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: 7/17/2023 **VisitType:** Licensing Study **Arrival:** 11:45 AM **Departure:** 5:00 PM

CCLC-57161

Clay Color Academy

304 Emory Street Valdosta, GA 31605 Lowndes County
CCLC-57161 quandawooten@yahoo.com

Regional Consultant

Rena Keene

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Mailing Address
Same

Quality Rated: No

Compliance Zone Designation		
07/17/2023	Licensing Study	Good Standing
05/05/2023	TA Follow Up	Good Standing
02/08/2023	TA Follow Up	Good Standing

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.

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	Three Year Olds	1	5	C	8	C	NA	NA	Lunch
Main	B	Six Year Olds and Over	0	4	NC	4	C	NA	NA	Free Play
Main	C	Two Year Olds	1	6	C	5	NC	NA	NA	Nap
Main	D	Infants and One Year Olds	1	8	NC	11	C	NA	NA	Floor Play
Main	E	One Year Olds and Three Year Olds	1	7	C	5	NC	NA	NA	Nap
		Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 33			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					
Total # Children this Date: 30		Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 33			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	A	13	C

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

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 07/17/2023

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.decal.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)

QUALITY RATED CHILD CARE

CAPS CHILDCARE AND PARENT SERVICES

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 a1 855-800-7747 or qualityrated@decal.ga.gov **for more information. Free techincal assistance is available!**

Yolanda Durden, Program Official Date

Rena Keene, 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-.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: 5 **Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 2**

Child # 2 Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.08(1)-Allergies and Disabilities,.08(1)(a)-Work Address Missing,.08(1)(a)-Work Number Missing,.08(3)-Address of Release Person Missing,.08(1)-Doctor, Clinic, Phone Numbers

Child # 3 Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.08(1)(a)-Work Address Missing,.08(1)-Allergies and Disabilities

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 children's records that all required enrollment information was not on file for two of five children whose records were reviewed.The records for Child No. 2 and Child No. 3 did not include complete information for both parents including the work addresses and telephone numbers and neither of the records addressed the question of whether each child had any allergies or special needs. Additionally, the telephone number of the child's doctor and addresses for release persons were missing in the record for Child No 2.

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: 7/17/2023

Finding

591-1-1-.08(6) requires the Center to maintain records of a child's daily arrival and departure for the twelve (12) preceding months that the Parent or person(s) authorized by the Parent documents, in written or electronic format, each time the Parent or authorized person drops off and picks up the child. The documentation shall include at least the date, the child’s name, the arrival and departure times, and the signature or initials of the Parent or authorized person at the time of arrival and departure. These records shall be made available to the Department in printed or written form upon request. It was determined based on a review of the daily attendance records that all children were not accounted for on July 17, 2023.. One child in the infant classroom was not signed in by the parent. Two other children, one in the infant classroom and one in the school age classroom were not signed in by the parents on the correct day.

POI (Plan of Improvement)
The Center will maintain arrival and departure records as required, will ensure the documentation includes all of the required information, and will provide the records to the Department when requested.

Correction Deadline: 7/17/2023

Facility

591-1-1-.19 License Capacity(CR) **Not Met**

Finding
591-1-1-.19(1) requires a Center to provide 35 square feet of usable space per child, which will determine the Center's License capacity. It was determined based on consultant's observation that the center did not provide thirty five square feet per child in care. In Classroom C, where two-year-old children were housed, six children were present in a space that is licensed for five children. Additionally, in Classroom D where one-year-old children were kept, seven children were present in a space that is licensed for five children.

POI (Plan of Improvement)
The Center will limit the number of children in this space to the licensed capacity.

Correction Deadline: 7/17/2023

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

Comment
Center appears clean and well maintained.

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

Finding
591-1-1-.26(6) requires that playground equipment provide an opportunity for the children to engage in a variety of experiences and shall be age-appropriate. For example, toddlers shall not be permitted to swing in swings designed for School-age Children. The outdoor equipment shall be free of lead-based paint, sharp corners and shall be regularly maintained in such a way as to be free of rust and splinters that could pose significant safety hazard to the children. All equipment shall be arranged so as not to obstruct supervision of children. It was determined based on consultant's observation that a mini-trampoline was on the playground used for toddlers and preschool children. Trampolines of any size are not allowed on playgrounds in child care centers because they pose a hazard to the safety of the children.

POI (Plan of Improvement)
The Center will provide a variety of age-appropriate equipment that is arranged so as not to obstruct supervision of children. Staff will check the equipment daily to ensure that the equipment is free of hazards, rust and splinters. The trampoline will be removed from the play area.

Correction Deadline: 7/27/2023

Finding
591-1-1-.26(8) requires climbing and swinging equipment to have a resilient surface beneath the equipment and the fall zone from such equipment must be adequately maintained by the Center to assure continuing resilience. It was determined based on Conultant's observation that the gray rock climber did not have adequate resilient material underneath. Based on the height of this climber, a minimum of three inches of resilient material is required, and the surface measured less than two inches.

