



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: 1/30/2024 **VisitType:** Licensing Study

Arrival: 8:45 AM

Departure: 12:00 PM

CCLC-1623

Appletree Academy #1

501 The Pass Martinez, GA 30907 Columbia County
(706) 868-6060 bjhj136315@aol.com

Lead Consultant

Kaycee Purvis

Phone: (770) 357-4915

Fax: (404) 478-8085

kaycee.purvis@decal.ga.gov

Mailing Address
Same

Quality Rated: ★ ★ ★

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.
01/30/2024	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
03/14/2023	Incident Investigation Closure	Good Standing	
03/08/2023	Incident Investigation/Monitoring Visit	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	1st Left	Four Year Olds	1	12	C	16	C	NA	NA	Art
Main	1st Right	Two Year Olds	2	11	C	23	C	NA	NA	Story,Centers,Free Play
Main	2nd Left	Infants	1	9	C	16	C	NA	NA	Free Play,Centers,Story
Main	2nd Right	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	2	22	C	31	C	NA	NA	Free Play,Art
Main	3rd Left	One Year Olds and Two Year Olds	2	11	C	18	C	NA	NA	Free Play,Diapering
Main	3rd Right	GA PreK	2	21	C	26	C	NA	NA	Outside,Circle Time
Main	4th Left	GA PreK	2	16	C	23	C	NA	NA	Circle Time
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 153					Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					
Total # Children this Date: 102					Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	PG- Back Playground	69	C
Main	PG- Left Playground	20	C
Main	PG- Right	53	C

Comments

The purpose of this visit was to conduct a Licensing Study.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 01/30/2024

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

Heather Case, Program Official

Date

Kaycee Purvis, Lead 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

Correction Deadline: 2/21/2023

Corrected on 1/30/2024

.03(9) - Correction of previous citation in that the Consultant did not observe staff to engage in or allow children to engage in activities that could be detrimental to a child's health or well-being.

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

Technical Assistance

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.12(1) - The Consultant and Director discussed ensuring that staff replace batteries in toys as needed.

Correction Deadline: 1/30/2024

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

N/A

Comment

Center does not provide swimming activities.

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)

Met

Comment

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

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

Not Met

Comment

Discussed maintenance of resilient surface. Please fluff and redistribute.

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.26(4) - Please check fencing for rust spots and repair as they begin to appear.

Correction Deadline: 1/30/2024

Finding

591-1-1-.26(6) requires that playground equipment provide an opportunity for the children to engage in a variety of experiences and shall be age-appropriate. For example, toddlers shall not be permitted to swing in swings designed for School-age Children. The outdoor equipment shall be free of lead-based paint, sharp corners and shall be regularly maintained in such a way as to be free of rust and splinters that could pose significant safety hazard to the children. All equipment shall be arranged so as not to obstruct supervision of children. It was determined based upon observation that the following equipment hazards were accessible to children on this date:

PG-Back Playground:

- The PVC by the exterior door was cracked with sharp edges exposed.
- Eight out of twelve swing chains had the rubber coating peeling with sharp edges exposed.
- The red and blue large play structure had chipping paint.
- The red and yellow play structure had chipping paint and was rusted.

PG-Right Playground:

- The fire truck play structure had chipping paint and was rusted.
- The blue caboose play structure had chipping paint and was rusted.
- The red big top train play structure had chipping paint and was rusted.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will provide a variety of age-appropriate equipment that is arranged so as not to obstruct supervision of children. Staff will check the equipment daily to ensure that the equipment is free of hazards, rust and splinters.

Correction Deadline: 3/22/2024

Health and Hygiene**591-1-1-.07 Children's Health****Met**

Correction Deadline: 2/21/2023

Corrected on 1/30/2024

.07(2) - Correction of previous statement in that Staff stated that parents are immediately notified when a child requires professional medical attention.

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

Correction Deadline: 3/8/2023

Corrected on 1/30/2024

.10(4) - Correction of previous citation in that the Consultant observed appropriate diapering.

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 upon observation that two children in the 3rd Left Classroom did not wash hands 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: 1/30/2024

Recited on 1/30/2024

Correction Deadline: 3/8/2023

Corrected on 1/30/2024

.17(8) - Correction of previous citation in that the Consultant observed center staff to wash hands as required.

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

Comment

Documentation for medication dispensing observed complete.

Policies and Procedures

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

Comment

Program observed complete emergency drills

Safety

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

Comment

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

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

Comment

A current/completed inspection was observed for all vehicles used in transporting children this date.

Comment

Complete documentation of transportation observed.

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

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

Comment

Discussed SIDS and infant sleeping position.

Staff Records

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

Comment

Criminal record checks were observed to be complete.

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

Correction Deadline: 3/8/2023

Corrected on 1/30/2024

.32(4) - Correction of previous citation in that the Consultant did not observe children two-years-old and younger to be housed with older children on this date.

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

Met

Comment

Adequate supervision observed on this date.