2024, and did not complete a new Comprehensive Records Check Determination within the five year period as required.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

IMMEDIATE CORRECTION - The Center will complete the provided affidavit form to ensure that each Director, Employee and Provisional Employee has a Comprehensive Records Check Determination on file that has been issued within the past five years. 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 complete all steps to ensure CRC rules are maintained.

Correction Deadline: 9/11/2024

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 on a review of records that staff member # 7, hired on October 9, 2023, and staff member # 8, hired on September 5, 2023, did not completed CPR and First aid training within the first 90 days of employment as required.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The center will ensure the staff completes the required training. The Center will develop and implement a plan to ensure all staff members have satisfactorily completed first aid and CPR training by the specified date.

Correction Deadline: 10/9/2024

Recited on 9/11/2024

591-1-1-.33 Staff Training

Met

Correction Deadline: 5/19/2024

Corrected on 9/11/2024

.33(3) - This citation was observed to be corrected on this date. All required staff had evidence of Health and Safety Orientation training on file as required.

Comment

Staff observed to be compliant with applicable laws and regulations.

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 classroom A, the staff member was observed at the sink washing her hands with her back to 7 one-year-old children while they were eating lunch. In classroom C, the staff member was observed at the sink area while 7 two-year-old children were eating lunch. Additionally, in classroom D, the staff member was observed standing at the counter filling cups with her back to table while 5 one-year-old children were at the table eating lunch and the staff member was not seated within an arm's length away from the children while eating as required.

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: 9/11/2024