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: 3/15/2023 **VisitType:** Licensing Study **Arrival:** 9:45 AM **Departure:** 4:00 PM

CCLC-51942
Cornerstone Learning Center

1575 Milstead Road Conyers, GA 30012 Rockdale County
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Regional Consultant
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Joint with: Stacy Whitten

Mailing Address
1575 Milstead Road NE
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Quality Rated: ★ ★

Compliance Zone Designation		
03/15/2023	Licensing Study	Good Standing
10/17/2022	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing
04/28/2022	Licensing Study	Good Standing

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.

Ratios/License Capacity

Building	Room	Age Group	Staff	Children	NC/C	Max 35 SF.	35 SF. Comp.	Max 25 SF.	25 SF. Comp.	Notes
Building One	A-1st Left	Three Year Olds	2	18	C	20	C	NA	NA	Outside
Building One	B-2nd Left	Infants and One Year Olds	2	7	C	8	C	NA	NA	Nap,Lunch,Floor Play
Building One	C-3rd Left	One Year Olds and Two Year Olds	2	8	C	10	C	NA	NA	Nap,Lunch
Building One	D- Middle Back	Two Year Olds	2	14	C	20	C	NA	NA	Transitioning
		Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 86			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0			Building @35 capacity limited by Heath Department Limitations		
Building Two	A-Right Side	Four Year Olds and Five Year Olds	1	10	C	28	C	NA	NA	Story,Nap
Building Two	B-Left Side	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	2	19	C	22	C	NA	NA	Lunch
		Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 86			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0			Building @35 capacity limited by Heath Department Limitations		
Total # Children this Date: 76		Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 172			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance

Comments
The purpose of this visit was to conduct a Licensing Study and to follow up on the previous visit.

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)

QUALITY RATED CHILD CARE

CAPS CHILDCARE AND PARENT SERVICES

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 a1 855-800-7747 or qualityrated@decal.ga.gov for more information. Free techincal assistance is available!

Mechelle Carrell-Hobbs, Program Official Date

Melyn Smith, Consultant Date

Stacy Whitten, 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-.12 Equipment & Toys(CR) **Technical Assistance**

Comment
A variety of equipment and toys were observed throughout the center.

Correction Deadline: 10/17/2022

Corrected on 3/15/2023
.12(4) - Previous citation corrected, based on observation, in that no stacked chairs were observed to be present on this date.

Technical Assistance
591-1-1-.12(4) - The Consultant discussed with the Director to please ensure that the new computer monitors and towers were securely anchored in Building Two Room A-Right Side.

Correction Deadline: 3/15/2023

591-1-1-.35 Swimming Pools & Water-related Activities(CR) **N/A**

Comment
Center does not provide swimming activities.

Children's Records

Records Reviewed: 8 **Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 3**

Child # 2 Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.08(3)-Address of Release Person Missing

Child # 3 Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.08(3)-Address of Release Person Missing,.08(3)-Name of Release Person Missing,.08(1)-Emergency Contact information Missing

Child # 8 Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.08(3)-Address of Release Person Missing,.08(3)-Name of Release Person Missing,.08(1)-Emergency Contact information Missing

591-1-1-.08 Children's Records **Not Met**

Finding
591-1-1-.08(1) requires the Center Staff to maintain a file for each child while such child is in care and for one year after that child is no longer enrolled. In order for the file to be complete, the file shall contain the following: child's name, birth date, sex, address, living arrangement, name of school if applicable; names of both Parents, home and work addresses, and home and work telephone numbers; name(s) and addresses of the person(s) to whom the child may be released including address, telephone numbers, relationship to child and to Parent(s), and other identifying information; name(s) and telephone number(s) of person(s) to contact in emergencies when the Parent cannot be reached; name and telephone number of the child's primary source of health care; and a statement regarding known allergies, physical problems, mental health disorders, intellectual disabilities or developmental disabilities which limit the child's participation in the program. It was determined, based on review of records, that of eight children's files reviewed, Child #2 was lacking the addresses for the release persons on this date. It was further determined that Children #3 and 8 were lacking the information for the children's release persons and emergency contacts on this date.

