



**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: 5/9/2023 **VisitType:** Licensing Study **Arrival:** 10:20 AM **Departure:** 1:00 PM

CCLC-39092

G. R. Lighthouse Learning Center

18360 Hwy 80 Jeffersonville, GA 31044 Twiggs County
(478) 973-1860 sandra_flowers@aol.com

Region Consultant

Laura Johnson

Phone: (470) 891-3520

Fax: (678) 913-0577

laura.johnson@dec.al.gov

Mailing Address

Same

Quality Rated: ★ ★ ★

Compliance Zone Designation		
05/09/2023	Licensing Study	Good Standing
10/12/2022	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing
04/13/2022	Licensing Study	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	One Year Olds	1	5	C	5	C	NA	NA	Outside
Main	B	One Year Olds and Two Year Olds	1	8	C	5	NC	NA	NA	Outside
Main	C	Two Year Olds and Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	2	13	C	12	NC	17	C	Outside
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.:						22	Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.:		27	
Total # Children this Date: 26			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.:			22	Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.:		27	

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	Playground A	33	C

Comments

The purpose of this visit was to complete a Licensing Study. The Director, Sandra Flowers, stated that the program does not provide routine transportation, administer medications, or provide swimming activities. The program is Quality Rated.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 05/09/2023

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!

Sandra Flowers, Program Official

Date

Laura Johnson, 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)

Met

Comment

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

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

Met

Comment

Center does not provide swimming activities.

Children's Records

Records Reviewed: 5

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 2

Child # 2

Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.08(1)-Allergies and Disabilities

Child # 4

Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.08(1)-Emergency Contact information Missing

Finding

591-1-1-.08(1) requires the Center Staff to maintain a file for each child while such child is in care and for one year after that child is no longer enrolled. In order for the file to be complete, the file shall contain the following: child's name, birth date, sex, address, living arrangement, name of school if applicable; names of both Parents, home and work addresses, and home and work telephone numbers; name(s) and addresses of the person(s) to whom the child may be released including address, telephone numbers, relationship to child and to Parent(s), and other identifying information; name(s) and telephone number(s) of person(s) to contact in emergencies when the Parent cannot be reached; name and telephone number of the child's primary source of health care; and a statement regarding known allergies, physical problems, mental health disorders, mental retardation or developmental disabilities which limit the child's participation in the program. It was determined based on a review of records that one out of five files did not include the address of the person(s) whom the child may be released to. Furthermore, one out of five files were missing a statement regarding known allergies, physical problems, mental health disorders, mental retardation or developmental disabilities which limit the child's participation in the program.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Director stated that the program is in the process of changing over to the ProCare System and all child files will be maintained electronically with all required information completed. Center staff will develop a plan that includes how to obtain all required information for currently enrolled children and how to ensure this is done for future enrollees as well. The plan will also include how and where to maintain files for the required amount of time. The plan will be implemented and followed.

Correction Deadline: 5/31/2023

Recited on 5/9/2023

Correction Deadline: 10/31/2022

Corrected on 5/9/2023

.08(1)(b) - This citation was corrected. The Director was instructed to go back and make sure older children files also have parental authorization for the center to obtain emergency care for the child when the Parent is not available.

Facility

591-1-1-.06 Bathrooms

Met

Comment

Bathrooms observed to be clean and well maintained.

591-1-1-.19 License Capacity(CR)

Not Met

Finding

591-1-1-.19(1) requires a Center to provide 35 square feet of usable space per child, which will determine the Center's License capacity. It was determined based on observation that 26 children were present on this date and the program has a licensed capacity of 22 children at 35 square feet. Furthermore, 3 one-year-old children and 5 two-year-old children were housed in Classroom B and the room has a capacity of five children at 35 square feet. Additionally, 5 two-year-old children, 6 three-year-old children, and 2 four-year-old children were housed in Classroom C and the room has a capacity of 12 children at 35 square feet.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will limit the number of children in this space to the licensed capacity. The program has submitted an amendment request to license two new classrooms that have been built to correct the capacity issue. A new certificate of occupancy was issued to the program on April 14, 2023 approving the building for a capacity of 47.

Correction Deadline: 5/9/2023

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.25(12) - The consultant spoke with the Director about ensuring that electric fans used for cooling the building are inaccessible to the children in care. Children should not be able to pull or access any fans used for cooling the building.

Correction Deadline: 5/9/2023

Correction Deadline: 10/14/2022

Corrected on 5/9/2023

.25(13) - This citation was corrected. No hazardous materials were observed accessible to the children on this date.

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 large sections of white paint were peeling from the fire place in Classroom C, above where children hang their jackets on the wall, posing a potential hazard to the children in care.

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: 5/31/2023

Correction Deadline: 10/12/2022

Corrected on 5/9/2023

.25(8) - This citation was corrected. All electrical outlets were observed to have protective covers on this date.

