



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: 11/21/2024 **VisitType:** Licensing Study

Arrival: 10:05 AM **Departure:** 2:10 PM

CCLC-671

Hart County PreK

500 North Richardson Street Hartwell, GA 30643 Hart County
(706) 376-9355 vivian.craft@ndo.org

Lead 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.
11/21/2024	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
05/08/2024	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
05/02/2023	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-11 mnths-1 yr	One Year Olds and Two Year Olds	2	5	C	8	C	NA	NA	Outside
Main	B-1-2 yrs	Two Year Olds	2	7	C	8	C	NA	NA	Outside
Main	C-4-5 yrs	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds and Five Year Olds	2	16	C	21	C	NA	NA	Outside
Main	D-4-5 yrs	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	2	13	C	21	C	NA	NA	Outside, Transitioning
Main	E- 3-5 years	Two Year Olds and Three Year Olds	2	5	C	21	C	NA	NA	Outside
Main	F-3-4 yrs		0	0	C	19	C	NA	NA	
Main	G-3-4 yrs	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	2	15	C	18	C	NA	NA	Transitioning
Main	H-4-5 yrs	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	2	13	C	20	C	NA	NA	Transitioning
Main	I-4-5 yrs		0	0	C	19	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Main	J-3-4 yrs		0	0	C	19	C	NA	NA	
Main	K-3-4 yrs		0	0	C	19	C	NA	NA	
Main	L		0	0	C	19	C	NA	NA	
Main	Library		0	0	C	19	C	NA	NA	

Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 191

Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0

Building @35 capacity limited by Fire Marshall Limitations

Total # Children this Date: 74

Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 191

Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	Playground	521	C
Main	Playground- infant/toddler	71	C

Enrolled Children						
Under 1 years	1 years	2 years	3 years	4 years	5 years (Prekonly)	5 years and older
0	6	18	40	29	0	0

Comments

The purpose of the visit is to conduct a Licensing Study visit.

Reminders: Refer to the published communicable disease chart for guidance regarding communicable diseases. In most scenarios, only outbreaks/clusters should be reported to the local health districts. Please be sure you are using the most updated chart.

Please be sure to contact the Hart County Department of Health, if there are any outbreaks/clusters of positive COVID-19 cases immediately and get their guidance. Please be sure to also complete a Required Report in DECAL KOALA for all individual cases of communicable diseases within 24 hours. Be sure to select "Notifiable Communicable Diseases" to report closures for COVID cases.

Be sure to enter all temporary closures by 8 a.m. (vacation, emergencies, school closures, holidays etc...) in DECAL KOALA at all times under the Required Report tab whenever your facility is closed temporarily because you are not caring for children for one day or more. Please be sure to SAVE the report prior to exiting.

All amendments are required to be electronically submitted in DECAL KOALA effective 2021.

Please be sure to hide staff who are no longer employed in your DECAL KOALA account. Please reach out for help with this, if needed.

Please ensure that the director and staff responsible for food preparation completes the four (4) hours of nutrition training as soon as possible but within the first year of employment.

**Beginning January 1, 2024, there is a free Transportation Training available on OLLI in Georgia PDS (GaPDS) as ProSolutions will no longer offer the class for free. Also, you will be able to find the Health and Safety Orientation Training, which will be 15 hours, for free as well (staff must complete all 15 hours for the course to be counted).

Talk about updated orientation checklist.

Indicator manual and utilizing it. FYI: As of October 1, 2024, for larger equipment please be sure to have the amount of equipment for the amount of children enrolled (this include cribs, chairs, etc.)

Discussed regarding ensuring to complete rechecks for Criminal Records checks at least 90 days before the five-year expiration. Suggestion: Check monthly or sooner to ensure that staff's criminal records checks are not about to expire.

Discussed regarding mats using tape to repair, must replace.

Don't forget to post new license beginning January 1, 2025.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 11/21/2024

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:

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 CAPS/ QR Provisional Status, allowing for scholarships while working toward an initial star rating. Provisional Status eligibility will be determined at the time of CAPS enrollment as part of the CAPS application process.