POI (Plan of Improvement)
Center staff will develop a plan that includes how to obtain all required information for currently enrolled children and how to ensure this is done for future enrollees as well. The plan will also include how and where to maintain files for the required amount of time. The plan will be implemented and followed.

Correction Deadline: 3/22/2023

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**

Technical Assistance
591-1-1-.25(11) - The Consultant discussed with the Director to please ensure that the flooring was not smooth in both hall bathrooms in Building One.

Correction Deadline: 4/14/2023

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 potential hazards were observed on this date:
•Building One Room A-1st Left: Plastic bags were observed accessible to children in children’s cubbies on this date. Staff bags, plastic bags, and cleaning supplies were observed accessible to children in an unlocked storage cabinet.
•Building One Room D-Middle Back: A plastic bag was observed accessible to children on a shelf beside the refrigerator.
•Building Two Room A-Right Side: Trash bags were observed accessible to children in a cardboard box near the bathrooms.

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: 3/15/2023

Recited on 3/15/2023

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 on observation, that the following was observed to not be in good repair on this date:
•Building One Room A-1st Left: The blinds were observed to have broken slats hanging down and accessible to children. The edge of the top stair leading to the library area was observed to have a sharp edge and splintering.
•Building Two Room A-Right Side: A long bolt was observed attaching the toilet to the floor and accessible to children on this date.
•Building Two Room B-Left Side: Two screens were observed damaged on the windows facing the playground.
•The ventilation/exhaust fans were observed to have a thick layer of dust throughout the center in the bathrooms on this date.

POI (Plan of Improvement)
The Center will have the Center and surrounding areas cleaned, make repairs where needed, and remove all debris is removed. The Center will implement a plan to keep areas clean and in good repair that includes regular monitoring.

Correction Deadline: 3/15/2023

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 the following fencing hazards were observed:
•Left Playground: A gap measuring approximately six inches was observed at the bottom of the gate between the left playground and the middle playground. A gap measuring approximately five inches was observed between the left fence and the building on this date. Bolts were observed protruding more than two threads and uncovered on the fence between the left playground and the middle playground.
•Middle Playground: The third pole from the right on the back of the playground was observed to be leaning and separating from the fence post ties, which were observed to be accessible to children and sharp on this date. Bolts were observed protruding more than two threads and uncovered on the fence between the middle playground and right playground on this date.
•Right Playground: The fence was observed loose and not anchored at the bottom of the front fence and behind the tree at the back of the playground.

POI (Plan of Improvement)
The Center will routinely check the fence to determine if it is in good repair and remains at least 4 feet high, and will repair any hazards. The Center will train Staff to identify and report any fence hazards and to keep the fence gates closed when not in use.

Correction Deadline: 4/5/2023

Technical Assistance
591-1-1-.26(8) - The Consultant discussed with the Director to please ensure that the wooden mulch resilient surface did not have large pieces.

Correction Deadline: 3/25/2023

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 on observation, that the following potential hazards were observed on the playgrounds:
•Left Playground: The ramp from Building One Room A-1st Left to the playground was observed to have plastic netting lining the sides of the ramp which was not attached at the bottom. Turf under the slide was observed to be uneven and rolled on this date.
•Middle Playground: the ramps leading from Building 2 to the playground was observed to have plastic netting lining the sides of the ramps which was not attached at the bottom and at the end of the ramps.
•Right Playground: A tree branch was observed broken and hanging over the playground behind the basketball goal. The concrete at the bottom of the basketball goal was observed to be exposed with sharp edges. A fabric loop was observed attached to the monkey bars which posed as a possible strangulation hazard. Active ant beds were observed on the playground near the wooden barriers around the swings.

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.