POI (Plan of Improvement)
The Center will add additional resilient surfacing to the fall zones where needed and check daily, adding resilient surfacing as needed to maintain adequate resiliency.

Correction Deadline: 7/27/2023

Food Service

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

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 based on consultant's observation and staff statements that no written feeding plan was on file for any of the seven infants enrolled at the center and present during the visit.

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: 7/17/2023

Finding
591-1-1-.15(5) requires that the Center provide a menu listing all meals and snacks to be served during the current week except for School-age Centers where the food may be provided by the Parent(s) by agreement between the School-age Center and the Parent(s). Substitutions shall be recorded on the posted menu and menus shall be retained at the Center for six (6) months. It was determined based on Consultant's observation that a current menu was not posted. The menu posted was dated June 19, 2023 through June 23, 2023.

POI (Plan of Improvement)
The Center will list all of the current week's meals and snacks and all substitutions on the menu and keep past menus on file for six months and will implement a system to monitor this.

Correction Deadline: 7/17/2023

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.

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
The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

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.

591-1-1-.36 Transportation(CR) **Defer**

Defer
591-1-1-.36(7)(d)2.- Review of transportation records will be deferred until the next regulatory visit. The center is not currently providing routine transportation during the summer. Routine transportation will resume when school starts.

POI (Plan of Improvement)
The Center will train Staff who are or may be involved in transporting children in how to thoroughly inspect a vehicle and properly complete transportation documentation. The Center will review and monitor.

Correction Deadline: 1/24/2023

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

591-1-1-.30 Safe Sleeping and Resting Requirements(CR) **Technical Assistance**

Comment
Discussed SIDS and infant sleeping position.

Comment
Please ensure that cribs/cots are labeled for individual use.

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 ensure that all cots in the two-year-old classroom are placed at least 24 inches apart during nap time.

Correction Deadline: 7/17/2023

Staff Records

591-1-1-.09 Criminal Records and Comprehensive Background Checks(CR) **Met**

Comment
Criminal record checks were observed to be complete.

Comment
Director provided five (5) files for employees hired since last visit. Evidence of a satisfactory background check was on file for all new staff hired.

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

Finding
591-1-1-.14(1) requires the Center Director and, at any given time, at least fifty percent (50%) of the caregiver Staff to successfully complete a biennial training program in cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and a triennial training program in first aid. The first aid training must be done by certified or licensed health care professionals or trainers and must deal with the provision of emergency care to infants and children. The Center shall maintain current evidence of the successful completion of such training which shall be available to the Department for inspection. It was determined based on a review of staff records and staff statements that at least 50% of the caregiving staff are not currently certified in CPR and First Aid. Twelve staff are employed and only two staff have current evidence of acceptable CPR and First Aid training. Two staff have a certificate from a computer course that was taken, but hands-on training is required to be acceptable for certification.

POI (Plan of Improvement)
The Center Director and at least 50% of the caregiver Staff will complete the needed training. The Director will send written verification to the consultant upon completion and will develop a plan to ensure that at least 50% of the caregiver Staff have completed this training at any given time and that evidence of successful completion of the training is on file available for inspection.

Correction Deadline: 8/16/2023

591-1-1-.24 Personnel Records **Not Met**

Finding
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; It was determined based on a review of staff records that all required information was not on file for six of the twelve employees currently employed. A complete ten-year work history was not listed for four of the twelve employees currently employed. Four of the staff employed as lead teachers did not have evidence of education and training required for the position of lead teacher. Additionally, three staff records did not have complete orientation forms that contained signatures for the person providing the training and one of the three did not have any items checked to indicate the areas covered during the orientation process.

POI (Plan of Improvement)
The Center will secure required information for all Personnel. The Center will ensure that complete information is in the personnel file for all Directors, Employees, Provisional Employees, Personnel, Staff, Students-in-Training, Volunteers, Clerical, Housekeeping, Maintenance and other Support Staff.

Correction Deadline: 7/22/2023

591-1-1-.33 Staff Training **Not Met**

Finding
591-1-1-.33(3) requires each Staff member with direct care responsibilities to complete health and safety orientation training within the first 90 days of employment. The state-approved training hours obtained will count toward required first year training hours. The training must address the following health and safety topics: prevention and control of infectious diseases (including immunizations); prevention of sudden infant death syndrome and use of safe sleeping practices; administration of medication, consistent with standards for parental consent; prevention of and response to emergencies due to food and allergic reactions; building and physical premises safety, including identification of and protection from hazards that can cause bodily injury such as electrical hazards, bodies of water, and vehicular traffic; prevention of shaken baby syndrome, abusive head trauma and child maltreatment; emergency preparedness and response planning for emergencies resulting from a natural disaster or a human-caused event (such as violence at a child care facility); handling and storage of hazardous materials and the appropriate disposal of bio contaminants; precautions in transporting children; recognition and reporting of child abuse and neglect; and child development. It was determined based on a review of staff records that Employee No. 6 who was hired on February 7, 2023, did not obtain the required Health and Safety Training within ninety days of employment with the center.

