



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

Cover Sheet

Date: 10/5/2022 **VisitType:** Licensing Study

Arrival: 9:40 AM

Departure: 1:00 PM

CCLC-1493

Children's Academy of Hickory Flat

4360 Hickory Rd. Canton, GA 30115 Cherokee County
 (770) 345-2929 cahf.parentinfo@gmail.com

Mailing Address
 Same

Regional Consultant

LaToya Longshore

Phone: (470) 542-7388

Fax: (404) 478-8102

latoya.longshore@dec.al.ga.gov

Joint with: Sharnette Glenn

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.
10/05/2022	Complaint Closure	Good Standing	
10/05/2022	Complaint Investigation & Licensing Study	Good Standing	
11/24/2021	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
			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
Bldg 1	C- Second Left Room	PreK	2	22	C	20	NC	NA	NA	Centers
Bldg 1	D- First Left	Three Year Olds	2	14	C	17	C	NA	NA	Outside
Bldg 1	E- First Right	Three Year Olds	1	13	C	18	C	NA	NA	Outside
Bldg 1	F-Second Right	Two Year Olds and Three Year Olds	2	17	C	18	C	NA	NA	Transitioning, Outside
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 73			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0							
Bldg 2	A- Downstairs	PreK	2	21	C	25	C	NA	NA	Outside
Bldg 2	B- Upper Level	One Year Olds	2	7	C	11	C	NA	NA	Centers
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 36			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0							
Total # Children this Date: 94			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 109			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0				

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Bldg 1	Playground A:	31	C
Bldg 1	Playground B: Preschool	23	C
Bldg 1	Playground C	78	C
Bldg 1	Playground: Toddler Play Area	9	C

Comments

A Licensing Study was conducted jointly with Sharnette Glenn on October 5, 2022. Staff files, Training, Transportation, and Comprehensive Records Check files were reviewed.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date

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



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!

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)

Morgan Thomas, Program Official	Date
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Sharnette Glenn, Consultant	Date
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LaToya Longshore, Consultant	Date
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Findings Report

Date: 10/5/2022 **VisitType:** Licensing Study

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The following information is associated with a Licensing Study Visit:

Activities and Equipment

591-1-1.12 Equipment & Toys(CR)

Met

Comment

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

591-1-1.35 Swimming Pools & Water-related Activities(CR)

Technical Assistance

Technical Assistance

Discussed with the provider, all children are required to have Parents' written permission to participate in swimming activities.

Correction Deadline: 10/5/2022

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

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 in Building 2 Classroom A, a staff bag was observed on the floor in the dramatic play center. It was further determined in Building 1 Classroom F, diaper cream was observed in the diapering table drawer that was unlocked and accessible to children.

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: 10/5/2022

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 of the center playgrounds, Playground B and C fence measured to be 3 feet 8 inches high.

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: 10/5/2022

Health and Hygiene

591-1-1-.10 Diapering Areas & Practices(CR)**Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.10(1) requires Centers first licensed after March 1, 1991, and Centers that are renovated after March 1, 1991, to provide ventilation in the diapering areas with functioning exhaust fans and a duct system or by the required amount of window space provided by operable windows when open. It was determined based on observation in Building 1 Classroom F, there was no ventilation provided in the diapering areas.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The responsible person(s) at the center will ensure that the exhaust fans and duct systems are functioning or that the required amount of operable window space is provided in each diapering area.

Correction Deadline: 10/5/2022

591-1-1-.17 Hygiene(CR)**Not Met****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 Classroom B, staff did not wash the child's hand with liquid soap and warm running water immediately after diapering.

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: 10/5/2022

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

Documentation for medication dispensing observed complete.

Safety

591-1-1-.05 Animals**Met****Comment**

Animals maintained clean and appropriately caged.

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

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

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

Field trip documentation observed to be complete.

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

Paperwork, checklist, permission forms, annual inspection form and proper check of the vehicle after transportation were discussed with the director.

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

Records Reviewed: 18

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 0
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Staff # 1	Met
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Date of Hire: 01/23/2022

Staff # 2	Met
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Date of Hire: 08/30/2021

Staff # 3	Met
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Date of Hire: 07/21/2017

Staff # 4	Met
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Date of Hire: 07/01/2015

Staff # 5	Met
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Date of Hire: 04/09/2022

Staff # 6	Met
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Date of Hire: 02/28/2022

Staff # 7	Met
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Date of Hire: 09/27/2021

Staff # 8	Met
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Date of Hire: 04/26/2022

Staff # 9	Met
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Records Reviewed: 18**Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 0**

Date of Hire: 07/13/2022

Reminder - Health & Safety training is required within 90 calendar days of hired

Staff # 10

Met

Date of Hire: 07/15/2013

Staff # 11

Met

Date of Hire: 01/14/2019

Staff # 12

Met

Staff # 13

Met

Date of Hire: 11/30/2011

Staff # 14

Met

Date of Hire: 05/03/2004

Staff # 15

Met

Date of Hire: 05/27/2019

Staff # 16

Met

Staff # 17

Met

Date of Hire: 02/17/2021

Staff # 18

Met

Date of Hire: 03/21/2021

Staff Credentials Reviewed: 10**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**Met****Comment**

Please replace/add missing/expired item(s) in first aid kit(s).

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

Discussed proper supervision: responding promptly, bathrooms and playgrounds.