



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: 2/29/2024 VisitType: Licensing Study

Arrival: 10:35 AM

Departure: 2:45 PM

CCLC-50806

Gordon Early Childhood Development Center

7414 Fairmount Highway, SE Calhoun, GA 30701 Gordon County
(770) 625-3306 donnisp@tallatoonacap.org

Regional Consultant

Marquita Brown-Opeloyeru

Phone: (706) 434-6831

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marquita.brown-

opeloyeru@decal.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.
02/29/2024	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
04/11/2023	ILS Follow Up	Good Standing	
08/24/2022	Initial 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 - 2nd Right	GA PreK	2	17	C	25	C	NA	NA	Outside
Main	B - 1st Right	Four Year Olds and Five Year Olds	2	17	C	20	C	NA	NA	Outside
Main	C - 3rd Right	Four Year Olds and Five Year Olds	2	15	C	25	C	NA	NA	Transitioning, Outside
Main	D - 2nd Left	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	2	13	C	19	C	NA	NA	Centers
Main	E - 3rd left	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	2	13	C	19	C	NA	NA	Centers
Main	F - 1st left	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	2	16	C	19	C	NA	NA	Circle Time
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 127			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0							
Total # Children this Date: 91			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0							

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	A	86	C

Comments

The purpose of this visit was to conduct a Licensing Study and to follow-up on the previous visit conducted April 11, 2023.

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.decgal.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@decgal.ga.gov for more information. Free technical assistance is available!

Patricia Logan, Program Official

Date

Marquita Brown-Opeloyeru, 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-.12 Equipment & Toys(CR)

Met

Comment

Consultant observed a variety of equipment and toys throughout the center.

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

N/A

Comment

Center does not provide swimming activities.

Children's Records

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

Met

Comment

Consultant reviewed parent agreements that were obtained and completed.

Comment

Consultant reviewed parent authorizations forms that were obtained and completed.

Correction Deadline: 4/11/2023

Corrected on 2/29/2024

.08(1) - Previous citation corrected. Consultant reviewed five child files that had the physical address of the person(s) to whom the child may be released to.

Facility

591-1-1-.06 Bathrooms

Technical Assistance

Technical Assistance

Ensure bathrooms are cleaned daily with a disinfectant and monitored throughout the day.

Correction Deadline: 2/29/2024

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

Consultant observed licensed capacity to be routinely met by the center.

591-1-1-.25 Physical Plant - Safe Environment(CR)	Not Met
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Comment

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

Comment

Please secure cleaning tools (i.e., broom, plunger, dust pans) out of reach of children.

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 a purse was located on top of a reading nook near the reading center, in the corner of Room B-1st right. It was also determined based on observation in Room B-1st right; adult scissors were on top of the teacher's desk to the left back of the room.

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: 2/29/2024

Technical Assistance

Ensure the sink by the door in Classroom C is cleaned after painting activities.

Correction Deadline: 2/29/2024

591-1-1-.26 Playgrounds(CR)	Technical Assistance
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Comment

Consultant observed playground to be clean and in good repair.

Technical Assistance

Ensure climbing and swinging equipment have a resilient surface beneath the equipment and fall zones from such equipment is adequately maintained by the Center to assure continuing resiliency.

Correction Deadline: 3/10/2024

Food Service

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

Consultant observed the center menu to meet USDA guidelines.

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

Consultant observed the kitchen to appear clean and well organized.

Health and Hygiene

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

No children enrolled who require diapering at this location.

591-1-1-.17 Hygiene(CR)	Not Met
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Comment

Please ensure lids remain on trash containing organic waste.

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 on observation in Room A, both hand washing sinks did not have warm running water or soap accessible to children. It was also determined based on observation in Room B, the sink by the door did not have warm running water available for children to wash their hands and was not working.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will train Staff on required handwashing for children and Staff will ensure children's hands are washed when required. The Director will monitor for compliance.

Correction Deadline: 2/29/2024

Technical Assistance

Ensure staff wash their hands with warm running water at both sinks in Classroom C at all required times by the state.

Correction Deadline: 2/29/2024

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

Discussed proper medication documentation and procedures with the Center Director on this date.

Policies and Procedures

591-1-1-.27 Posted Notices**Met****Comment**

Consultant observed all required posted notices.

591-1-1-.29 Required Reporting**Met****Comment**

Consultant discussed reporting requirements with the Center Director on this date.

Safety

591-1-1-.05 Animals**N/A****Comment**

Center does not keep animals on premises.

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

Consultant observed staff 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.

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)**Met****Comment**

Consultant observed the correct number of mats, sheets and blankets on this date. Cleaning and disinfecting of mats was discussed with the staff on this date.

Staff Records

591-1-1-.09 Criminal Records and Comprehensive Background Checks(CR)**Met****Comment**

Consultant observed criminal record checks for all staff to be complete on this date.

591-1-1-.14 First Aid & CPR**Met****Comment**

Evidence observed of 100% of center staff certified in First Aid and CPR.

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

Consultant discussed staff training. Please obtain required documentation.

Technical Assistance

Consultant discussed: Health and Safety Training is required for each staff member with direct care responsibilities within 90 calendar days of their hire date. Staff #17 needs to take the Health and Safety training.

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 on a review of records that staff #6 had six out of ten annual hours and staff #12 had four out of ten annual hours for the year of 2023 when the state requires ten (10) clock hours of training every calendar year.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will plan and schedule the required 10 hours of annual training each year and follow up to ensure the training is completed.

Correction Deadline: 3/30/2024

591-1-1-.31 Staff(CR)**Met****Comment**

Consultant observed staff to be compliant with applicable laws and regulations.

Staffing and Supervision

591-1-1-.32 Staff:Child Ratios and Group Size(CR)**Met****Comment**

Consultant observed center to maintain appropriate staff:child ratios.

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

Comment

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