



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: 3/25/2024 **VisitType:** Complaint Investigation & Licensing Study **Arrival:** 9:30 AM **Departure:** 2:00 PM

CCLC-57055
Higher Learning Christian Daycare LLC
1015 East Inman Street Statesboro, GA 30458 Bulloch County
(912) 512-5985 rbenique38@gmail.com

Regional Consultant
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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.
03/25/2024	Complaint Investigation & Licensing Study	Good Standing	
10/17/2023	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
03/20/2023	Complaint Investigation & 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	A: Infants	Infants	1	5	C	5	C	NA	NA	Floor Play
Main	B: One's and Two's	One Year Olds and Two Year Olds	2	6	C	16	C	NA	NA	Outside
Main	C: Three's and Four's	Three Year Olds	1	7	C	11	C	NA	NA	Circle Time, Centers
			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 32			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0				
Total # Children this Date: 18			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 32			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0				

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	A: Left (Infant's)	10	C
Main	B: Back	42	C

Comments

The purpose of today's visit was to conduct a Licensing Study,

April 9, 2024: The Licensing Visit Report was revised to reflect the changes made based on rule violations refuted. Rena Keene

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 03/25/2024

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/RuleAndRegulations.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.state.ga.us for more information. Free technical assistance is available!

Roberta Benique, Program Official

Date

Rena Keene, Regional Consultant

Date



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(Findings Report)

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Study

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The following information is associated with a Licensing Study Visit:

Activities and Equipment

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)

Met

Comment

Center does not provide swimming activities.

Children's Records

Records Reviewed: 6

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 6

Child # 1

Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.08(3)-Address of Release Person Missing,.08(1)(a)-Work Address Missing

Child # 2

Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.08(1)(a)-Work Address Missing,.08(3)-Address of Release Person Missing

Child # 3

Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.08(3)-Address of Release Person Missing

Child # 4

Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.08(1)(a)-Work Address Missing,.08(3)-Address of Release Person Missing

Child # 5 Not Met
"Missing/Incomplete Components"
 .08(1)(a)-Work Address Missing,.08(3)-Address of Release Person Missing

Child # 6 Not Met
"Missing/Incomplete Components"
 .08(1)(a)-Work Address Missing,.08(3)-Address of Release Person Missing

591-1-1-.08 Children's Records**Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.08(1) requires the Center Staff to maintain a file for each child while such child is in care and for one year after that child is no longer enrolled. In order for the file to be complete, the file shall contain the following: child's name, birth date, sex, address, living arrangement, name of school if applicable; names of both Parents, home and work addresses, and home and work telephone numbers; name(s) and addresses of the person(s) to whom the child may be released including address, telephone numbers, relationship to child and to Parent(s), and other identifying information; name(s) and telephone number(s) of person(s) to contact in emergencies when the Parent cannot be reached; name and telephone number of the child's primary source of health care; and a statement regarding known allergies, physical problems, mental health disorders, intellectual disabilities or developmental disabilities which limit the child's participation in the program. It was determined based on a review of six children's records that all required information was not on file in the children's records. None of the records reviewed included addresses for the parents' employers and none of the files included the addresses for the persons to whom each child could be released.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

Center staff will develop a plan that includes how to obtain all required information for currently enrolled children and how to ensure this is done for future enrollees as well. The plan will also include how and where to maintain files for the required amount of time. The plan will be implemented and followed.

Correction Deadline: 3/25/2024**Facility****591-1-1-.06 Bathrooms****Met****Comment**

Bathrooms observed to be clean and well maintained.

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.

591-1-1-.26 Playgrounds(CR)**Technical Assistance****Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.26(9) requires the playground to be kept clean, free from litter and free of hazards, such as but not limited to rocks, exposed tree roots and exposed sharp edges of concrete. Please ensure that the thorny vines growing through the back side of the fence and underneath the helicopter "see-saw" are eliminated. One of the buckets with an umbrella cemented in it is broken at the top and the rigid plastic edge should be covered or the foundation for the umbrella replaced.

Food Service

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

Not Met

Comment

Center menu meets USDA guidelines. The lunch served today included hamburger with cheese, bread, salad, peaches and milk.

Comment

CACFP Meal Pattern Requirements effective October 1, 2017 will be implemented October 1, 2018: 3

Components for breakfast: Grains, Vegetables, Fruits or both, Milk

5 Components for lunch – Grains, Meat/Meat alternates, Fruits, Vegetable, and Milk OR Grains, Meat/Meat alternates, 2 different types of vegetables, and Milk

2 of 5 Components for snack

Provided Updated CACFP Infant Meal pattern and Child/Adult Meal pattern flyers.