POI (Plan of Improvement)
The Center will develop and implement a plan to schedule and track this training for all employees based on their hire dates and will ensure that the training includes all required components as required.

Correction Deadline: 8/16/2023

591-1-1-.31 Staff(CR) **Not Met**

Finding
591-1-1-.31(2)(b)3.(ii)(I)-(VIII) requires the Center develop a written plan for newly hired teacher's who do not possess the educational credential or degree listed in 591-1-1-.31(2)(b)2.(i) through (xii). It was determined based on a review of staff records that three employees who are currently hired as lead teachers do not have the required credentials and also have no written plan on file to show how they plan to obtain a required credential.

POI (Plan of Improvement)
The Center will develop a written plan for newly hired teacher's and ensure that the teacher's follow the plan.

Correction Deadline: 7/17/2023

Technical Assistance
591-1-1-.31(2)(c) requires the Center to maintain a copy and/or written verification of the credential or degree awarded to the lead teacher that is required by these rules in the lead teacher's file, to make the document available for inspection and to provide the document to Department staff upon request. It was determined based on a review of staff files that the Lead Teacher in the infant classroom's CDA expired on June 29, 2023, and the required verification was not in the file that it had been renewed. The employee stated that there was a computer issue that prevented the new certification from being uploaded. This was verified by CDA coach, Jennifer Laster. The certificate will be checked at the next regulatory visit.

Correction Deadline: 7/17/2023

Staffing and Supervision

591-1-1-.32 Staff:Child Ratios and Group Size(CR) **Not Met**

Finding
591-1-1-.32(1) requires the Center to maintain the required Staff:child ratios as follows: under 1 year or under 18 months if not walking = 1:6; 1 year and walking = 1:8; 2 years = 1:10; 3 years = 1:15; 4 years = 1:18; 5 years = 1:20;and 6 years and older = 1:25. A Center must establish groupings of children for care with maximum group sizes as follows: under 1 year = 12; under 18 months/not walking = 12; 1 year and walking = 16; 2 years = 20; 3 years = 30; 4 years = 36; 5 years = 40; and 6 years and older = 50. It was determined based on Consultant's observation that the required staff to child ratios were not met in Classroom E for the group of infants and one-year-old children present. When Consultant arrived for the visit one of the two teachers assigned to Classroom E was at the front entrance, leaving one staff alone in the classroom with eight children, six of whom were under one year of age, and the other two children were one year of age. Based on the ages and number of children present, two staff were required with this group at all times.

Additionally, the teacher from the school age classroom where four children were housed, was also at the front entrance, with no staff present in Classroom B. Based on the ages and number of children present, one staff was required to be present with this group.

POI (Plan of Improvement)
The Center will hire additional Staff or reschedule current Staff to meet required Staff:child ratios and will organize children into groups that meet requirements.

Correction Deadline: 7/17/2023

Finding
591-1-1-.32(4)(a) requires that during the early morning times of arrival and late afternoon times of departure, infants and children younger than three (3) years may be grouped with older children so long as Staff: child ratios and group size are met based on the age of the youngest child in the group. It was determined based on Consultant's observation that two children who were three years of age were housed in Classroom D with five children who were one year of age during nap time.

POI (Plan of Improvement)
The Center will maintain Staff:child ratios based on the youngest child in the group during early morning and late afternoon times when children younger than three years of age may be grouped with older children.

Correction Deadline: 7/17/2023

591-1-1-.32 Supervision(CR) **Not Met**

Finding
591-1-1-.32(7) requires that children be supervised at all times appropriate to the individual age, needs and capabilities of each child. Such supervision must include, but not be limited to, indoor and outdoor activities, mealtimes, naptime, transportation, field trips, and transitions between activities. "Supervision" means that the appropriate number of Staff members are physically present in the area where children are being cared for and are providing watchful oversight to the children, volunteers and Students-in-Training. The persons supervising in the child care area must be alert, positioned to maximize their ability to hear and see the children at all times, and able to respond promptly to the needs and actions of the children being supervised, as well as the actions of the volunteers and Students-in-Training, and provide timely attention to the children's actions and needs. Staff shall be attentive and participating with all children during mealtimes and shall be seated within an arm’s length away from children thirty-six (36) months of age and younger. It was determined based on Consultant's observation that four school age children were alone in Classroom B when Consultant arrived for visit. The staff assigned to the room went to the classroom within two minutes after Consultant arrived. The employee assigned to the Classroom also serves as the Director and had stepped to the front to see who had entered the building.

POI (Plan of Improvement)
The Center will train Staff and monitor to ensure they are providing supervision and watchful oversight to the children at all times.

Correction Deadline: 7/17/2023