



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: 3/10/2023 **VisitType:** Licensing Study **Arrival:** 10:40 AM **Departure:** 2:10 PM

CCLC-50384

Laugh and Learn Children's Academy, LLC

62 Wax Road Silver Creek, GA 30173 Floyd County
 (706) 528-4812 johlnalindsey381@yahoo.com

Provider and Family Relations Consultant

Chasity Baugh
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 chasity.baugh@decal.ga.gov

Mailing Address
 Same

Quality Rated: No

Compliance Zone Designation		
03/10/2023	Licensing Study	Deficient
12/13/2022	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing
07/20/2022	Complaint Investigation Follow Up	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-1L-Infants and 1's	Infants and One Year Olds	1	6	C	12	C	NA	NA	Diapering, Free Play
Main	B-2L-1's & 2's	Infants	2	6	C	17	C	NA	NA	Feeding, Nap
Main	C-2R-3's & 4's	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	1	11	C	17	C	NA	NA	Centers
Main	D-1R-2's	One Year Olds and Two Year Olds	1	7	C	12	C	NA	NA	Centers
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 56					Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0		Building @35 capacity limited by Heath Department Limitations			
Total # Children this Date: 30			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 56		Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	PG A	38	C

Comments

A Licensing Study was completed on March 10, 2023.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 03/24/2023

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.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

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@dec.state.ga.us for more information. Free technical assistance is available!

Johnna Lindsey, Program Official

Date

Chasity Baugh, 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)

Not Met

Comment

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

Comment

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

Finding

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. It was determined based on observation in classroom C-2R-3's & 4's the wood around the middle window on the back wall was broken, exposing sharp wooden edges and exposing a sharp metal bar. Additionally, the other windows in this classroom had chipping paint. Furthermore, the paint on the wood around the windows in classroom D-1R-2's also had chipping paint.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will ensure that equipment and furniture are used by the age-appropriate group of children.

Correction Deadline: 3/24/2023

Technical Assistance

Consultant discussed 591-1-1-.12(4) which requires that equipment and furniture is secured if it is of a weight or mass that could cause injury from tipping, falling, or being pulled or pushed over. Consultant discussed with Provider for teachers not to stand tables up when cleaning the floors.

Correction Deadline: 3/10/2023

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**Technical Assistance****Technical Assistance**

Consultant discussed 591-1-1-.06(7) which requires Center Staff to ensure bathrooms are cleaned daily with a disinfectant.

Correction Deadline: 3/10/2023

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)**Met****Comment**

No hazards observed accessible to children on this date.

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

Playground observed to be clean and in good repair. Provider replaced fence with a 6ft tall privacy fence since last time of visit.

Food Service

591-1-1-.15 Food Service & Nutrition**Technical Assistance****Comment**

Center menu meets USDA guidelines. Center provides breakfast and an afternoon snack. Children bring lunches from home.

Technical Assistance

Consultant discussed 591-1-1-.15(4) requires that a feeding chair or similar equipment designed for feeding children shall be provided for the use of each child being fed who is capable of sitting up but who is unable to sit unassisted at a table and must be cleaned with a disinfectant after each use. Such chair or similar equipment shall have a broad base to prevent tipping, a surface that the child cannot raise, a strap or other device which prevents the child from sliding out of the chair, and a feeding surface free of cracks.

Correction Deadline: 3/10/2023**Technical Assistance**

Consultant discussed 591-1-1-.15(6)(g) which requires drinking water to be available to all children and to be offered at least once between meals and snacks.

Correction Deadline: 3/10/2023**Technical Assistance**

Consultant discussed 591-1-1-.15(7) which requires that food be served according to manufacturer's instructions and recommendations. Foods that are associated with young children's choking incidents, such as, but not limited to, peanuts, hot dogs, raw carrots, popcorn, fish with bones, cheese cubes, grapes and any other food that is of similar shape and size of the trachea/windpipe shall not be served to the children less than four (4) years of age. Children older than four (4) years of age may be served these foods provided that the foods are cut in such a way as to minimize choking. Food shall not be accessible or served to children until it has been chopped, diced, cut or mashed and is appropriate for each child's age and individual eating, chewing and swallowing ability. Additionally, consultant discussed lunches being brought from home, must follow these requirements.

Correction Deadline: 3/10/2023

Health and Hygiene

591-1-1-.07 Children's Health

Technical Assistance

Technical Assistance

Consultant discussed 591-1-1-.07(5) which requires Center Staff to not permit children to wear around their necks or attach to their clothing pacifiers or other hazardous items.

Correction Deadline: 3/10/2023

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

Not Met

Technical Assistance

Consultant discussed 591-1-1-.10(1) requires Centers first licensed after March 1, 1991, and Centers that are renovated after March 1, 1991, to provide ventilation in the diapering areas with functioning exhaust fans and a duct system or by the required amount of window space provided by operable windows when open. Consultant discussed diapering in non-diapering classrooms.

Correction Deadline: 3/10/2023

Finding

591-1-1-.10(4) requires that if diapers are changed on a diaper changing surface, the surface shall be smooth, nonporous, and equipped with a guard or rails to prevent falls. Between each diaper change, the diaper changing surface shall be cleaned with a disinfectant and dried with a single-use disposable towel. It was determined based on observation a staff member in C-2R-3's & 4's changed a three-year-old's diaper in a non-diapering room, on a carpet floor.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will ensure there is a smooth, nonporous changing surface that has a guard or rails for safety in each classroom that houses children wearing diapers. Center Staff will be trained and have adequate supplies to properly clean the diaper changing surface between each diaper change.

