



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: 8/8/2022 **VisitType:** Monitoring Visit **Arrival:** 8:45 AM **Departure:** 11:00 AM

CCLC-26490

Tree House Academy

2600 Sugarmill Blvd. St. Marys, GA 31558 Camden County
 (912) 576-8697 st.marys@treehouseacademy.org

Region Consultant

Jerica Davis

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Mailing Address
 Same

Quality Rated: ★

Compliance Zone Designation		
08/08/2022	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing
02/25/2022	Complaint Closure	Good Standing
02/22/2022	Complaint Investigation 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-1st right	Two Year Olds	2	9	C	16	C	NA	NA	Circle Time,Story
Main	B - 2nd right	One Year Olds	1	5	C	11	C	NA	NA	Diapering,Centers
Main	C - 3rd right	GA PreK	2	16	C	22	C	NA	NA	Centers
Main	D -Back left		0	0	C	20	C	NA	NA	
Main	E -far left	Three Year Olds	1	9	C	19	C	NA	NA	Centers,Transiti oning
Main	F-Front left	Infants and One Year Olds	1	3	C	12	C	NA	NA	Floor Play,Feeding
Main	Room G -3 yrs		0	0	C	14	C	NA	NA	
					Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 114	Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0				
Total # Children this Date: 42					Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 114	Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0				

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	Playgrd -A frt lft	23	C
Main	Playgrd B back lft	67	C
Main	Playgrd-back rt	33	C
Main	playgrd-Front Rt	9	C

Comments

An in-person Monitoring Visit was conducted on August 8, 2022. All criminal background checks were reviewed during the visit. The visit report was completed on August 9, 2022 and emailed to the director on this date.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 08/08/2022

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

Jessie Durbin, Program Official

Date

Jerica Davis, 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(2) requires 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. It was determined based on observation that the red child's sofa in the reading area of classroom E had a hole in the cushion with exposed foam posing a potential hazard.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will ensure that equipment and furniture are used by the age-appropriate group of children.

Correction Deadline: 8/22/2022

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(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 areas were in need of repair:

- In classroom B, the cabinet door under the diapering sink and the cabinet door under the food sink had broken hinges causing the doors to fall and were in need of repair.
- In classroom D, there was a hole in the wall measuring approximately two inches wide in the front right corner of the room near the car area that was in need of repair.
- In classroom D, the metal air return in the front right corner of the room had several broken slats that were bent and hanging and in need of repair.
- In classroom D, there was a hole in the metal wall under the window in the book area that had rusted jagged edges that was in need of repair.

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: 8/8/2022

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 observation that the following playground equipment hazards were observed:

- On playground A, the surfacing on the three steps to the slide and the landing was worn away leaving the steps rough and rusted that posed potential hazard.
- On playground A, the walk through playground structure had areas that were rusted and were in need of repair.
- On playground B, the wooden enclosure around the playground structure that holds in the mulch was pulled apart leaving two large rusted screws exposed that posed a potential hazard.
- On playground C, a hose was observed on the ground in the playground area that posed a potential trip 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: 8/18/2022**Correction Deadline: 8/22/2022****Corrected on 8/8/2022****.26(9) - This citation was observed to be corrected on this date. No playground hazards were observed.**

Health and Hygiene

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

Proper diapering procedures observed.

Technical Assistance

Please ensure that Center Staff keep any items which might harm a child out of a child's reach. Please ensure to keep all diaper creams and supplies stored in a locked cabinet inaccessible to children when not in use.

Correction Deadline: 8/8/2022

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

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

Comment

Staff were observed to maintain a positive learning environment on this date.

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

Comment

Complete documentation of transportation observed.

Comment

The vehicle had an approved fire extinguisher and first aid kit on this date.

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

Please ensure that cots and mats are stored inaccessible to children to prevent children's access to them until it is time to use them. Please ensure staff do not place cots out while the children are still playing to help prevent the spread of germs.

Correction Deadline: 8/8/2022

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 files for employees hired since the last visit.

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)**Met****Comment**

Center observed to maintain appropriate staff:child ratios.

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

Staff observed to provide direct supervision and be attentive to children's needs.