



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: 12/6/2022 **VisitType:** Monitoring Visit **Arrival:** 10:40 AM **Departure:** 12:15 PM

CCLC-32989

The Word of Truth A+ Learning Academy

1380 Snapfinger Road Decatur, GA 30032 DeKalb County
 (404) 288-4038 lhollins@hotmail.com

Regional Consultant

Jessica Johnson
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 Same

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.
12/06/2022	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
06/22/2022	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
12/14/2021	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	

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
2nd Bldg	infant room		0	0	C	20	C	NA	NA	
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 20			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0							
BLG 1	1 st left		0	0	C	30	C	NA	NA	
BLG 1	2 nd left		0	0	C	25	C	NA	NA	
BLG 1	2nd right	One Year Olds and Two Year Olds and Three Year Olds and Five Year Olds	1	5	C	24	C	NA	NA	Free Play
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 79			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0							
Total # Children this Date: 5			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 99			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0				

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
BLG 1	Playground	56	C

Comments

An on-site inspection was conducted on December 12, 2022 with the Provider Sophia Downer. Background checks were all reviewed on December 6, 2022.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 12/06/2022

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)

Margaret Hollinshed, Program Official

Date

Jessica Johnson, 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-.03 Activities

Not Met

Finding

591-1-1-.03(6) requires Center Staff to ensure children less than three years of age do not spend more than one-half hour of time consecutively in confining equipment, such as swings, highchairs, jump seats, carriers or walkers. Children shall use such equipment only when they are awake. Such children shall be allowed time to play on the floor daily. Infants shall have supervised tummy time on the floor daily when they are awake. It was determined based on observation that a one-year-old child was in a stroller for more than one-half hour of time.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will train Staff to use confining equipment appropriately, to provide supervised floor play daily for children under three years of age, including infants, and will monitor regularly.

Correction Deadline: 12/6/2022

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.

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)

Technical Assistance

Comment

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

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.25(13) - Consultant discussed with the Director removing the toilet brush cleaner and the broom from the restroom.

Correction Deadline: 12/6/2022

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

Technical Assistance

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.26(4) - Consultant discussed adding a pool noodle to the three-and-half inch gap at the bottom of the back fence gate on the playground.

Correction Deadline: 12/6/2022

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 of children and staff was discussed with the director on this date.

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

Center does not provide routine transportation.

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

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

Not Met

Finding

591-1-1-.30(2)(c) requires that infants shall not sleep in equipment other than safety-approved cribs, such as, but not limited to, a car safety seat, bouncy seat, highchair, or swing. Infants who arrive at the Center asleep or fall asleep in such equipment, on the floor or elsewhere, shall be transferred to a safety-approved crib. It was determined based on observation that a one-year-old child was observed sleeping in a stroller.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will only place infants in safe cribs to sleep and will transfer them to a safe crib when the infants are asleep in other equipment.

Correction Deadline: 12/6/2022

Staff Records

Records Reviewed: 2

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 1

Staff # 1 Not Met
 Date of Hire: 09/10/2015
"Missing/Incomplete Components"
 .31(2)(b)2.-Staff Qualifications-Education Missing

Staff # 2 Met
 Date of Hire: 05/27/2010

Staff Credentials Reviewed: 5

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

Correction Deadline: 6/22/2022

Corrected on 12/6/2022
.09(1)(b) - Citation corrected. Criminal records checks current.
Correction Deadline: 6/22/2022

Corrected on 12/6/2022
.09(1)(c) - Citation corrected. Criminal records checks current.
Correction Deadline: 6/22/2022

Corrected on 12/6/2022
.09(1)(l)3. - Citation corrected. Criminal records checks current.

591-1-1-.33 Staff Training Defer

Defer
 591-1-1-.33(5)- Consultant will review annual training during the upcoming Licensing Study.

POI (Plan of Improvement)
 The Center will plan and schedule the required 10 hours of annual training each year and follow up to ensure the training is completed.
Correction Deadline: 12/30/2022

591-1-1-.31 Staff(CR) Not Met

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 a review of records that staff #1 did not meet the academic requirements of having a credential or degree.

POI (Plan of Improvement)
 A teacher/lead caregiver will be hired that meets the minimum academic requirements and qualifying work experience.

Correction Deadline: 12/20/2022

Recited on 12/6/2022

Staffing and Supervision

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

Finding

591-1-1-.32(4)(a) requires that during the early morning times of arrival and late afternoon times of departure, infants and children younger than three (3) years may be grouped with older children so long as Staff: child ratios and group size are met based on the age of the youngest child in the group. It was determined based on observation that children younger than three (3) years were grouped with older children at a time other than the first and last hour of operation in the 2nd right classroom.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will maintain Staff:child ratios based on the youngest child in the group during early morning and late afternoon times when children younger than three years of age may be grouped with older children.

Correction Deadline: 12/6/2022

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

Not Met

Finding

591-1-1-.32(7) requires that children be supervised at all times appropriate to the individual age, needs and capabilities of each child. Such supervision must include, but not be limited to, indoor and outdoor activities, mealtimes, naptime, transportation, field trips, and transitions between activities. "Supervision" means that the appropriate number of Staff members are physically present in the area where children are being cared for and are providing watchful oversight to the children, volunteers and Students-in-Training. The persons supervising in the child care area must be alert, positioned to maximize their ability to hear and see the children at all times, and able to respond promptly to the needs and actions of the children being supervised, as well as the actions of the volunteers and Students-in-Training, and provide timely attention to the children's actions and needs. Staff shall be attentive and participating with all children during mealtimes and shall be seated within an arm's length away from children thirty-six (36) months of age and younger. It was determined based on observation that children in the 2nd right classroom were left unsupervised while the staff member opened the door for the Consultant.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will train Staff and monitor to ensure they are providing supervision and watchful oversight to the children at all times.

Correction Deadline: 12/6/2022