



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: 5/7/2024 **VisitType:** Licensing Study

Arrival: 2:00 PM **Departure:** 3:30 PM

CCLC-29170

Homer Baptist Learning Center and Afterschool

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

Regional Consultant

Christina Jennings

Phone: (404) 463-0970

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christina.jennings@decal.ga.gov

Mailing Address

P.O. Box 499
Homer, GA 30547

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.
05/07/2024	Licensing Study	Deficient	
05/15/2023	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
02/16/2022	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-5-10 Years-Garage		0	0	C	16	C	NA	NA	
Main	B 1 L		0	0	C	6	C	NA	NA	
Main	C-2L -2 Year Olds	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	1	9	NC	9	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main	D-Infants	Four Year Olds	0	1	NC	7	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main	E- 3L-3-4 Years	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds and Five Year Olds	0	11	NC	12	C	NA	NA	Nap
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 50			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0			Building @35 capacity limited by Health Department Limitations				
Total # Children this Date: 21			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 this visit was to conduct a LS

Plan of Improvement: To Be Submitted 05/21/2024

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!



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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)

Not Met

Finding

591-1-1-.12(4) requires that equipment and furniture is secured if it is of a weight or mass that could cause injury from tipping, falling, or being pulled or pushed over. It was determined based upon observation that the television on top of the metal cart in Classroom E was unsecured and accessible to children causing a potential tipping hazard.

Correction Deadline: 5/7/2024

591-1-1-.35 Swimming Pools & Water-related Activities(CR)

N/A

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.

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 upon observation that the following hazards were accessible to children:

Classroom E:

- A stapler on the teacher's desk.
- A staff member's bag opened on the teacher's desk.

Classroom C

- A plunger in the children's bathroom.
- A toilet scrub brush in the children's bathroom.

Correction Deadline: 5/7/2024

Recited on 5/7/2024

Finding

591-1-1-.25(3) requires the Center and surrounding premises to be kept clean, free of debris and in good repair. Hygienic measures such as, but not limited to, screened windows and proper waste disposal procedures shall be utilized to minimize the presence of rodents, flies, roaches and other vermin at the Center. It was determined based upon observation that the baseboard was not secure to the wall causing the dry wall to be exposed on the back wall on the right side of Classroom E.

Correction Deadline: 5/17/2024

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

Not Met

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 five inch gap on the bottom of the fencing causing a potential entrapment hazard along the left side of Playground A. It was further determined that there was a four inch gap on the bottom of the fencing causing a potential entrapment hazard along the back side of Playground A .

Correction Deadline: 5/24/2024

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 black mat in front of the gate entrance was not flush with the ground causing a potential tripping hazard on Playground A.

Correction Deadline: 5/7/2024

Health and Hygiene

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

Met

Comment

Hand washing requirements for diapering were discussed with the director on this date.

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

Not Met

Finding

591-1-1-.17(2) requires that Personnel, to the extent possible, keep children clean, dry and comfortable. It was determined based upon observation that during nap time a four-year-old child was allowed to sleep in soiled bottoms and on a soiled cot in Classroom E for an undetermined amount of time. The four-year-old child was not immediately changed when wet and soiled.

Correction Deadline: 5/7/2024

Correction Deadline: 5/15/2023

Corrected on 5/7/2024

.17(6) - Previous citation observed to be corrected in that the Consultant observed the trash containers to have tight fitting lids on this date.

Finding

591-1-1-17(7) requires that children wash their hands with liquid soap and warm running water upon arrival for care, when moving from one child care group to another, upon re-entering the child care area after outside play, before and after eating meals and snacks, handling or touching food, playing in water; after toileting and diapering, playing in sand, touching animals or pets, and contact with bodily fluids and after contamination by any other means. It was determined based upon observation that the children in Classroom C did not wash their hands with liquid soap and warm running water before eating snack as required.

Correction Deadline: 5/7/2024

591-1-1-.20 Medications(CR)

N/A

Comment

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

Policies and Procedures

591-1-1-.27 Posted Notices

Not Met

Finding

591-1-1-.27 requires each Center to post in a designated area for public viewing near the front entrance the following: the Center's current License or Permit; a copy of these rules; a copy of the current communicable disease chart; a statement allowing Parent(s) access to all child care areas upon notifying any staff member of his or her presence; names of persons responsible for the administration of the Center in the administrator's absence; the dated current week's menu for meals and snacks; emergency plans for severe weather, fire, and other emergency situations; a statement requiring visitors to check in with Staff when entering the Center; no smoking signs; and a notice provided by the Department which advises Parents of their right to review a copy of the Center's most recent licensure evaluation report upon request to the Center Director. The Center shall provide any Parent with a copy of this evaluation report upon request. It was determined based upon a review of documents that the center failed to post the most recently issued License from the Department as required. The License issued by the Department for 2023 was posted at the entrance of the center.