The Crediting Handbook for the CACFP can be located on DECAL and USDA's website:

DECAL

<http://dec.al.ga.gov/CACFP/Handbook.aspx>

USDA

<http://www.fns.usda.gov/cacfp/cacfp-handbooks>

Finding

591-1-1-.15(2) requires 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. It was determined that none of the five infants present has a signed, written feeding plan completed by the parent and posted in the infant's classroom.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center Director will develop and implement a plan to obtain and post the completed feeding plan as part of the enrollment process and to have parents update the plans on a regular basis that will include center staff involved with enrollment and those working in the infant classrooms.

Correction Deadline: 3/25/2024

591-1-1-.18 Kitchen Operations

Met

Comment

Kitchen appears clean and well organized.

Health and Hygiene

591-1-1-.07 Children's Health

Technical Assistance

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.07(5) requires Center Staff to not permit children to wear around their necks or attach to their clothing pacifiers or other hazardous items. Please ensure that staff are aware that bibs are not allowed to be worn and, when used for feeding, must be removed immediately after the child is fed.

Correction Deadline: 3/25/2024

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

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. Please replace the diaper-changing cover that was observed to be torn during the visit.

Correction Deadline: 3/25/2024

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

Staff were observed to remind children to wash hands.

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

Discussed proper medication documentation and procedures. Please do not keep blank authorizations for medication in the children's folders. Authorization must be specifically given beforehand and cannot be completed after the fact or in support of telephone permission given to administer any medication including Tylenol and other common medications.

Comment

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

Policies and Procedures

591-1-1-.21 Operational Policies & Procedures**Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.21(3) requires that the Center conduct drills for fire, tornado and other emergency situations. The fire drills will be conducted monthly and tornado and other emergency situation drills will be conducted every six months. The Center shall maintain documentation of the dates and times of these drills for two years. It was determined based on a review of emergency drills documentation that the center did not have documentation of emergency drills maintained in the center prior to January, 2024, and emergency drills, other than fire drills prior to that date could not be verified.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will hold the drills as required and keep the documentation of the drills on file for two years.

Correction Deadline: 3/30/2024

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

Observed all required posted notices.

Safety

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

Center does not participate in field trips at this time.

Comment

Center does not provide routine transportation.

Sleeping & Resting Equipment**Comment**

Discussed SIDS and infant sleeping position.

Comment

Pleasant naptime environment observed.

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.30(1)(d) requires that all sleeping and resting equipment shall be arranged to avoid obstructing access to exit doors, to provide the caregivers access to each child, and to prevent children's access to cords hanging from window treatments and other hazardous objects. To reduce the transfer of airborne diseases, sleeping and resting equipment shall be arranged as follows. There shall be a minimum of twenty-four inch (24") corridor between each row of sleeping or resting equipment. There shall be a minimum of twelve inches (12") between each piece of sleeping or resting equipment in each row of equipment. Children shall be placed on cots and mats so that one child's head is toward another child's feet in the same row. Please be sure that the required distance is maintained between cribs while they are in use.

Correction Deadline: 3/25/2024

Staff Records**Comment**

Criminal record checks were observed to be complete.

Comment

Director provided one files for employees hired since last visit.

Comment

Evidence observed of 50% of center staff certified in First Aid and CPR.

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.24(1) requires the center to maintain a personnel file on the Director, all Employees, Provisional Employees, Personnel, Staff, Students-in-Training, Volunteers, Clerical, Housekeeping, Maintenance, and other Support Staff for the duration of the term of employment plus one calendar year, and it shall contain the following: identifying information to include: name, date of birth, social security number, current address and current telephone number; employment history; as applicable to the position held: evidence of education and qualifying work experience; evidence of all training required by these rules which shall include: title of training, date of training, trainer's signature, location of training and number of clock hours obtained; a statement completed by the staff member that the information provided is true and accurate; any other records required by these rules; and as applicable to the position held, evidence of required orientation including date and signature of person providing the orientation. Please ensure that employee files contain a complete work history that includes ten years of documentation, when the age of the employee permits.

Correction Deadline: 3/30/2024

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.33(2) requires the initial Center orientation to include the following subjects: the Center's policies and procedures; the portions of these rules dealing with the care, health and safety of children; the Staff person's assigned duties and responsibilities; reporting requirements for suspected cases of child abuse, neglect or deprivation; communicable diseases and serious injuries; emergency weather plans; the program's emergency preparedness plan; childhood injury control; the administration of medicine; reducing the risk of Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS); hand washing; fire safety; water safety; and prevention of HIV/AIDS and blood borne pathogens. Please ensure that evidence of orientation is complete for all staff before being assigned child care duties. The forms must be complete, indicating the topics covered and signatures and dates of both the staff providing the training and the staff who is receiving the required orientation.

Correction Deadline: 3/26/2024

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.31(2)(b)2. requires teachers and lead caregivers to meet minimum academic requirements and qualifying experience at the time of employment. Please ensure that a copy of all staff credentials and supporting documents are maintained in the staff files.

Correction Deadline: 3/25/2024

Staffing and Supervision**Comment**

Center observed to maintain appropriate staff:child ratios.

Comment

Adequate supervision observed on this date.