



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: 5/7/2024 **VisitType:** Licensing Study

Arrival: 10:15 AM **Departure:** 1:45 PM

CCLC-46551

Dahlonega Country Day Academy

619 Buckhorn Tavern Road Dahlonega, GA 30533 Lumpkin
County
(706) 867-6290 dcd8676290@windstream.net

CCS Coordinator

Margarita Collier

Phone: (770) 342-7934

Fax: (678) 891-5989

margarita.collier@decal.ga.gov

Mailing Address

619 Buckhorn Tavern Rd.
Dahlonega, GA 30533

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.
05/07/2024	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
07/12/2023	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
12/15/2022	Complaint Closure	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
Back Building	Back Right E		0	0	C	7	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Back Building	Middle 1st Left C		0	0	C	9	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Back Building	Middle 2nd Left D	Four Year Olds	2	11	C	14	C	NA	NA	Outside
Back Building	Middle B	Four Year Olds	1	10	C	22	C	NA	NA	Circle Time,Music
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 37			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0			Building @35 capacity limited by Heath Department Limitations				
Cottage	Back Room	Infants	1	4	C	5	C	NA	NA	Floor Play,Free Play
Cottage	Front Room	One Year Olds	2	12	C	12	C	NA	NA	Free Play,Floor Play,Feeding
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 15			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0			Building @35 capacity limited by Building Department				
Main	Room A- 1st Right	Three Year Olds	2	13	C	13	C	NA	NA	Circle Time
Main	Room B 2nd Right	Three Year Olds	2	18	C	18	C	NA	NA	Transitioning,Outside
Main	Room C 3rd Right	One Year Olds	2	10	C	10	C	NA	NA	Centers
Main	Room D -1st Left	GA PreK	2	20	C	21	C	NA	NA	Outside
Main	Room E - 2nd Left	GA PreK	2	20	C	18	NC	NA	NA	Outside
Main	Room F- 3rd Left		0	0	C	14	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Main	Room G 4th Left	Two Year Olds	2	11	C	11	C	NA	NA	Transitioning

	Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 103	Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0	Building @35 capacity limited by Heath Department Limitations
Total # Children this Date: 129	Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 155	Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0	

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Cottage	Main Playground & Front Porch	8	C
Cottage	Side Porch	2	C
Main	Covered Porch	5	C
Main	Playground A	55	C
Main	Playground B	16	C

Comments

The purpose of this visit was to conduct a licensing study visit and to follow-up on the previous visit conducted on July 12, 2023. Consultant was unable to provide the director with an official copy of the center's official visit report due to technical difficulties. A copy of the visit report will be emailed to the director upon the consultant's return to the office.

May 9, 2024 - The consultant emailed a copy of the completed visit report as of Thursday, May 9, 2024.

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



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

(Findings Report)

Date: 5/7/2024 **VisitType:** Licensing Study

Arrival: 10:15 AM **Departure:** 1:45 PM

CCLC-46551

Dahlonega Country Day Academy

619 Buckhorn Tavern Road Dahlonega, GA 30533 Lumpkin
County
(706) 867-6290 dcd8676290@windstream.net

CCS Coordinator

Margarita Collier

Phone: (770) 342-7934

Fax: (678) 891-5989

margarita.collier@decal.ga.gov

Mailing Address

619 Buckhorn Tavern Rd.
Dahlonega, GA 30533

The following information is associated with a Licensing Study:

Activities and Equipment

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

Technical Assistance

Technical Assistance

Please ensure to monitor the normal wear and tear of toys and equipment.

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

Parent authorizations obtained/completed.

Comment

Records were observed to be complete and well organized.

Facility

591-1-1-.06 Bathrooms

Technical Assistance

Technical Assistance

Please ensure to monitor the restroom and diapering ventilation for normal wear and tear.

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

Met

Comment

Licensed capacity observed to be routinely met by center. The center has an approved variance/waiver approval letter on file regarding the capacity requirements for each Pre-K classroom on file with the department.

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

Met

Comment

Center appears clean and well maintained.

Technical Assistance

Please monitor the playground area for the following hazardous items:

- Exposed tree roots.
- Biting and/or stinging insects (i.e., bees, ants, etc.).
- Normal wear and tear of the fence surrounding the playground areas.
- Normal wear and tear of playground equipment (i.e., chipped paint, etc.).
- Excessive leaves, sweet gum tree balls, etc.
- Repluff resilient surface as needed.
- Standing water in and/or around playground equipment and/or toys.

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

Center menu meets USDA guidelines.

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

Kitchen appears clean and well organized.

Health and Hygiene**591-1-1-.10 Diapering Areas & Practices(CR)****Met****Comment**

Proper diapering procedures observed.

Comment

Staff state proper knowledge of diapering procedures.

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

Proper hand washing observed throughout the center.

Comment

Staff were observed to remind children to wash hands.

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

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

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

Program observed complete emergency drills

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

Center does not keep animals on premises.

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

Age-appropriate discussion and/or redirection observed.

Comment

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

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

Center does not participate in field trips at this time.

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

Complete documentation of transportation observed.

Comment

The consultant observed the following vehicle to have evidence of a current vehicle inspection report:
- RIA0380 - Expires May 14, 2024.

Comment

The vehicle had an approved fire extinguisher and first aid kit on this date.

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

Criminal record checks were observed to be complete.

Comment

The director provided five files for staff members hired since the previous visit was conducted on July 12, 2023. The consultant observed five of five newly hired staff members to have evidence of a current satisfactory comprehensive determination letter on file.

591-1-1-.14 First Aid & CPR**Not Met****Comment**

Complete first aid kits observed in center and on vehicles.

Finding

591-1-1-.14(2) requires a Staff member who is trained in CPR and first aid to be on the premises and on any field trip whenever any child is present. In addition, Staff who provide direct care to children must satisfactorily obtain certification in first aid and CPR by December 29, 2016 if employed prior to September 30, 2016 and within 90 days of their hire date if employed after September 30, 2016. It was determined based on review of records that staff member #4, date of hire August 5, 2021, completed basic life support first aid and CPR and staff member #13, date of hire October 13, 2023, completed first aid and CPR training in shallow water life guarding up to five feet.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will develop a schedule to ensure there is always a staff person with current first aid and CPR training present and will develop and implement a plan to ensure all staff members have satisfactorily completed first aid and CPR training by the specified date. The center will ensure that staff members complete pediatric first aid and CPR training.

Correction Deadline: 6/6/2024

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

Documentation observed of required staff training.

591-1-1-.31 Staff(CR)**Met****Comment**

Staff observed to be compliant with applicable laws and regulations.

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**

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