



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: 2/13/2024 **VisitType:** Licensing Study

Arrival: 8:45 AM

Departure: 11:45 AM

CCLC-1233

Little Country Day Care Preschool #1

7955 Hwy. 21 Port Wentworth, GA 31407 Chatham County
(912) 844-0042 cstar729@aol.com

Lead Consultant

Kimberly Stoy

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Mailing Address

1928 Brogdon Street
Savannah, GA 31406

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.
02/13/2024	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
09/28/2023	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
05/19/2023	Complaint Closure	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	Back left	Two Year Olds and Three Year Olds	2	12	C	18	C	NA	NA	Free Play
Main	Left front	One Year Olds and Two Year Olds	1	9	NC	10	C	NA	NA	Free Play
Main	Right Back	Infants and One Year Olds	1	4	C	9	C	NA	NA	Floor Play
Main	Right front, entry	One Year Olds and Two Year Olds	1	10	NC	16	C	NA	NA	Free Play
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 53			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0							
Preschool I Building	Middle Room	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	1	18	NC	19	C	NA	NA	Story, Snack, Transitioning
Preschool I Building	Pre-K (left)	GA PreK	2	16	C	24	C	NA	NA	Centers, Snack
Preschool I Building	Right Room	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	1	15	C	16	C	NA	NA	Free Play
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 59			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0							
Total # Children this Date: 84			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 112							
			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0							

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	Playground A	38	C

Main	Toddler Playground	23	C
Preschool Building	Playground A	83	C
Preschool Building	Playground B (Small)	14	C

Comments

The purpose of this visit was for a licensing visit. The program does not provide transportation, medication, or swimming.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 02/13/2024

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

Craig Starling, Program Official

Date

Kimberly Stoy, 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

Not Met

Technical Assistance

591-1-1.03(2) - Discussed with Director about having updated lesson plans posted in each classroom

Correction Deadline: 2/13/2024

Finding

591-1-1.03(6) requires Center Staff to ensure children less than three years of age do not spend more than one-half hour of time consecutively in confining equipment, such as swings, highchairs, jump seats, carriers or walkers. Children shall use such equipment only when they are awake. Such children shall be allowed time to play on the floor daily. Infants shall have supervised tummy time on the floor daily when they are awake. It was determined based on observation and staff statements that an approximately four-month-old child was left in their car set from approximately 6:25 AM until 8:48 AM.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will train Staff to use confining equipment appropriately, to provide supervised floor play daily for children under three years of age, including infants, and will monitor regularly.

Correction Deadline: 2/13/2024

591-1-1.12 Equipment & Toys(CR)

Met

Comment

A variety of equipment and toys were observed throughout the center.

591-1-1.35 Swimming Pools & Water-related Activities(CR)

N/A

Comment

Center does not provide swimming activities.

Children's Records

591-1-1-.08 Children's Records**Met****Comment**

Records were observed to be complete and well organized.

Facility

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

Licensed capacity observed to be met on this date.

591-1-1-.25 Physical Plant - Safe Environment(CR)**Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.25(13) requires that potentially hazardous equipment, materials and supplies be stored in a locked area inaccessible to children. It was determined based on observation that the following hazards were accessible on this date:

* In the Front Right, entry room there was a toilet bowl brush and plunger accessible in the bathroom. There was also a cabinet door missing on the sink in the classroom with Germ-X being stored in the cabinet.

* In the Back Left room there was A& D ointment stored in a backpack that was in a cubby accessible to children.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will identify all hazardous items and keep them in a locked area inaccessible to children. The Center will inform all Staff about hazardous items and the safe storage of those items.

Correction Deadline: 2/13/2024

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

Playground observed to be clean and in good repair.

Food Service

591-1-1-.15 Food Service & Nutrition**Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.15(3) requires baby bottles and formula to be labeled with the individual child's name; supplied by the Parent daily in bottles; and refrigerated at a temperature of forty (40) degrees Fahrenheit or less. Only the current day's formula or breast milk shall be served. If formula must be provided by the Center, only commercially prepared, ready-to-feed formula shall be used. Refrigerated or frozen breast milk shall only be heated or thawed under warm running water or in a container of warm water. It was determined based on observation and staff statements that the bottles in the Back right room were not made daily by the parents. Staff stated that the parents provide the water and formula and that the staff mixes the bottles as needed.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will train Staff to follow the required procedures, ensure that parents are fully informed, and will review and monitor regularly.