Correction Deadline: 5/7/2024

Safety

Finding

591-1-1-.11(2) requires that Personnel not: physically or sexually abuse a child or engage or permit others to engage in sexually overt conduct in the presence of any child enrolled in the Center; inflict corporal/physical punishment upon a child; shake, jerk, pinch or handle a child roughly; verbally abuse or humiliate a child which includes, but is not limited to, the use of threats, profanity or belittling remarks about a child or his family; isolate a child in a dark room, closet or unsupervised area; use mechanical or physical restraints or devices to discipline children; use medication to discipline or control children's behavior without written medical authorization issued by a licensed professional and given with the parent's written consent; restrict unreasonably a child from going to the bathroom; punish toileting accidents; force-feed a child or withhold feeding a child regularly scheduled meals and/or snacks; force or withhold naps; allow children to discipline or humiliate other children; or confine a child for disciplinary purposes to a swing, highchair, infant carrier, walker or jump seat. It was determined based upon observation that a four-year-old child was isolated in a dark room, unsupervised during nap time in Classroom D. The Consultant observed the lights to Classroom D to be turned off causing the room to be dark while the four-year-old child was isolated and napping. Center staff stated that a staff member placed a four-year-old child in a separate classroom when the four-year-old child was being disruptive and prevented the other children from napping in Classroom C.

Correction Deadline: 5/7/2024

591-1-1-.36 Transportation(CR)

N/A

Comment

Center does not provide routine transportation.

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

Not Met

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 a four-year-old child in Classroom E was sleeping on a cot that was not covered with a sheet as required.

Correction Deadline: 5/7/2024

Finding

591-1-1-.30(1)(b)4 requires that a light cover be available for each child's use on a cot or mat and shall 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 a four-year-old child in Classroom E did not have a light cover during nap time as required.

Correction Deadline: 5/7/2024

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**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 # 2 (hire date March 3, 2009), Staff member #5 (hire date August 30, 2023), and Staff member #6 (hire date October 4, 2023), did not have evidence of current CPR/first aid training on file.

Correction Deadline: 5/24/2024

Recited on 5/7/2024

591-1-1-.33 Staff Training**Not Met****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 #1 (hire date February 18, 2023), Staff member #2 (hire date March 3, 2009), Staff member #4 (hire date August 11, 2023), Staff member #5 (August 30, 2023), and Staff member #6 (hire date October 4, 2023) did not have evidence of the required health and safety training on file.

Correction Deadline: 5/31/2024

Recited on 5/7/2024

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 upon a review of records that Staff member #1 (hire date February 18, 2023), Staff member #2 (hire date March 3, 2009), Staff member #4 (hire date August 11, 2023), Staff member #5 (hire date August 30, 2023), and Staff member #6 (hire date October 4, 2023) did not have evidence of completing ten clock hours of annual training for the 2023 calendar year as required.

Correction Deadline: 12/31/2024

Recited on 5/7/2024

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)

Not Met

Finding

591-1-1-.32(2) requires the Center maintain Staff:child ratios in mixed-age groups based on the age of the youngest group of children that includes more than twenty percent of the total number of children in the mixed-age group. It was determined based upon observation that a ratio of 1:21 (five three-year-olds, nine four-year-olds, and seven five-year-olds) were observed in Classroom C when the required ratio was 2:21.

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 upon observation that a staff member failed to provide adequate supervision when four three-year-old children and five four-year-old children were left unsupervised for approximately five minutes when the staff member left the classroom to open the entrance door upon the Consultant's arrival in Classroom C. It was further determined that a four-year-old child was napping alone and unsupervised for over one hour in Classroom D. The Consultant observed the lights in Classroom D to be turned off causing the room to be dark while the child was napping and isolated in Classroom D. It was also determined that a staff member was responsible for two separate physical areas for a combined time of one hour during nap time when the staff member left Classroom E on three separate occasions to check on children in Classroom C when there was no other staff member present in Classroom C during the one hour at nap.

Correction Deadline: 5/7/2024