



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: 3/27/2024 **VisitType:** Licensing Study

Arrival: 9:45 AM

Departure: 10:40 AM

FR-37846

Hicks, Nyhema L

68 Alton Hall Rd Cairo, GA 39828 Grady County
(229) 205-1863 earlylearningacademy2014@outlook.com

Regional Consultant

Angela Williams-Jackson

Phone: (404) 710-3984

Fax: (678) 717-5765

angela.williams-
jackson@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.
03/27/2024	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
10/24/2023	POI Follow Up	Good Standing	
09/26/2023	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	

Ratio Capacity					
Age Ranges	Children Present	Child For Pay	CAPS	Not for Pay	Provider Children
Infant (0-11 mos)	0	0	0	0	0
1 & 2 Years	0	0	0	0	0
3 & 4 Years	0	1	0	0	0
School Age(5+) Years	3	1	0	0	3
Total Under 13 Years	3	2	0	0	3
Total Under 18 Years	3				
Children Present: 3 Total Children: 5 Caregivers/Helpers Present: 2 Total Caregivers/Helpers: 1					

Comments

The purpose of this visit was to conduct a licensing study.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 03/27/2024

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.state.ga.us/CCS/Regulations.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.state.ga.us for more information. Free technical assistance is available!

Nyhema Hicks, Program Official

Date

Angela Williams-Jackson, 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

290-2-3-.12 Equipment and Supplies(CR) **Met**

Comment

Toys and equipment observed to be clean and safe from hazardous conditions.

290-2-3-.19 Infant-Sleeping Safety Requirements(CR) **Met**

Comment

Currently the provider is not caring for infants. (This rule was not evaluated on this date)

290-2-3-.07 Swimming Pools & Water-related Activities(CR) **N/A**

Comment

Home does not provide swimming activities.

Children's Records

290-2-3-.08 Children's Records **Met**

Comment

Records were observed to be complete and well organized.

290-2-3-.08 Parental Authorization(CR) **Met**

Comment

Parent authorizations obtained and completed.

Facility

290-2-3-.11 Physical Plant - Safe Environment(CR)	Met
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Comment

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

290-2-3-.13 Physical Plant-Structural/Mechanical(CR)	Met
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Comment

The Home appears clean and free from hazards.

290-2-3-.13 Playgrounds(CR)	Technical Assistance
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Technical Assistance

The consultant discussed with the provider to ensure that the leaves are maintained.

Correction Deadline: 4/6/2024

Food Service

290-2-3-.10 Food Service & Nutrition	Met
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Comment

CACFP Meal Pattern Requirements: 3 Components for breakfast: Grains, Vegetables, Fruits or both, Milk 5 Components for lunch – Grains, Meat/Meat alternates, Fruits, Vegetable, and Milk OR Grains, Meat/Meat alternates, 2 different types of vegetables, and Milk 2 of 5 Components for snack Provided Updated CACFP Infant Meal pattern and Child/Adult Meal pattern flyers. The Crediting Handbook for the CACFP can be located on DECAL and USDA's website: DECAL <http://dec.al.ga.gov/CACFP/Handbook.aspx> USDA <http://www.fns.usda.gov/cacfp/cacfp-handbooks>

Health and Hygiene

290-2-3-.11 Children's Health and Hygiene(CR)	Met
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Comment

Staff stated proper knowledge of hand washing and hygiene procedures.

290-2-3-.11 Diapering Areas & Practices(CR)	Met
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Comment

Currently there are no diapered children enrolled in the program. (This rule was not evaluated on this date)

290-2-3-.11 Medications(CR)	N/A
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Comment

Per the provider no medication is currently dispensed at this time.

Licensure

290-2-3-.04 Application Requirements(CR)	Met
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Comment

Appropriate number of children observed in Family Child Care Learning Home this date. Only the providers children were present.

Safety and Discipline

290-2-3-.11 Animals	Met
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Comment

Appropriate vaccination records were available on this date.

290-2-3-.11 Discipline(CR)	Met
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Comment

There were no enrolled children present during the time of the inspection. Only the providers children were present on this date.(This rule was not evaluated on this date)

290-2-3-.11 First Aid Kit	Met
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Comment

Complete first aid kit observed in the Family Child Care Learning Home.

290-2-3-.11 Transportation(CR)	N/A
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Comment

The provider does not provide routine transportation.

Staff Records

290-2-3-.21 Criminal Records and Comprehensive Background Checks(CR)	Met
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Comment

Consultant requested to view all Criminal Record checks for employees hired after last visit. Provider stated that there have been no new hires since last visit.

290-2-3-.07 First Aid & CPR	Met
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Comment

Evidence observed that the provider was certified in First Aid and CPR.

290-2-3-.07 Staff Qualifications(CR)	Met
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Comment

Staff observed to be compliant with applicable laws and regulations.

290-2-3-.07 Staff Training	Not Met
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Finding

290-2-3-.07(9) requires that every calendar year, after the first year of employment the Provider, and any Provisional Employees or and Employees, 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 in the Home by the Provider, as required by these rules. It was determined based on a review of records that the provider did not have evidence of 0 clock hours of diverse training for year 2023 as required.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Home will obtain the required annual training for Staff and will keep certificates, cards, or other proof of training on file. The Home will submit proof of training to the Department, if requested.

Correction Deadline: 4/26/2024

Staff:Child Ratios and Supervision

290-2-3-.07 Staff:Child Ratios(CR)**Met****Comment**

There were no enrolled children present during the time of the inspection. Only the providers children were present on this date. (This rule was not evaluated on this date)

290-2-3-.07 Supervision(CR)**Met****Comment**

There were no enrolled children present during the time of the inspection. Only the providers children were present on this date. (This rule was not evaluated on this date)