Correction Deadline: 2/13/2024

Health and Hygiene

591-1-1-.10 Diapering Areas & Practices(CR)**Not Met**

Finding

591-1-1-.10(4) requires that if diapers are changed on a diaper changing surface, the surface shall be smooth, nonporous, and equipped with a guard or rails to prevent falls. Between each diaper change, the diaper changing surface shall be cleaned with a disinfectant and dried with a single-use disposable towel. It was determined based on observation that the diaper changing pad in the Left front room was not smooth and nonporous. The staff in the Right front, entry room also stated that they did not clean the diaper changing surface after changing children while standing up.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will ensure there is a smooth, nonporous changing surface that has a guard or rails for safety in each classroom that houses children wearing diapers. Center Staff will be trained and have adequate supplies to properly clean the diaper changing surface between each diaper change.

Correction Deadline: 2/13/2024

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 on observation that as children entered the main building during morning drop off they did not wash their hands upon arrival.

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: 2/13/2024

591-1-1-.20 Medications(CR)**Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.20(4) requires the Center to keep medication in a cabinet or container that is locked or otherwise not accessible to the children and to be stored separate from cleaning chemicals, supplies or poisons. Medications requiring refrigeration shall be placed in a leak-proof container in a refrigerator that is not accessible to the children. It was determined based on observation that in the back left room there was birth control left in a backpack that was hanging in the cubbies accessible to children.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will train Staff on the safe and proper storage of medication and monitor to ensure that the rule is met.

Correction Deadline: 2/13/2024

Safety

591-1-1-.05 Animals**N/A****Comment**

Center does not keep animals on premises.

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

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

591-1-1-.13 Field Trips(CR)**N/A****Comment**

Center does not participate in field trips at this time.

Comment

Center does not provide routine transportation.

Sleeping & Resting Equipment**591-1-1-.30 Safe Sleeping and Resting Requirements(CR)****Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.30(1)(a) requires a crib that is safety approved in compliance with Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) and American Society of Testing and Materials International (ASTM) safety standards be provided for each infant. It was determined based on observation and staff statement that the program had one infant enrolled and that there was not a crib available for the infant to sleep in.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will provide a crib that is safety approved in compliance with CPSC and ASTM safety standards for each infant.

Correction Deadline: 2/23/2024

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.30(1)(b)3 - Discussed with the Director about ensuring all cots have a sheet available at nap time.

Correction Deadline: 2/13/2024

Staff Records**591-1-1-.09 Criminal Records and Comprehensive Background Checks(CR)****Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.09(1)(a) requires that a Center ensure that every actual and potential Director, Employee and Provisional Employee of a Child Care Learning Center submit both a Records Check Application to the Department and Fingerprints to an authorized fingerprinting site. It was determined based on a review of records that staff member #16 was present prior to submitting both a Records Check Application to the Department and Fingerprints to an authorized fingerprinting site.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

IMMEDIATE CORRECTION - The Center will ensure that every actual and potential Director, Employee and Provisional Employee of a Child Care Learning Center submit both a Records Check Application to the Department and Fingerprints to an authorized fingerprinting site as required. The program's owner or an officer/member of the corporation must view the A to Z Background Check video units pertaining to this records check rule and return the signed affidavit within one week from this visit date. The Center will ensure the CRC rules are maintained.

Correction Deadline: 2/13/2024

Finding

591-1-1-.09(1)(c) requires the Center to ensure that every Employee has a valid and current satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination on file prior to being present at the Center while any child is present for care or before an individual age 17 or older resides in the Center. The Comprehensive Records Check Determination must have a Records Check Clearance Date that is no older than the preceding 12 months of the hire date; provided, however, if the Employee has had a lapse of employment from the child care industry that lasted for 180 days (6 months) or longer, a new satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination is required. It was determined based on a review of records that staff member #16 hired on January 2, 2024 was present without a valid and current satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination on file.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

IMMEDIATE CORRECTION - The Center will ensure that every Employee has a valid and current satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination on file prior to being present at the Center while any child is present for care or before an individual age 17 or older resides in the Center. The Comprehensive Records Check Determination must have a Records Check Clearance Date that is no older than the preceding 12 months of the hire date; provided, however, if the Employee has had a lapse of employment from the child care industry that lasted for 180 days (6 months) or longer, a new satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination is required. The program's owner or an officer/member of the corporation must view the A to Z Background Check video units pertaining to this records check rule and return the signed affidavit within one week from this visit date. The center will ensure the CRC rules are maintained.

Correction Deadline: 2/13/2024

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)

Not Met

Finding

591-1-1-.32(2) requires the Center maintain Staff:child ratios in mixed-age groups based on the age of the youngest group of children that includes more than twenty percent of the total number of children in the mixed-age group. It was determined based on observation that the Front left, entry room had one staff member with three 1-year-olds and seven 2-year-olds when two staff members were required and Front right room had one staff member with seven 1-year-olds and two 2-year-olds when two staff member were required.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will provide adequate staff when there is a mixed-age group.

Correction Deadline: 2/13/2024

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

Met

Comment

Adequate supervision observed on this date.