



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: 3/23/2023 **VisitType:** Licensing Study **Arrival:** 10:15 AM **Departure:** 1:15 PM

CCLC-33372

Early Minds Academy

7961 Hwy 92, Suite 120 Woodstock, GA 30189 Cherokee County
 (678) 310-0773 LPAMARIETTA@HOTMAIL.COM

Regional Consultant

Sharnette Glenn

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Mailing Address
 4843 TREVOR CT
 MARIETTA, GA 30068

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.
03/23/2023	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
06/21/2022	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
09/16/2021	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-First Left	Infants and One Year Olds	1	3	C	12	C	NA	NA	Free Play,TV	
Main	B- BehindRoomA	Two Year Olds and Six Year Olds and Over	1	6	C	19	C	NA	NA	Outside	
Main	C-First Right		0	0	C	18	C	25	C	Not In Use	
Main	D- Front Room	Three Year Olds	1	7	C	15	C	21	C	Outside	
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.:					64	Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.:					77
Total # Children this Date: 16			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.:			64	Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.:				77

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	Main PG	43	C

Comments

The purpose of this visit is to conduct a licensing study and follow up from the previous visit.

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.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!

IGNATIUS EBHOGLIAYE, Program Official

Date

Sharnette Glenn, 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

Not Met

Finding

591-1-1-.03(2) requires the Center to keep current lesson plans on site that reflect appropriate instruction practices and activities to support children's development The Center shall have sufficient and varied play and learning equipment and materials to support the above program of activities in all developmental areas. It was determined based on observation classrooms A,B, and D did not have evidence of lesson plan for the week of March 20-24, 2023.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will keep current lesson plans on site that include appropriate instruction practices and activities and will have sufficient and varied play and learning equipment and materials to support the activities.

Correction Deadline: 3/23/2023

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

Met

Comment

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

Comment

Equipment and furniture observed to be properly secured, as applicable.

Correction Deadline: 6/21/2022

Corrected on 3/23/2023

.12(1) - The previous citation was corrected.

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

N/A

Comment

Center does not provide swimming activities.

Children's Records

591-1-1-.08 Children's Records**Met****Comment**

Records were observed to be complete and well organized.

Facility

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.

591-1-1-.25 Physical Plant - Safe Environment(CR)**Not Met****Comment**

Please be mindful to keep items that pose a hazard inaccessible to children.

Comment

Please secure cleaning tools (i.e., broom, plunger) out of reach of children.

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 classroom B, beside the window on the left side, it was a staff purse on top of the shelf and a staff bookbag on the floor in front of the shelf. It was further observed that in classroom A, the first door on your left in the first stall it was Lysol wipes on top of the water tank, underneath the sink, it was Lysol wipes, bathroom cleaner, and cleaning solution spray accessible to the children in the restroom in the same classroom. The second door on the left was a mop head and bucket accessible to the children, and it was further observed at the teacher's desk; it was a stapler, Lysol wipes, and a staff purse 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: 3/23/2023**Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.25(8) - Please make sure the outlets are covered throughout the center.

Correction Deadline: 3/23/2023

591-1-1-.26 Playgrounds(CR)**Not Met****Comment**

Discussed maintenance of resilient surface. Please fluff and redistribute.

Correction Deadline: 7/1/2022**Corrected on 3/23/2023****.26(6) - This previous citation was corrected.****Finding**

591-1-1-.26(7) requires that climbing and swinging equipment be anchored. It was determined based on observation that the green climbing dome was not anchored to the ground.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will remove or repair equipment that is not anchored and will regularly inspect the equipment to ensure it remains anchored.

Correction Deadline: 4/28/2023**Recited on 3/23/2023**

Correction Deadline: 7/1/2022

Corrected on 3/23/2023

.26(8) - This citation was corrected.

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 there was a water hose uncoiled on the playground accessible to children. In addition excessive weeds were observed growing through the resilient surface. A gap was observed between the border of the play structure and the fence that poses as a potential entrapment hazard. Consultant further observed a bag of garbage on the left side of the playground. Lastly, on the right side of the playground against the fence a blue milk crate was observed with trash in it while the children were playing on the playground.

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: 4/28/2023

Recited on 3/23/2023

Food Service

591-1-1-.15 Food Service & Nutrition **Met**

Comment

Center menu meets USDA guidelines.

Comment

Please ensure that bottles are covered and fully labeled with child's full name.

591-1-1-.18 Kitchen Operations **Met**

Comment

Discussed proper steps for dishwashing.

Health and Hygiene

591-1-1-.07 Children's Health **Not Met**

Finding

591-1-1-.07(5) requires Center Staff to not permit children to wear around their necks or attach to their clothing pacifiers or other hazardous items. It was determined based on observation in the Infant classroom A, a child was observed with a pacifier attached to the clothing.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will instruct Staff regarding this safety requirement.

Correction Deadline: 3/23/2023

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

Comment

Hand washing requirements for diapering were discussed with the director on this date.

591-1-1-.17 Hygiene(CR) **Not Met**

Comment

Please ensure lids remain on trash containing organic waste.

