



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: 4/16/2024 VisitType: Licensing Study

Arrival: 9:15 AM Departure: 12:00 PM

CCLC-1444

Cherokee Academy At Clayton

1205 Upper Burris Rd. Canton, GA 30114 Cherokee County
(770) 479-4404 cherokeeademy1@gmail.com

Regional Consultant

Sharnette Glenn

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sharnette.glenn@dec.al.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.
04/16/2024	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
06/22/2023	Incident Investigation Closure	Good Standing	
06/06/2023	Licensing Study	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
Main	A- left side hall-1st left - Pre-K 2	Four Year Olds and Five Year Olds	2	18	C	20	C	NA	NA	Circle Time
Main	B- left side hall-2nd right- 3 yr old	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	1	13	C	13	C	NA	NA	Outside
Main	C- left side hall-1st right -Infants	Infants	2	5	C	12	C	NA	NA	Outside
Main	D- Middle Back - Toddlers	One Year Olds	2	8	C	16	C	NA	NA	Free Play
Main	E- right side hall-2nd right- Front Room-2 yr old	Two Year Olds	2	12	C	21	C	NA	NA	Outside
Main	F- right side hall- 2nd right- back room-3 yrs.	Three Year Olds	2	12	C	14	C	NA	NA	Outside
Main	G- Right side 1st right -Pre-K 1	GA PreK	2	17	C	26	C	NA	NA	Transitioning,Circle Time,Clean Up
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 122					Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					
Total # Children this Date: 85					Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	Playground A- Left Side	20	C

Main	Playground B- Rear	94	C
Main	Playground C- Right Side	58	C

Comments

The purpose of this visit is to conduct a licensing study.

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/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 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!

Charanjeev Singh, Program Official

Date

Sharnette Glenn, Regional 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: 6/22/2023

Corrected on 4/16/2024

.03(8) - The previous citation was corrected. The consultant observed no children in distress on this day.

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

Met

Comment

Discussed adding equipment and toys to enhance variety.

Comment

Equipment and furniture observed to be properly secured, as applicable.

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

Parent agreements observed obtained/completed.

Comment

Parent authorizations obtained/completed.

Comment

Records were observed to be complete and well organized.

Facility

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

Licensed capacity observed to be routinely met by center.

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

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

Comment

Please secure cleaning tools (i.e., broom, plunger) out of reach of children.

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.25(13) - Consultant discussed with the provider that hazardous equipment, materials and supplies (stapler guns, adult scissors, and purses) should be stored in a locked area inaccessible to children.

Correction Deadline: 4/16/2024

591-1-1-.26 Playgrounds(CR)	Not Met
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Comment

Discussed maintenance of resilient surface. Please fluff and redistribute.

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 the middle playground chain links have loose clip wires.

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: 7/1/2024

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

Center menu meets USDA guidelines.

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

Discussed proper steps for dishwashing.

Comment

Kitchen appears clean and well organized.

	Health and Hygiene
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591-1-1-.07 Children's Health	Met
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Correction Deadline: 6/22/2023

Corrected on 4/16/2024

.07(2) - The previous citation was corrected.

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

Documentation for medication dispensing observed complete.

Organization**591-1-1-.16 Governing Body & License****Technical Assistance****Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.16(f) - The consultant discussed with the provider to submit an amendment for classrooms E and F, non diapering classrooms, to diapering classrooms.

Correction Deadline: 4/16/2024

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 review of documents the center has not been conducted a fire drill monthly, or tornado and other emergency situation drills conducted every six months. It was further revealed that the last day for the fire drill was May 10, 2023, and the tornado and lockdown drill was not conducted in 2023.

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: 4/21/2024

Safety**591-1-1-.05 Animals****Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.05(2) requires Center Staff to confine animals in pens or covered areas except during specific teacher-directed learning experiences and to keep animal pens and confinement areas clean. It was determined based on observation that classroom A had a blue swimming pool on the left side of the classroom underneath the first window with 13 chicks uncovered and an uncleaned pool.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will maintain and keep animals in a suitable pen or covered area except when a teacher is using the animal in a specific learning experience. If needed, the pen or covered area will be cleaned and the Center will develop and follow a plan to keep the area clean.

Correction Deadline: 4/16/2024

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

Center does not participate in field trips at this time.

591-1-1-.36 Transportation(CR)**Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.36(4)(a) requires an annual safety check for each vehicle. The annual safety check, completed by a trained individual, should include a check of the: tires, headlights, horn, taillights, turn signals, brake lights, brakes, suspension, exhaust system, steering, windows, windshields and windshield wipers. A copy of the annual safety check will be kept in the Center or on the vehicle and should include evidence of any repairs and/or replacements that were identified as needed on the inspection report. It was determined, based on a review of documents, that the center did not have evidence of annual safety checks for the vehicle.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will obtain the annual vehicle inspection.

Correction Deadline: 4/21/2024

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-.14 First Aid & CPR**Met****Comment**

Complete first aid kits observed in center and on vehicles.

Comment

Evidence observed of 100% of center staff certified in First Aid and CPR.

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.

Staffing and Supervision**591-1-1-.32 Staff:Child Ratios and Group Size(CR)****Met****Comment**

Center observed to maintain appropriate staff:child ratios.

Comment

Adequate supervision observed on this date.