



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: 8/8/2023 **VisitType:** Complaint Investigation & Monitoring Visit **Arrival:** 9:45 AM **Departure:** 3:20 PM

CCLC-53587

Growing Gardens Learning Center

815 US Highway 27 Cataula, GA 31804 Harris County
 (762) 524-7651 ggldirector@gmail.com

Regional Consultant

Laura Swann

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Mailing Address

2510 mckee rd
 upatoi, GA 31829-0000

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.
08/08/2023	Complaint Investigation & Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
04/26/2023	Complaint Investigation Follow Up	Good Standing	
02/22/2023	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	Room A	Infants	2	8	C	13	C	NA	NA	Floor Play
Main	Room B	One Year Olds and Two Year Olds	2	11	C	17	C	NA	NA	Floor Play, Diapering
Main	Room C	Two Year Olds	2	19	C	20	C	NA	NA	Floor Play
Main	Room D	Three Year Olds	1	10	C	20	C	NA	NA	Outside
Main	Room E	GA PreK	1	5	C	20	C	NA	NA	Circle Time
Main	Room F		0	0	C	27	C	NA	NA	
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 117					Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					
Total # Children this Date: 53					Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	Playground A	15	C
Main	Playground B	65	C

Comments

Monitoring visit completed on August 8, 2023.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 08/08/2023

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.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 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!

Camelle Tasby, Program Official

Date

Laura Swann, Regional Consultant

Date



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(Findings Report)

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The following information is associated with a Monitoring Visit:

Activities and Equipment

591-1-1.12 Equipment & Toys(CR)

Not Met

Finding

591-1-1.12(1) requires each Employee and child in attendance to use all indoor and outdoor furniture, activity materials, and equipment in a safe and appropriate manner and in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions, recommendations, and intended use. All equipment and furniture shall be used only by the age-appropriate group of children. It was determined based on observation in classroom B 11 children were not buckled in with safety straps as required by manufacturer for safety.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will ensure Staff are trained in and children are taught the proper use of all furniture, materials and equipment; will implement a plan for this information to be reviewed with both groups on an ongoing basis; and for monitoring proper and age-appropriate usage.

Correction Deadline: 8/8/2023

Finding

591-1-1.12(7) requires that toys that launch projectiles, such as dart guns, pop guns, slingshots, etc., not be allowed in the Center and balloons not be accessible to preschool children. It was determined based on observation that in classroom A infants were playing with eight balloons on the floor.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center director will ensure that preschool children do not have access to balloons and shall not allow toys that launch projectiles in the Center by implementing a policy, training Staff, and monitoring on an ongoing basis. Teachers removed balloons from the infants.

Correction Deadline: 8/8/2023

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

Met

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****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 classrooms had hazards.

Classroom C- Under the diaper changing table in two unlocked drawers were "Desitin" diaper cream and sunscreen. In cubbies there were "Pampers" wipes, "Desitin" diaper cream and sunscreen. A hanging organizer with pockets on the restroom door had "Desitin" diaper cream, and "Pampers" wipes.

Classroom D- Sitting on top of a low shelf was hand sanitizer. In the cubbies were "Pampers" wipes
All items had the warning label "Keep Out of Reach of 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: 8/8/2023**Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.25(8) - Consultant reviewed with the director requirements as follows protective caps were required on all unused electrical outlets within children's reach and requires that electrical outlets in use be made inaccessible to children.

Correction Deadline: 8/8/2023

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

Playground observed to be clean and in good repair.

Health and Hygiene

591-1-1-.07 Children's Health**Technical Assistance****Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.07(5) - Consultant reviewed with the director and center staff that children are not permitted to wear around their necks or attach to their clothing pacifiers or other hazardous items.

Correction Deadline: 8/8/2023

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 in classrooms A, B and C there was a sheet over the diaper changing pad that was porous.

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. The center will remove the sheets from diaper changing pads.

Correction Deadline: 8/8/2023

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.

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

Age-appropriate discussion and/or redirection observed.

591-1-1-.36 Transportation(CR)**Met****Comment**

Complete documentation of transportation observed.

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

591-1-1-.30(1)(b)3 - Consultant reviewed with the director the need for all children to have coverings on the bottom of mats/cots and that sheets or similar coverings for cots or mats shall either be marked for individual use or laundered daily. If marked for individual use, they must be laundered weekly or more frequently if needed.

Correction Deadline: 8/8/2023

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 5 file(s) for employees hired since last visit.

591-1-1-.31 Staff(CR)**Met****Comment**

Discussed that all lead staff must enroll in an approved education program within 6 months of hire and complete degree within 18 months.

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

Center observed to maintain appropriate staff:child ratios.

591-1-1-.32 Supervision(CR)**Met****Comment**

Adequate supervision observed on this date.

