



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: 1/24/2024 **VisitType:** Licensing Study

Arrival: 11:40 AM

Departure: 4:15 PM

CCLC-1114

Growing Room CDC

1200 Manchester Expressway Columbus, GA 31904 Muscogee County
(706) 596-1234 jcarpenter@growingroomusa.com

Regional Consultant

Penny Svenson

Phone: (470) 346-1037

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penny.svenson@decal.ga.gov

Mailing Address

PO Box 4216
Columbus, GA 31914-0126

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.
01/24/2024	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
08/15/2023	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
04/04/2023	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	Room 1	Two Year Olds	2	15	C	21	C	NA	NA	Transitioning, Nap
Main	Room 10	GA PreK	2	14	C	26	C	36	C	Lunch, Transitioning
Main	Room 11	GA PreK	2	16	C	21	C	NA	NA	Lunch, Transitioning
Main	Room 12	GA PreK	2	14	C	22	C	31	C	Lunch, Nap, Transitioning
Main	Room 13	One Year Olds	2	16	C	19	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main	Room 14		0	0	C	16	C	NA	NA	
Main	Room 2	Two Year Olds	2	19	C	21	C	NA	NA	Lunch
Main	Room 3	One Year Olds	1	6	C	10	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main	Room 4	Three Year Olds	2	18	C	20	C	NA	NA	Transitioning, Nap
Main	Room 5	Four Year Olds	1	16	C	21	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main	Room 6	One Year Olds	3	15	C	15	C	NA	NA	Nap, Transitioning
Main	Room 7		23	0	C	23	C	NA	NA	Nap, Feeding

Main	Room 8	Two Year Olds and Three Year Olds	2	16	C	21	C	NA	NA	Nap, Transitioning
Main	Room 9	Three Year Olds	2	18	C	21	C	NA	NA	Nap, Transitioning
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 277					Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 296					
Total # Children this Date: 183					Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 296					

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	Playground 1	62	C
Main	Playground 2	76	C

Comments

January 24, 2024--The licensing study was completed on this date. The findings were discussed with the Director.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 01/24/2024

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!

Ashley Holland, Program Official

Date

Penny Svenson, Regional Consultant

Date



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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-.03 Activities

Technical Assistance

Technical Assistance

The Consultant discussed with the Director to ensure current lesson plans were posted.

Correction Deadline: 1/24/2024

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

Not Met

Finding

591-1-1-.12(2) requires that all equipment and furniture be free from hazardous conditions such as, but not limited to, sharp rough edges or toxic paint; and be kept clean. It was determined based on observation that there was a shelf in Room 5 with blue chipped paint. Further, there was a shelf on the left side of the room in Room 10 that was chipped on the front top and there were rough edges present.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will ensure that equipment and furniture are used by the age-appropriate group of children.

Correction Deadline: 1/24/2024

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

Met

Comment

Records were observed to be complete and well organized.

Facility**591-1-1-.06 Bathrooms****Met****Comment**

Please monitor bathrooms for necessary supplies.

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**

Please be mindful to keep items that pose a hazard inaccessible to children.

591-1-1-.26 Playgrounds(CR)**Not Met****Technical Assistance**

The Consultant discussed with the Director to monitor all playground equipment and to repair as needed.

Correction Deadline: 2/3/2024

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 base on observation that on the toddler playground there was a tree stump with the center rotted out and a five inch hole was present in the center of the stump.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will remove any litter and fix or remove hazards from the playground and will routinely monitor the playground and remove litter and hazards. The Center will cover the stump and make it inaccessible to children until the scheduled repairs are made.

Correction Deadline: 1/24/2024

Food Service**591-1-1-.15 Food Service & Nutrition****Met****Comment**

Center menu meets USDA guidelines.

591-1-1-.18 Kitchen Operations**Met****Comment**

Kitchen appears clean and well organized.

Health and Hygiene**591-1-1-.10 Diapering Areas & Practices(CR)****Met**

Correction Deadline: 8/15/2023

Corrected on 1/24/2024

Proper diapering was stated.

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

Correction Deadline: 8/15/2023

Corrected on 1/24/2024
Children were observed to wash their hands on this date.
Correction Deadline: 8/15/2023

Corrected on 1/24/2024
Proper hand washing was observed on this date.

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

Comment

The Director stated no medications have been administered since the last regulatory visit.

Policies and Procedures

591-1-1-.29 Required Reporting Met

Comment

Thank you for reporting as required.

Safety

591-1-1-.05 Animals Met

Comment

Center does not keep animals on premises.

591-1-1-.11 Discipline(CR) Met

Comment

Please be mindful of voice tone in redirecting children.

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

Comment

Field trip documentation observed to be complete.

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

Comment

Please add the date at the bottom of the new transportation form.

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

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

Technical Assistance

The Consultant discussed with the Director and staff that children should be placed head-to-toe when they are placed on their cots for nap.

Correction Deadline: 1/24/2024

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 on a review of records that two staff members hired in August 2023 did not obtain certification in first aid and CPR within 90 days of their hire date as required.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will develop a schedule to ensure there is always a staff person with current first aid and CPR training present and 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: 2/23/2024

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

Documentation observed of required staff training.

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.

591-1-1-.32 Supervision(CR)**Met****Comment**

Adequate supervision observed on this date.