



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: 3/22/2022 **VisitType:** Complaint Investigation & Licensing Study **Arrival:** 10:00 AM **Departure:** 1:15 PM

CCLC-14421

New Era Learning Center

4640 Hiram Lithia Springs Road Powder Springs, GA 30127 Cobb County
 (770) 943-9055 onwukaeb@aol.com

Mailing Address
 Same

Regional Consultant

Brionne Higgins

Phone:

Fax:

brionne.higgins@decal.ga.gov

Joint with: Rachael Brown

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.
03/22/2022	Complaint Investigation & Licensing Study	Good Standing	
01/04/2022	Complaint Closure	Good Standing	
11/16/2021	Complaint Investigation Follow Up	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 1st Left	One Year Olds	2	11	C	15	C	NA	NA	Transitioning, Free Play
Main	B 2nd Left	Infants	1	5	C	13	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main	C 3rd Left	GA PreK	1	16	C	20	C	NA	NA	Circle Time
Main	D 3rd Right	Four Year Olds	1	15	C	20	C	NA	NA	Centers
Main	E 2nd Right	Three Year Olds	1	12	C	20	C	NA	NA	Transitioning, Story
Main	F 1st Right	Two Year Olds	1	12	NC	19	C	NA	NA	Centers
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 107					Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					
Total # Children this Date: 71			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 107			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0				

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	infant Toddler Playground	11	C
Main	School Age Playground	33	C

Comments

The purpose of this visit is to follow-up to the visit conducted on September 15, 2021. The administrative review is due on March 29, 2022.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 03/22/2022

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 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 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)

Ben Onwukaeme, Program Official

Date

Brionne Higgins, Consultant

Date

Rachael Brown, Consultant

Date



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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-.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)

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

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**

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.25(13) - Consultant discussed ensuring that hazardous items are properly stored and inaccessible to children.

Correction Deadline: 3/22/2022

Finding

591-1-1-.25(8) requires protective caps on all unused electrical outlets within children's reach and requires that electrical outlets in use be made inaccessible to children. It was determined based on observation that outlet covers that were within reach of children to be missing protective caps. This finding was consistent in the toddler 1 classroom, preschool classroom, and GA Pre-K classroom.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will train Staff to check outlets and replace protective caps when needed and identify and monitor how outlets in use are inaccessible to children.

Correction Deadline: 3/22/2022

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

Comment

Playground observed to be clean and in good repair.

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.26(4) - Consultant discussed monitoring playground fence for repairs.

Correction Deadline: 3/22/2022

Food Service

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

Comment

Center menu meets USDA guidelines.

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

Staff state proper knowledge of diapering procedures.

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

Comment

Proper hand washing observed throughout the center.

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

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.

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

Technical Assistance

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.36(4)(b) - Consultant discussed monitoring vehicle seats for rips and tears and repairing them as needed.

Correction Deadline: 3/23/2022

Correction Deadline: 9/16/2021

Corrected on 3/22/2022

.36(7)(c)2. - Previous citation corrected on this date. Consultant observed a mark/symbol documented in writing for each child as the entered and exited the vehicle during morning and afternoon transportation.

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

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

Met

Comment

Discussed SIDS and infant sleeping position.

Comment

Pleasant naptime environment observed.

Staff Records

Records Reviewed: 12

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 0

Staff # 1

Met

Records Reviewed: 12

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 0

Staff # 2 Date of Hire: 11/01/2018	Met
Staff # 3 Date of Hire: 01/01/2007	Met
Staff # 4	Met
Staff # 5 Date of Hire: 01/13/2021	Met
Staff # 6 Date of Hire: 02/02/2004	Met
Staff # 7 Date of Hire: 08/04/2000	Met
Staff # 8 Date of Hire: 05/17/2019	Met
Staff # 9 Date of Hire: 01/08/2018	Met
Staff # 10 Date of Hire: 11/08/2018	Met
Staff # 11	Met
Staff # 12	Met

Staff Credentials Reviewed: 8

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

Comment

Criminal record checks were observed to be complete.

591-1-1-.14 First Aid & CPR **Met**

Comment

Complete first aid kits observed in center and on vehicles.

Comment

Evidence observed of 100% of center staff certified in First Aid and CPR.

591-1-1-.33 Staff Training **Met**

Comment

Documentation observed of required staff training.

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

Comment

Staff observed to be compliant with applicable laws and regulations.

591-1-1-.32 Staff:Child Ratios and Group Size(CR)**Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.32(1) requires the Center to maintain the required Staff:child ratios as follows: under 1 year or under 18 months if not walking = 1:6; 1 year and walking = 1:8; 2 years = 1:10; 3 years = 1:15; 4 years = 1:18; 5 years = 1:20; and 6 years and older = 1:25. A Center must establish groupings of children for care with maximum group sizes as follows: under 1 year = 12; under 18 months/not walking = 12; 1 year and walking = 16; 2 years = 20; 3 years = 30; 4 years = 36; 5 years = 40; and 6 years and older = 50. It was determined based on observation that the center failed to maintain the required staff:child ratios in the toddler classroom. Consultant observed one staff member with twelve two-year-old children.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will hire additional Staff or reschedule current Staff to meet required Staff:child ratios and will organize children into groups that meet requirements.

Correction Deadline: 3/22/2022

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

Adequate supervision observed on this date.