Finding

591-1-1-.26(4) requires that playgrounds be protected from traffic or other hazards by a (4) four foot high fence or other barrier approved by this Department. Fencing material shall not present a hazard to children and shall be maintained so as to prevent children from leaving the playground area by any means other than through an approved access route. Fence gates shall be kept closed except when persons are entering or exiting the area. It was determined based on observation, that the playground fence was not fully inclosed on this date due to ongoing recent construction at the program presenting a potential escape hazard. Children were observed playing on the playground during the visit.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Director stated that she will work to get the fence fully enclosed. The materials are already present, the company just has to come back to install the fence panels. The Center will routinely check the fence to determine if it is in good repair and remains at least 4 feet high, and will repair any hazards. The Center will train Staff to identify and report any fence hazards and to keep the fence gates closed when not in use.

Correction Deadline: 5/26/2023

Food Service

591-1-1-.15 Food Service & Nutrition**Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.15(1) requires that meals and snacks are served, with serving sizes dependent upon the age of the child, that meet nutritional guidelines as established by the United States Department of Agriculture Child and Adult Care Food Program. Meals and snacks shall be varied daily, and additional servings of nutritious food shall be offered to children over and above the required daily minimum, if not contraindicated by special diets. It was determined based on observation that whole milk was not available on this date for the 8 one-year-old children present on this date.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

Center Staff will prepare menus and/or serve foods that meet the USDA guidelines and will offer and serve seconds to children.

Correction Deadline: 5/9/2023

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**

Proper diapering procedures observed.

591-1-1-.17 Hygiene(CR)**Met****Correction Deadline: 10/12/2022****Corrected on 5/9/2023**

.17(7) - This citation was corrected on this date. Appropriate handwashing procedures were observed on this date.

591-1-1-.20 Medications(CR)**Not Evaluated****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

Safety

591-1-1-.05 Animals**Not Evaluated****Comment**

Center does not keep animals on premises.

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

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

591-1-1-.13 Field Trips(CR)**Not Evaluated****Comment**

Center does not participate in field trips at this time.

591-1-1-.36 Transportation(CR)**Not Evaluated****Comment**

Center does not provide routine transportation.

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

591-1-1-.30 Safe Sleeping and Resting Requirements(CR)**Not 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.

Finding

591-1-1-.30(1)(a)2 requires that a crib mattress is firm, tight-fitting without gaps, at least 2 inches thick and covered with a waterproof, washable material. Before a change of occupant, each mattress shall be cleaned with a disinfectant. It was determined based on observation that three out of five crib mattresses observed were no longer waterproof as required due to the mattresses having large tears with large areas of exposed foam.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The center will ensure that a crib mattress is firm, tight-fitting without gaps, at least

Correction Deadline: 5/31/2023

Recited on 5/9/2023

Staff Records

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

Consultant requested to view all Criminal Record checks for employees hired after last visit. Director stated that there have been no new hires since last visit

Comment

Criminal record checks were observed to be complete.

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

Correction Deadline: 11/9/2022

Corrected on 5/9/2023

.14(2) - This citation was corrected on this date. All staff have certification in CPR/First Aid as required on this date.

Finding

591-1-1-.14(3) requires the Center to have a first aid kit in each building of the Center and in any vehicle used by the Center for transportation of children, that contains scissors, tweezers, gauze pads, adhesive tape, thermometer, band-aids, assorted sizes, antibacterial ointment, insect-sting preparation, an antiseptic cleansing solution, triangular bandages, rubber gloves, protective eye wear, a protective face mask, and a cold pack. The first aid kit, together with a first aid instruction manual which must be kept with the kit at all times, shall be stored so that it is not accessible to children but is easily accessible to Staff. It was determined based on observation that the first aid kit on site was missing the following items:

- antibacterial ointment
- insect-sting preparation
- an antiseptic cleansing solution

POI (Plan of Improvement)

Center Staff will provide any missing first aid kits, add any missing items to each first aid kit and will develop and use a plan for checking the kits and replacing missing items in each kit in the future. First aid kits and instruction manuals will be stored so that they kits are not accessible to children but are easily accessible to Center Staff.

Correction Deadline: 5/26/2023

591-1-1-.33 Staff Training

Met

Correction Deadline: 11/2/2022

Corrected on 5/9/2023

.33(3) - This citation was corrected on this date.

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)

Not Met

Finding

591-1-1-.32(4) requires that children under three years old be housed in separate physical areas from older children and cannot be mixed with older children except at specified times and circumstances. It was determined based on observation that 5 two-year-old child was housed in Classroom C with 2 four-year-old children and 6 three-year-old children. The two-year-old child was not housed in a separate classroom as required.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will maintain separation of these children under three years old.

Correction Deadline: 5/31/2023

Recited on 5/9/2023

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

Met

Correction Deadline: 10/12/2022

Corrected on 5/9/2023

.32(7) - This citation was corrected on this date. Appropriate supervision was observed.