



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: 8/7/2024 **VisitType:** Licensing Study

Arrival: 10:00 AM **Departure:** 2:30 PM

CCLC-9096

Mt. Zion Learning Center

186 Will Waters Road Hazlehurst, GA 31539 Jeff Davis County
(912) 375-7429 mzlc7429@yahoo.com

Regional Consultant

Rebecca Owsley

Phone: (229) 238-2130

Fax:

rebecca.owsley@decal.ga.gov

Joint with: Connie Boatright

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.
08/07/2024	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
09/06/2023	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
02/15/2023	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	A - 3rd Left	One Year Olds	1	5	C	14	C	NA	NA	Free Play,Lunch,Transitioning
Main	B - 2nd Left	Two Year Olds	2	6	C	14	C	NA	NA	Transitioning,Free Play,Nap,Story,Lunch
Main	C - 1st Left	Two Year Olds	1	6	C	14	C	NA	NA	Free Play,Lunch,Nap
Main	D - 1st Right	Four Year Olds	1	5	C	16	C	NA	NA	Transitioning,Lunch,Free Play
Main	E 2nd Right	Three Year Olds	1	7	C	16	C	NA	NA	Transitioning,Nap,Free Play
Main	F - Last Room on the R	Infants	2	2	C	17	C	NA	NA	Floor Play,Lunch,Free Play
Main	Gym		0	0	C	256	C	NA	NA	
Main	K - Second Hall	Six Year Olds and Over	1	5	C	14	C	NA	NA	Free Play
Main	L - Second Hall		0	0	C	14	C	NA	NA	
		Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 195			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0			Building @35 capacity limited by Heath Department Limitations		
Total # Children this Date: 36		Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 195			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	Playground - A	12	C
Main	Playground - B	53	C
Main	Playground - C	143	C

Comments

An in person licensing study was conducted on this date. The provider stated they do not administer medication and they do not offer routine transportation, field trips, or swimming activities.

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



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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

Technical Assistance

Technical Assistance

Please ensure the Center keeps current lesson plans on site that reflect appropriate instruction practices and activities to support children's development. Staff in the infant room stated they do not do lesson plans in their room.

Correction Deadline: 8/7/2024

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

Technical Assistance

Technical Assistance

The center will ensure each Employee and child in attendance uses all indoor and outdoor furniture, activity materials, and equipment in a safe and appropriate manner and in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions, recommendations, and intended use. The last bucket swing on playground A has a buckle missing from one strap. Please replace or remove.

Correction Deadline: 8/7/2024

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

N/A

Comment

The Provider stated the 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

Center appears clean and well maintained.

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 that the fencing on the left side and the back of Playground B measures 45, 46, or 47 inches at various spots along the entire length. Additionally the fencing around Playground C, on all sides, measures 45, 46, or 47 inches at various spots along the entire length.

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: 8/28/2024

Food Service**591-1-1-.15 Food Service & Nutrition****Technical Assistance****Technical Assistance**

The Center will require that a signed written feeding plan for children less than one (1) year of age shall be obtained from Parent(s) and that instructions from the Parent(s) shall be updated regularly as new foods are added or other dietary changes are made. The feeding plan shall be posted in the child's assigned room and must include the child's feeding schedule, the amount of formula or breast milk to be given, instructions for the introduction of solid foods, the amount of food to be given and notation of any type(s) of commercially premixed formula which may not be used in an emergency because of food allergies. Please ensure the updated Infant Feeding Plan is used that includes parent acknowledgement that the parent has discussed with the primary caregiver appropriate introduction of solid foods.

Correction Deadline: 8/7/2024

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

Staff state proper knowledge of diapering procedures.

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

Proper hand washing observed throughout the center.

591-1-1-.20 Medications(CR)**N/A****Comment**

The Provider stated the Center currently does not dispense/administer medication.

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)**N/A****Comment**

The Provider stated the Center does not provide routine transportation.

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

Technical Assistance

When infants that sleep in cribs begin care, please ensure that each crib shall have only an individual, tight-fitting sheet which is changed daily or more often as needed and prior to a change of occupant. Staff stated sheets would be changed weekly, but they have not had children in cribs yet. The two children present used mats to sleep to begin transitioning for moving to the one year old room.

Correction Deadline: 8/7/2024

Correction Deadline: 9/6/2023

Corrected on 8/7/2024

This citation was observed to be corrected on this date. There were not any mobiles attached to the cribs in the infant room.

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)**Technical Assistance****Technical Assistance**

The center will require teachers and lead caregivers to meet minimum academic requirements and qualifying experience at the time of employment.

Correction Deadline: 8/7/2024

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**

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