Finding

591-1-1-.17(8) requires staff to wash their hands with liquid soap and warm running water upon arrival for the day, when moving from one child care group to another, upon re-entering the child care area after outside play, before and after diapering each child, dispensing medication, applying topical medications, handling and preparing food, eating, drinking, preparing bottles, feeding each child, assisting children with eating and drinking, after toileting or assisting children with toileting, using tobacco products, handling garbage and organic waste, touching animals or pets, handling bodily fluids and after contamination by any means. It was determined based on observation in the B classroom, children did not immediately wash hands after diapering as required.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will ensure liquid soap and warm running water are available for handwashing, train Staff on the handwashing requirements, review the requirements with Staff periodically, and monitor handwashing.

Correction Deadline: 3/23/2023

591-1-1-.20 Medications(CR)

N/A

Comment

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

Policies and Procedures

591-1-1-.21 Operational Policies & Procedures

Met

Correction Deadline: 6/26/2022

Corrected on 3/23/2023

.21(3) - The previous citation was corrected.

Comment

Consultant discussed with the provider to ensure the fire and tornado documentation form is completed and filled out.

591-1-1-.22 Parental Access

Met

Comment

591-1-1-.22 - Consultant discussed with the provider that the parent(s) of the child should have access to all child care areas of the center at any time child is in attendance.

Correction Deadline: 3/23/2023

Safety

591-1-1-.05 Animals

N/A

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)

N/A

Comment

Center does not participate in field trips at this time.

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.

Comment

591-1-1-.36(4)(b) - Consultant discussed with the provider about the van being cleaned.

Correction Deadline: 3/24/2023

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

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

Comment

Discussed SIDS and infant sleeping position.

Comment

591-1-1-.30(1)(c) - Consultant discussed with the provider that no pillows should be in the cribs

Correction Deadline: 3/23/2023

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-.09 Criminal Records Check(CR) Met

Comment

Criminal records checks were observed to be complete.

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

Comment

Complete first aid kits observed in center and on vehicles.

Finding

591-1-1-.14(1)(a) requires, in a Center that provides transportation, that either the driver or another Staff person present on the vehicle have current evidence of successful completion of a biennial training program in cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and a triennial training program in first aid offered by certified or licensed health care professionals or trainers and which dealt with the provision of emergency care to infants and children. It was determined based on the review of staff files, there is no evidence of the driver or other staff members with the CPR certification.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will verify proof of CPR/1st aid training and schedule Staff so that there is always a staff person on the vehicle with this training.

Correction Deadline: 3/23/2023

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 staff files, there is no evidence of the staff members #1,2,3,4,7,8, and 9 did not have the required CPR certification.

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: 4/22/2023

591-1-1-.33 Staff Training

Not Met

Comment

Discussed staff training. Please obtain required documentation.

Finding

591-1-1-.33(3) requires each Staff member with direct care responsibilities to complete health and safety orientation training within the first 90 days of employment. The state-approved training hours obtained will count toward required first year training hours. The training must address the following health and safety topics: prevention and control of infectious diseases (including immunizations); prevention of sudden infant death syndrome and use of safe sleeping practices; administration of medication, consistent with standards for parental consent; prevention of and response to emergencies due to food and allergic reactions; building and physical premises safety, including identification of and protection from hazards that can cause bodily injury such as electrical hazards, bodies of water, and vehicular traffic; prevention of shaken baby syndrome, abusive head trauma and child maltreatment; emergency preparedness and response planning for emergencies resulting from a natural disaster or a human-caused event (such as violence at a child care facility); handling and storage of hazardous materials and the appropriate disposal of bio contaminants; precautions in transporting children; recognition and reporting of child abuse and neglect; and child development. It was determined based on review of staff files that staff members #2, 4, and 9 did not have the required Health and Safety training.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will develop and implement a plan to schedule and track this training for all employees based on their hire dates and will ensure that the training includes all required components as required.

Correction Deadline: 4/22/2023

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

Not Met

Comment

Staff observed to be compliant with applicable laws and regulations.

Finding

591-1-1-.31(2)(b)2. requires teachers and lead caregivers to meet minimum academic requirements and qualifying experience at the time of employment. It was determined based on the review of staff files that staff members #1,8, and 9 did not have the required academic requirements.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

A teacher/lead caregiver will be hired that meets the minimum academic requirements and qualifying work experience.

Correction Deadline: 3/23/2023

Staffing and Supervision

591-1-1-.32 Staff:Child Ratios and Group Size(CR)

Not Met

Finding

591-1-1-.32(2) requires the Center maintain Staff:child ratios in mixed-age groups based on the age of the youngest group of children that includes more than twenty percent of the total number of children in the mixed-age group. It was determined based on observation that on the playground classroom C was observed to have (6) two-year-old, (6) three-year-old, (1) six-year-old with a ratio 1:13.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will provide adequate staff when there is a mixed-age group.

Correction Deadline: 3/23/2023

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

Met

Comment

Adequate supervision observed on this date.