



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: 9/16/2024 **VisitType:** Incident Investigation/Licensing Study

Arrival: 9:25 AM **Departure:** 1:30 PM

CCLC-48205

The Growing Patch

3224 Drawdy Street Patterson, GA 31557 Pierce County
(912) 647-5900 conniepeace@yahoo.com

Regional Consultant

Connie Boatright

Phone: (912) 544-9701

Fax: (912) 544-9700

connie.boatright@dec.al.ga.gov

Mailing Address

Same

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.
09/16/2024	Incident Investigation/Licensing Study	Good Standing	
09/28/2023	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
03/29/2023	Monitoring Visit	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 (left)	One Year Olds and Two Year Olds	2	12	C	19	C	NA	NA	Lunch, Diapering, Transitioning, Clean Up, Nap, Centers, Circle Time
Main	A (right)	Infants	1	4	C	5	C	NA	NA	Transitioning, Floor Play, Centers, Nap, Free Play, Diapering, Feeding
Main	B	Three Year Olds	1	11	C	14	C	20	C	Lunch, Centers, Clean Up, Transitioning, Nap
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 38					Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 44					
Total # Children this Date: 27					Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 44					

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	A	37	C
Main	B	17	C

Enrolled Children						
Under 1 years	1 years	2 years	3 years	4 years	5 years (Prekonly)	5 years and older
3	4	9	11	0	0	0

Comments

An in person Licensing study was conducted on this day. The owner stated there is a total of seven staff with one being a new hire since the consultant's last visit. The owner stated no medication is administered, no field trips, routine transportation, or swimming activities are provided. There is a complaint associated with the LS. The complaint was not closed out on site. The consultant will discuss the findings and provide the center director a written copy upon completion.

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/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 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!



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(Findings Report)

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The following information is associated with a Licensing Study Visit:

Activities and Equipment

591-1-1-.03 Activities

Met

Comment

The consultant observed lesson plans to be current and up to date.

Correction Deadline: 9/16/2024

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

Technical Assistance

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.12(2) - The center owner will ensure that all equipment and furniture be free from hazardous conditions such as, but not limited to, sharp rough edges or toxic paint; and be kept clean.

One and Two Year Old Classroom:

---Two red book shelves and one green book shelf is chipping paint.

Three and Four Year Old Classroom:

--- Two red book shelves and one blue book shelf is chipping paint.

Correction Deadline: 9/16/2024

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

Met

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.

591-1-1-.06 Bathrooms**Met****Comment**

Bathrooms observed to be clean and well maintained.

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

Licensed capacity observed to be routinely met by center. The consultant observed twenty-seven children to be present on this day.

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 a broom and dust pan was being stored by the grey cabinet and red book shelf in the three and four-year-old classroom and accessible to the children. Additionally, a brooms, dust pan, and carpet sweeper was being stored by the trash can and diaper changing table located in the one and two-year-old classroom and accessible to the 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: 9/16/2024

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.25(3) - The center owner will ensure that 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.

Infant Classroom:

---The white closet door and white base boards are chipping paint and accessible to the children.

Hall Bathroom:

---The outside and inside of the bathroom door located in the hall, base boards, and the top board between the first and second toilet is chipping paint.

---Two bolts anchoring the petition board between the first and second toilet is rusting.

Three and Four-Year-Old Classroom:

---The side of the kitchen door that is exposed to the three and four-year-old classroom is chipping paint.

---The linoleum located at the step down has nineteen small holes / tears and accessible to the children.

One and Two-Year-Old Classroom:

---The outside of the kitchen door that is exposed to the one and two-year-old children is chipping paint and accessible to the children.

Foyer:

---The bottom half of the wooden entry door has no top railing and splintering.

Correction Deadline: 9/16/2024

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.25(8) - The center owner will ensure that protective caps are placed on all electrical outlets within children's reach and requires that electrical outlets in use be made inaccessible to children.

Correction Deadline: 9/16/2024

591-1-1-.26 Playgrounds(CR)**Technical Assistance****Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.26(9) - The center owner will ensure that 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. Additionally, grass and weeds will be kept cut.

Correction Deadline: 9/16/2024

591-1-1-.15 Food Service & Nutrition**Technical Assistance****Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.15(5) - The center owner will ensure 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. Good practice is to post current and dated menus in the foyer where parents can observe the menu.

Correction Deadline: 9/16/2024**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**

Proper hand washing observed throughout the center.

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

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

Policies and Procedures**591-1-1-.21 Operational Policies & Procedures****Met****Comment**

Program observed complete emergency drills

591-1-1-.27 Posted Notices**Met****Comment**

Observed all required posted notices.

Safety**591-1-1-.05 Animals****Met****Comment**

Center does not keep animals on premises.

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

Age-appropriate discussion and/or redirection observed.

591-1-1-.13 Field Trips(CR)**Met****Comment**

Center does not participate in field trips at this time.

Comment

Center does not provide routine transportation.

Sleeping & Resting Equipment**Comment**

Discussed SIDS and infant sleeping position.

Comment

Pleasant naptime environment observed.

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.

Staff Records**Comment**

Criminal record checks were observed to be complete.

Comment

Director provided 1 file(s) for employees hired since last visit.

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 review of all staff files, that staff # 5, the center director, has basic CPR and First Aid which does not include the pediatric portion.

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: 10/16/2024

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 the review of seven staff files that six staff, # 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, and 7, had basic CPR and First Aid which did not include the pediatric portion. Staff # 4 is within 90 days of employment.

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: 10/16/2024

Comment

Documentation observed of required staff training.

Correction Deadline: 11/30/2023

Corrected on 9/16/2024

.33(5) The previous citation was observed to be corrected on this day.

591-1-1-.31 Staff(CR)

Technical Assistance

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.31(1)(b)2. - The center owner will ensure that the Director to possess at least one of the sets of minimum academic requirements and qualifying child care experience listed in Rule 591-1-1-.31(1)(b)2.(i-xiii). Staff # 5 completed 120 hours of the CDA course, however the observation component was not completed and the course hours were completed more than a year ago.

Correction Deadline: 9/16/2024

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.31(2)(b)3.(ii)(I) - (VIII) - The center owner will ensure that 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) (Staff # 1)

Correction Deadline: 9/16/2024

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.31(2)(c) -The center owner will ensure that 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 (Staff # 1).

Correction Deadline: 9/16/2024

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.