



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: 1/24/2024 **VisitType:** Licensing Study

Arrival: 1:00 PM

Departure: 2:15 PM

CCLC-419

Ramah Junior Academy

3400 Florance St. Savannah, GA 31405 Chatham County
(912) 233-3101 Pblackwell@ramahsdaacademy.org

Regional Consultant

Connie Boatright

Phone: (912) 544-9701

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connie.boatright@dec.al.ga.gov

Mailing Address

3400 FLORANCE
SAVANNAH, GA 31405

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.
01/24/2024	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
03/22/2023	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
09/21/2022	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	1 (A)		0	0	C	19	C	NA	NA	
Main	2 (B) Library		0	0	C	19	C	NA	NA	
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 38			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0							
Total # Children this Date: 0			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0							

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	Playground	56	C

Comments

An in person Licensing Study was conducted on this day. The center director stated that the center is temporarily closed due to staff shortage. At the current time the center does not have a projected reopen date. There were no children present and no child files to review. The center director has a current Satisfactory Comprehensive Criminal Records check clearance determination letter on file.

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.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)



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

Paula Blackwell, Program Official

Date

Connie Boatright, 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-.03 Activities

Met

Comment

Staff will ensure that a current GELDS lesson plan is posted in the child classroom prior to reopening.

Correction Deadline: 1/24/2024

Comment

Staff will ensure that the licensed classroom is set up with centers and equipped with a variety of age appropriate activities prior to reopening.

Correction Deadline: 1/24/2024

591-1-1-.12 Equipment & Toys(CR)

Met

Comment

Staff will ensure that toys and equipment are clean and in good repair prior to reopening.

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

Met

Comment

Center does not provide swimming activities.

Children's Records

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

Met

Comment

There are currently no children enrolled. Staff will review child file policy prior to reopening.

Facility

591-1-1-.06 Bathrooms	Met
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Comment

Bathrooms observed to be clean and well maintained.

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

Currently, there are no children enrolled.

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

Staff will review physical plant policy and ensure that the grounds and classroom are clean, free of repair and no hazards are accessible prior to reopening.

Correction Deadline: 2/23/2024

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

Staff will review playground policy and ensure that toys and equipment and the playground area are clean, free of repair and not hazardous prior to reopening.

Food Service

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

Staff will ensure a current menu meeting USDA guidelines is posted in the child classroom prior to reopening.

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

Kitchen appears clean and well organized.

Health and Hygiene

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

No children are currently enrolled.

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

Staff will review hand washing policy prior to reopening.

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

Currently there are no children enrolled and no medication has been dispensed.

Organization

591-1-1-.16 Governing Body & License	Met
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Comment

The center has a current 2024 license with Bright From The Start.

Correction Deadline: 1/24/2024

Policies and Procedures

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

Staff will review emergency drill policy prior to reopening. A fire drill is to be conducted monthly and tornado drill is to be conducted at a minimum of once every six months, thoroughly documented and posted in the center.

591-1-1-.22 Parental Access	Met
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Comment

The consultant observed a parental access notice to be posted at the center.

Correction Deadline: 1/24/2024

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

Staff will ensure that all required notices are current and posted prior to reopening.

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

Staff will review reporting requirements prior to reopening.

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

Center does not keep animals on premises.

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

Staff will review discipline policy prior to reopening.

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

Staff will review field trip policy prior to reopening and providing any field trips.

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

Staff will review transportation policy prior to reopening and providing any transportation.

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

Staff will review safe sleep policy and disinfecting of mats / cots prior to reopening.

Correction Deadline: 1/24/2024

	Staff Records
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591-1-1-.09 Criminal Records and Comprehensive Background Checks(CR)	Met
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Correction Deadline: 9/21/2022

Corrected on 1/24/2024

.09(1)(a) - The previous citation was observed to be corrected on this date.

Correction Deadline: 9/21/2022

Corrected on 1/24/2024

.09(1)(c) - The previous citation was observed to be corrected 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-.24 Personnel Records

Met

Comment

Staff will review personnel and personnel file policy prior to reopening.

Correction Deadline: 1/31/2024

591-1-1-.28 Prohibited Substances

Met

Comment

Staff will review prohibited substance policy prior to reopening.

Correction Deadline: 1/24/2024

591-1-1-.33 Staff Training

Technical Assistance

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.33(3) - The center director will ensure that 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.

Correction Deadline: 2/23/2024

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.33(5) - The center director will ensure 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.

Correction Deadline: 2/23/2024

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**

The center currently has no children enrolled.

Comment

Staff will review child / staff ratio policy prior to reopening.

Correction Deadline: 1/24/2024

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

Staff will review supervision policy prior to reopening.

Comment

The center currently has no children enrolled.