Correction Deadline: 4/5/2023

Food Service

591-1-1-.15 Food Service & Nutrition — **Technical Assistance**

Comment
Center menu meets USDA guidelines. The Consultant observed cheeseburgers, green beans, diced peaches, and milk served for lunch on this date.

Technical Assistance
591-1-1-.15(2) - The Consultant discussed with the Director and Staff to please ensure Infant Feeding Plans were updated regularly as new foods were added or other dietary changes were made.

Correction Deadline: 3/15/2023

Technical Assistance
591-1-1-.15(4) - The Consultant discussed with the Director to please ensure children were strapped in to the high chair, as one infant in Building One Room B-2nd Left was observed not strapped in.

Correction Deadline: 3/15/2023

Health and Hygiene

591-1-1-.07 Children's Health — **Not Met**

Finding
591-1-1-.07(5) requires Center Staff to not permit children to wear around their necks or attach to their clothing pacifiers or other hazardous items. It was determined, based on observation, that an infant in Building One Room B-2nd Left was observed to have a pacifier attached to their clothing by a pacifier strap on this date.

POI (Plan of Improvement)
The Center will instruct Staff regarding this safety requirement.

Correction Deadline: 3/15/2023

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

Comment
Staff state proper knowledge of diapering procedures.

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

Comment
Proper hand washing observed throughout the center.

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

Comment
Documentation for medication dispensing observed complete.

Policies and Procedures

591-1-1-.21 Operational Policies & Procedures **Met**

Comment
Program observed complete emergency drills

Safety

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

Comment
Age-appropriate discussion and/or redirection observed.

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

591-1-1-.13 Field Trips(CR) **N/A**

Comment
Center does not participate in field trips at this time.

591-1-1-.36 Transportation(CR) **Not Met**

Comment
A current/completed inspection was observed for all vehicles used in transporting children this date.

Correction Deadline: 10/17/2022

Corrected on 3/15/2023
.36(4)(c) - Previous citation corrected, based on observation, in that a fire extinguisher was observed in working order on the vehicle used for routine transportation on this date.

Correction Deadline: 10/18/2022

Corrected on 3/15/2023
.36(7)(b) - Previous citation corrected, based on review of records, in that a complete emergency medical information record was observed for each child being transported on this date.

Finding
591-1-1-.36(7)(c)2. requires that the driver or other designated person shall immediately document in writing, with a check or other mark/symbol to account for each child listed on the passenger transportation checklist each time a child enters and exits the vehicle. The driver or other designated staff person shall document in writing with a different mark/symbol to account for each child listed on the passenger transportation checklist who was not present on the vehicle for any reason. An explanation shall be documented in writing whenever a child is transported to a field trip site but is not present on the return trip to the Center. It was determined, based on review of records, that the loading and unloading of the vehicle was not documented for morning transportation from the center to Pine Street Elementary on March 15, 2023.

POI (Plan of Improvement)
The driver/other designated person will immediately document in writing with a check/mark/symbol each time a child gets on and off the vehicle.

Correction Deadline: 3/16/2023

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

591-1-1-.30 Safe Sleeping and Resting Requirements(CR) — **Met**

Comment
Pleasant naptime environment observed.

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**

Comment
Complete first aid kits observed in center and on vehicles.

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 review of records, that Staff #16 was lacking evidence of completing First Aid and CPR training within 90 days of hire as required. It was further determined that Staffs #12 and 14 were lacking evidence of completing the hands-on component of CPR training on this date.

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: 4/14/2023

591-1-1-.33 Staff Training — **Not Met**

Comment
Documentation observed of required staff training.

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 on review of records, that Staff #8, identified as the Director, was lacking evidence of completing the Health and Safety Orientation Training within 90 days of employment as required.

POI (Plan of Improvement)
The Center will develop and implement a plan to schedule and track this training for all employees based on their hire dates and will ensure that the training includes all required components as required.

Correction Deadline: 4/14/2023

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