



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: 1/12/2024 VisitType: Licensing Study

Arrival: 9:45 AM

Departure: 12:00 PM

CCLC-54657

Ball Ground Academy

200 Valley Street Ball Ground, GA 30107 Cherokee County
(678) 454-5437 bgacademy@yahoo.com

Regional Consultant

Marquita Brown-Opeloyeru

Phone: (706) 434-6831

Fax: (706) 434-7709

marquita.brown-

opeloyeru@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.
01/12/2024	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
06/21/2023	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
03/22/2023	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-First Right Preschool	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	1	10	C	16	C	NA	NA	Centers
Main	B -2nd Right Four Year Olds	GA PreK	2	20	C	24	C	NA	NA	Centers
Main	C-1st Left Room Infants	Two Year Olds and Three Year Olds	2	8	C	15	C	NA	NA	Centers
Main	D -2nd Lt. Infant	One Year Olds and Two Year Olds	1	5	C	13	C	NA	NA	Centers
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 68					Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					
Total # Children this Date: 43					Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	Infant Toddler Playground	12	C
Main	Preschool Front Playground	31	C

Comments

The purpose of this visit was to conduct a Licensing Study and to follow-up on the previous visit conducted June 21, 2023.

Consultant provided a copy of the mixed-age agreement form with the Provider on this date.

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

Virginia Smith, 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 observed parent authorizations that were obtained and completed.

Comment

Consultant observed records to be complete and well organized.

Facility

591-1-1-.06 Bathrooms

Met

Comment

Consultant observed bathrooms to be clean and well maintained.

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

Met

Comment

Consultant observed licensed capacity to be routinely met by center.

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

Consultant observed no hazards accessible to children on this date.

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

Consultant observed the playground to be clean and in good repair.

Food Service

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

Consultant observed 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

Staff state proper knowledge of diapering procedures.

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

Consultant observed staff to remind children to wash hands.

591-1-1-.20 Medications(CR)	N/A
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Comment

The Provider currently does not dispense or administer medication.

Policies and Procedures

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

Consultant observed program complete emergency drills. The last fire drill was conducted December 22, 2023.

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

Consultant discussed reporting requirements with the provider on this date.

Safety

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

Center does not keep animals on premises.

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

Consultant observed staff to maintain a positive learning environment on this date.

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

Center does not participate in field trips at this time.

591-1-1-.36 Transportation(CR)	N/A
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Comment

Center does not provide routine transportation.

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

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

Staff Records

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

Consultant reviewed criminal record checks to be complete.

Comment

Director provided three file for employees hired since last visit.

591-1-1-.09 Criminal Records Check(CR)	Met
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Comment

Consultant observed criminal records checks to be complete.

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

Please be mindful of CPR and First-Aid training expiration dates.

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

Consultant observed documentation of required staff training.

Correction Deadline: 4/21/2023

Corrected on 1/12/2024

.33(5) - Previous citation corrected. Consultant reviewed all staff files to have completed the annual ten clock hours of training for the year of 2023.

591-1-1-.31 Staff(CR)	Met
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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)	Technical Assistance
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Technical Assistance

Consultant discussed combining children of mixed ages.

Comment

Consultant observed center to maintain appropriate staff:child ratios.

Comment

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