



**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

**Cover Sheet**

**Date:** 9/14/2022    **VisitType:** Licensing Study    **Arrival:** 9:40 AM    **Departure:** 12:00 PM

**CCLC-25064**

**Higher Calling Christian Academy**

2901 Wesley Chapel Road Decatur, GA 30034 DeKalb County  
 (404) 288-2494 Hccaadmin@hcfinc.org

**Regional Consultant**

Verlyn Gant

Phone: (404) 591-6059  
 Fax: (404) 591-6060  
 verlyn.gant@decal.ga.gov

**Mailing Address**  
 Same

**Quality Rated:** ★

<b>Compliance Zone Designation</b>			<b>Compliance Zone Designation</b> - 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.
09/14/2022	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
05/23/2022	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
10/18/2021	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	

  

<b>Good Standing</b>	- Program is demonstrating an acceptable level of performance in meeting the rules.
<b>Support</b>	- Program performance is demonstrating a need for improvement in meeting rules.
<b>Deficient</b>	- 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	201	Infants	1	3	C	10	C	NA	NA	Feeding
Main	203	One Year Olds	1	7	C	12	C	NA	NA	Circle Time
Main	204	Three Year Olds	1	11	C	20	C	NA	NA	Outside, Transitioning
Main	205	Two Year Olds	1	9	C	14	C	NA	NA	Diapering
Main	208	Four Year Olds	1	7	C	20	C	NA	NA	Circle Time
Main	210		0	0	C	20	C	NA	NA	
Main	G		0	0	C	20	C	NA	NA	
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 116					Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					
Total # Children this Date: 37			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 116			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0				

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	A Outside	15	C
Main	B Outside	29	C

**Comments**

An in-person inspection was conducted on September 14, 2022 with the Director. Background checks were all reviewed on September 14, 2022.

An Administrative Review was conducted on September 14, 2022. Staff files, children's files, and training documentation were all reviewed.

The Consultant completed the exit conference, and a copy of the Licensing Study Visit report was given to the Director on September 14, 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.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



**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](mailto:qualityrated@dec.state.ga.us) for more information. Free technical assistance is available!**

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](http://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)

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Linda McDonald, Program Official

Date

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Verlyn Gant, 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-.12 Equipment & Toys(CR)**

**Technical Assistance**

**Correction Deadline: 5/23/2022**

**Corrected on 9/14/2022**

.12(2) - Previous citation was observed to be corrected during this visit, in that Main 203 classroom. The wood on the classroom storage cupboard was stripping and posed a potential splinter hazard.

- Main 203 classroom. The wood on the classroom storage cupboard that was stripping had been repaired.
- Main 205 classroom. The crib in the home area had been repaired.
- Main 208 classroom. The side finishing of the cupboard which had become loose had been repaired.

**Technical Assistance**

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.

Please ensure that the third cupboard under the sink in classroom 205 that has stripping wood that poses a potential splinter hazard is repaired.

**Correction Deadline: 9/14/2022**

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

**N/A**

**Comment**

Center does not provide swimming activities.

**Children's Records**

**Records Reviewed: 5**

**Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 0**

Child # 1

Met

Child # 2	Met
Child # 3	Met
Child # 4	Met
Child # 5	Met

**591-1-1-.08 Children's Records****Met****Correction Deadline: 5/23/2022****Corrected on 9/14/2022**

**.08(1) - Previous citation was observed to be corrected during this visit, in that based on a review of records five of five children's enrollment files had the parent's work address, the telephone number of the child's primary source of health and the release person's address as required.**

**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****Correction Deadline: 6/22/2022****Corrected on 9/14/2022**

**.25(11) - Previous citation was observed to be corrected during this visit, in that based on observation the floor play rug in the Main 201 infant classroom was torn and had exposed foam had been removed, and the floor divider in the Main 208 classroom had been repaired.**

**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 there were grocery store plastic bags stored on the diaper change station in classroom 203. There was also a grocery store plastic bag on the diaper change station, and grocery store plastic bags in an unlocked cupboard accessible to children in classroom 205. Additionally, there was hand sanitizer in an unlocked teacher's desk accessible to children in classroom 202.

**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: 9/14/2022****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 hazards were observed:

- Main boys restroom. There was chipped plaster and rust on the lower right side of the door frame on the lower right side accessible to children.

**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: 9/16/2022**

**Recited on 9/14/2022**

**Correction Deadline: 5/23/2022**

**Corrected on 9/14/2022**

.25(8) - Previous citation was observed to be corrected during this visit, in that based on observation in the Main 205 classroom all unused electrical outlets were covered and the broken electrical outlet along the back wall had been replaced as required.

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

**Comment**

Playground observed to be clean and in good repair.

**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**

Staff were observed to remind children to wash hands.

**591-1-1-.20 Medications(CR) N/A**

**Comment**

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

**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) N/A**

**Comment**

Center does not provide routine transportation.

**Sleeping & Resting Equipment**

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

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**Staff Records****Records Reviewed: 11****Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 0**

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Staff # 1 Met

Staff # 2 Met

Date of Hire: 08/08/2016

Staff # 3 Met

Date of Hire: 02/15/2010

Staff # 4 Met

Staff # 5 Met

Staff # 6 Met

Date of Hire: 01/20/2016

Staff # 7 Met

Staff # 8 Met

Date of Hire: 07/12/2022

Reminder - Health & Safety training is required within 90 calendar days of hired

Staff # 9 Met

Date of Hire: 08/03/2016

Staff # 10 Met

Date of Hire: 08/02/2016

Staff # 11 Met

Date of Hire: 12/06/2021

**Staff Credentials Reviewed: 7**

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

Criminal record checks were observed to be complete.

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

Staff observed to be compliant with applicable laws and regulations.

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**Staffing and Supervision**

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

**Met**

**Comment**

Center observed to maintain appropriate staff:child ratios.

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

**Met**

**Comment**

Adequate supervision observed on this date.