Contact the Quality Rated help desk at 855-800-7747 or qualityrated@decal.ga.gov for more information. Free technical assistance is available!



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(Findings Report)

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The following information is associated with a Licensing Study:

Activities and Equipment

Records Reviewed: 29

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 1

Staff # 14

Not Met

Date of Hire: 01/08/2024

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.14(2)-CPR missing,.14(2)-First Aid Missing

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.

Facility

Records Reviewed: 29

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 1

Staff # 14

Not Met

Date of Hire: 01/08/2024

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.14(2)-CPR missing,.14(2)-First Aid Missing

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 in the following classrooms, hazards were observed to be accessible:

-Classroom A: Wipes package observed in a drawer in the bathroom and was accessible to the children.

-Classroom E: In an unlocked cabinet in the bathroom, soap, trash bags, and pull-up packaging which read keep out of reach of children were observed to be accessible.

-Classroom G: A broom and dust pan were observed to be accessible.

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: 11/21/2024**591-1-1-.26 Playgrounds(CR)****Not Met****Comment**

Trees located on the site or that encroach onto the site from adjacent properties may have structural issues that present an elevated level of risk. Consider having these trees inspected by a certified arborist to determine their structural integrity and associated levels of risk.

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 the large climbing structure on the preschool playground was observed to have the coating separating and exposing the rust on the area of the bridge and stairs.

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: 12/1/2024**Health and Hygiene****Records Reviewed: 29****Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 1**

Staff # 14

Not Met

Date of Hire: 01/08/2024

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.14(2)-CPR missing,.14(2)-First Aid Missing

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

Proper diapering procedures observed.

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

Proper hand washing observed throughout the center.

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

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

Safety

Staff # 14

Not Met

Date of Hire: 01/08/2024

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.14(2)-CPR missing,.14(2)-First Aid Missing

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

Age-appropriate discussion and/or redirection observed.

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

Center does not provide routine transportation.

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

Staff # 14

Not Met

Date of Hire: 01/08/2024

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.14(2)-CPR missing,.14(2)-First Aid Missing

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

Pleasant naptime environment observed.

Staff Records

Staff # 14

Not Met

Date of Hire: 01/08/2024

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.14(2)-CPR missing,.14(2)-First Aid Missing

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

Criminal record checks were observed to be complete.

- Please ensure that applicants/staff are listing exact dates (including month/day/year) on 10-year work history form in order to determine any breaks in service from the childcare industry.

- Please ensure that all staff, volunteers, independent contractors, substitutes, therapists, etc...has their records check electronically ported to the center's list in KOALA before being present at the facility.

- Please ensure that records checks are redone if there is a six-month (180 calendar days) break in service from the childcare industry.

- Please also ensure that satisfactory records checks are updated before the expiration date.

- Ensure that all therapists and other independent contractors have an updated records check on file, before being present at the center or home or ensure that the individual is supervised at all times by a staff member who has a comprehensive records check if they do not have a records check on file.

- Please ensure that staff with a national background check is always present with a staff member who has a comprehensive background check. Staff should never be by themselves.

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

Finding

591-1-1-.14(2) requires a Staff member who is trained in CPR and first aid to be on the premises and on any field trip whenever any child is present. In addition, Staff who provide direct care to children must satisfactorily obtain certification in first aid and CPR by December 29, 2016 if employed prior to September 30, 2016 and within 90 days of their hire date if employed after September 30, 2016. It was determined based on a review of records that staff #14, hired on January 8, 2024, did not have evidence of CPR and First Aid Training.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will develop a schedule to ensure there is always a staff person with current first aid and CPR training present and will develop and implement a plan to ensure all staff members have satisfactorily completed first aid and CPR training by the specified date.

Correction Deadline: 12/21/2024

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

Staff observed to be compliant with applicable laws and regulations.

Staffing and Supervision**Records Reviewed: 29****Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 1**

Staff # 14

Not Met

Date of Hire: 01/08/2024

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.14(2)-CPR missing,.14(2)-First Aid Missing

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.