



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: 2/1/2024 VisitType: Licensing Study Arrival: 10:05 AM Departure: 2:00 PM

CCLC-39267

Childcare of Excellence

3350 Old Louisville Road Augusta, GA 30906 Richmond County
(706) 284-8455 al2007evon@yahoo.com

Regional Consultant

Ashley Richards

Phone: (229) 584-1482

Fax:

ashley.richards@decal.ga.gov

Mailing Address

3350 OLD LOUISVILLE RD
Augusta, GA 30906

Quality Rated: No

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.
02/01/2024	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
09/05/2023	TA Follow Up	Good Standing	
08/16/2023	TA Follow Up	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	Main	One Year Olds and Two Year Olds and Three Year Olds	1	7	NC	12	C	NA	NA	Nap,Centers
Main	Upstairs	Three Year Olds	1	10	C	10	C	NA	NA	Transitioning
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 22			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0							
Total # Children this Date: 17			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0							

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	Main-Play Yard	73	C

Comments

The purpose of this visit was to conduct a Licensing Study.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 02/01/2024

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.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)



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

Evon Mosley, Program Official

Date

Ashley Richards, 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

Technical Assistance

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.03(2) - Please ensure that Lesson Plans are up to date and posted weekly.

Correction Deadline: 2/1/2024

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

Technical Assistance

Comment

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

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.12(2) - Please ensure that the wicker couch in room Main Upstairs is repaired.

Correction Deadline: 2/1/2024

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

N/A

Comment

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)

Not Met

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.25(11) - Please ensure that the vinyl flooring in bathroom Main is tight and smooth in order to prevent tripping hazards.

Correction Deadline: 3/2/2024**Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.25(12) - Please ensure that any heating systems in use are inaccessible to children.

Correction Deadline: 2/1/2024**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 a bottle of OdoBan was hanging on the towel rack in reach of the children in bathroom Main Upstairs on this date.

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: 2/29/2024**Finding**

591-1-1-.25(3) requires the Center and surrounding premises to be kept clean, free of debris and in good repair. Hygienic measures such as, but not limited to, screened windows and proper waste disposal procedures shall be utilized to minimize the presence of rodents, flies, roaches and other vermin at the Center. It was determined based on observation that the following was observed:

Main – Bathroom

- The floor vent was broken which caused a potential tripping hazard.
- The toilet had protruding bolts that measured over two threads on the right and left sides.

Main Upstairs – Bathroom

- The toilet had protruding bolts that measured over two threads on the right and left sides.
- The light was missing a shield cover.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will have the Center and surrounding areas cleaned, make repairs where needed, and remove all debris is removed. The Center will implement a plan to keep areas clean and in good repair that includes regular monitoring.

Correction Deadline: 2/29/2024**Recited on 2/1/2024****Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.25(8) - Please ensure that electrical outlets have a protective covering before children enter the classroom.

Correction Deadline: 2/1/2024

591-1-1-.26 Playgrounds(CR)**Not Met****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 back middle fencing measured three feet and seven inches when four feet was required. It was further determined that the post cap and post located on the back middle fencing was detached on this date.

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: 2/1/2024

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 observation that new equipment, which was partially assembled, was observed on the playground. It was further determined that the equipment which was partially assembled was not secure. It was also determined that the loose pieces of equipment posed a potentially tripping hazard and the partly assembled pieces posed a potential tipping hazard.

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.

Correction Deadline: 2/11/2024

Finding

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. It was determined based on observation that the following playground hazards were observed on this date:

- Thorny vines were located on the right, back, and left sides of the chain link fencing causing potential hazards.
- Thorny branches were located on the inside of the playground area located on the right, back, and left sides of the fencing causing potential hazards.
- Tree limbs, branches, and vines were located in the middle right corner of the playground.
- The lattice that covered the right and left step entry were broken.
- The turtle sand box on the back left side of the playground was covered with thorny vines and tree debris.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will remove any litter and fix or remove hazards from the playground and will routinely monitor the playground and remove litter and hazards.

Correction Deadline: 2/29/2024

Food Service**591-1-1-.18 Kitchen Operations****Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.18(9) requires cleaning materials to be stored separately from food. It was determined based on observation that two boxes of Cheerios were stored next to bleach on this date.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will establish and maintain separate storage areas for food and cleaning materials.

Correction Deadline: 2/1/2024

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
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Comment

Staff were observed to remind children to wash hands.

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

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

Policies and Procedures

591-1-1-.27 Posted Notices	Technical Assistance
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Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.27 - Please ensure that Director Designees are posted in the front entry.

Correction Deadline: 2/1/2024

Safety

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

Center does not keep animals on premises.

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

Age-appropriate discussion and/or redirection observed.

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

Center does not participate in field trips at this time.

591-1-1-.36 Transportation(CR)	Not Met
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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 records that a vehicle inspection check was last conducted on February 07, 2022.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will obtain the annual vehicle inspection.

Correction Deadline: 2/29/2024

Finding

591-1-1-.36(4)(f)1. requires that all transported children be secured in a child passenger restraining system or seat safety belt in accordance with current state and federal laws and regulations and according to manufacturer's directions. It was determined based on observation that one out of one child safety seats expired April 2015.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will ensure that manufacturer directions and state and federal laws are met when using child passenger restraining systems and seat safety belts.

Correction Deadline: 2/2/2024

Correction Deadline: 2/3/2023

Corrected on 2/1/2024

.36(7)(c)2. - Correction of previous citation in that transportation documents reviewed for dates January 22, 2024 to February 01, 2024 were complete as required by the Department.

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

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

Technical Assistance

Comment

Discussed SIDS and infant sleeping position.

Comment

The correct number of mats, sheets and blankets were observed on this date. Cleaning and disinfecting of mats was discussed with the director on this date.

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.30(1)(b) - Please ensure that children who are two years of age or older sleep on a cot or mat for rest periods.

Correction Deadline: 2/1/2024

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-.33 Staff Training

Met

Correction Deadline: 12/31/2024

Corrected on 2/1/2024

.33(5) - Correction of previous citation in that all Center Staff had ten (10) hours of annual training for 2023.

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(4) requires that children under three years old be housed in separate physical areas from older children and cannot be mixed with older children except at specified times and circumstances. It was determined based on observation that four children under the age of three-years old were housed with children three and older at a time other than the first and last hour of operation, in classroom Main on this date.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will maintain separation of these children under three years old.

Correction Deadline: 2/1/2024

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

Met

Comment

Adequate supervision observed on this date.