Correction Deadline: 3/10/2023

Recited on 3/10/2023

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

Not Met

Finding

591-1-1-17(7) requires that children wash their hands with liquid soap and warm running water upon arrival for care, when moving from one child care group to another, upon re-entering the child care area after outside play, before and after eating meals and snacks, handling or touching food, playing in water; after toileting and diapering, playing in sand, touching animals or pets, and contact with bodily fluids and after contamination by any other means. It was determined based on observation in the C-2R-3's & 4's Classroom, a three-year-old did not wash their hands after diapering. Additionally C-2R-3's & 4's Classroom and D-1R-2's children were observed to eat lunch without washing their hands.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will train Staff on required handwashing for children and Staff will ensure children's hands are washed when required. The Director will monitor for compliance.

Correction Deadline: 3/10/2023

Recited on 3/10/2023

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 a staff member in the C-2R-3's &4's room did not wash their hands after diapering or before handling food.

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: 3/10/2023

Recited on 3/10/2023

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

Met

Comment

Discussed proper medication documentation and procedures.

Safety

591-1-1-.11 Discipline(CR)

Not Met

Comment

Please be mindful of voice tone in redirecting children.

Finding

591-1-1-.11(2) requires that Personnel not: physically or sexually abuse a child or engage or permit others to engage in sexually overt conduct in the presence of any child enrolled in the Center; inflict corporal/physical punishment upon a child; shake, jerk, pinch or handle a child roughly; verbally abuse or humiliate a child which includes, but is not limited to, the use of threats, profanity or belittling remarks about a child or his family; isolate a child in a dark room, closet or unsupervised area; use mechanical or physical restraints or devices to discipline children; use medication to discipline or control children's behavior without written medical authorization issued by a licensed professional and given with the parent's written consent; restrict unreasonably a child from going to the bathroom; punish toileting accidents; force-feed a child or withhold feeding a child regularly scheduled meals and/or snacks; force or withhold naps; allow children to discipline or humiliate other children; or confine a child for disciplinary purposes to a swing, highchair, infant carrier, walker or jump seat. It was determined based on observation in C-2R-3's &4's a staff member threatened to call a child's parent when a three-year-old child attempted to drink water from the sink located in the classroom. Additionally a staff member in classroom D-1R-2's was observed to handle a child roughly by pulling them from one area to another when the child was crying.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will take immediate action to ensure the action/conduct has ceased; train/review appropriate child guidance techniques with center staff; and have a system in place to monitor and identify inappropriate actions.

Correction Deadline: 3/10/2023

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

N/A

Comment

Center does not provide routine transportation.

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

Comment

Discussed SIDS and infant sleeping position.

Correction Deadline: 12/13/2022

Corrected on 3/10/2023

.30(2) - This previous citation was observed to be corrected as infants were observed sleeping with nothing in the crib. Staff members stated knowledge of safe-sleep requirements.

Correction Deadline: 12/13/2022

Corrected on 3/10/2023

.30(2)(c) - This previous citation was observed to be corrected as infants were observed sleeping in safety approved cribs.

Technical Assistance

Consultant discussed 591-1-1-.30(4). requires that if cots and mats are stored in the children's activity room or area, they shall be stored to prevent children's access to them and to allow maximum use of play space. When storage is available and used for the storage of cots and mats that allows the cots, mats and any bedding to be stored without touching any other cots, mats or bedding, the bedding may be left on the cot or mat. When such storage is not available for the cots and mats, each child's bedding shall be kept separate from other children's bedding and stored in containers marked for individual use, such as, but not limited to, bins, cubbies, or bags.

Correction Deadline: 3/10/2023

Staff Records

Comment

Criminal record checks were observed to be complete.

Comment

Complete first aid kits observed in center.

Comment

Please be mindful of training expiration dates.

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 review of documents, staff member #1, #2, #3, #4, #5 #9 #11 and #12 did not have their CPR and First Aid 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: 4/9/2023

Finding

591-1-1-.33(2) requires the initial Center orientation to include the following subjects: the Center's policies and procedures; the portions of these rules dealing with the care, health and safety of children; the Staff person's assigned duties and responsibilities; reporting requirements for suspected cases of child abuse, neglect or deprivation; communicable diseases and serious injuries; emergency weather plans; the program's emergency preparedness plan; childhood injury control; the administration of medicine; reducing the risk of Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS); hand washing; fire safety; water safety; and prevention of HIV/AIDS and blood borne pathogens. It was determined based on review of documents, staff members #3, #8, and #10 did not complete orientation prior to working in the center with children.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will provide orientation in all missing subjects to the employee(s) and will take steps to provide a complete orientation to new Employees in the future.

Correction Deadline: 3/11/2023**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 documents staff members #2, #9 and #11 did not complete ten (10) hours health and safety orientation training within the first 90 days of employment.

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: 4/9/2023**Finding**

91-1-1-.33(5) requires that every calendar year after the first year of employment, all supervisory and caregiver Personnel, except independent contractors, Students-in-Training and volunteers shall attend ten (10) clock hours of diverse training which is task-focused in on-going health, safety and early childhood or child development related topics and which is offered by an accredited college, university or vocational program or other Department-approved source. The annual ten (10) clock hours of training shall be chosen from the following fields: child development, including discipline, guidance, nutrition, injury control and safety; health, including sanitation, disease control, cleanliness, detection and disposition of illness; child abuse and neglect, including identification and reporting, and meeting the needs of abused and/or neglected children; and business related topics, including parental communication, recordkeeping, etc.; provided however that such business related training shall be limited to no more than two (2) of the required ten (10) clock hours of training. Records of completion of such training shall be maintained, as required by these rules. It was determined based on review of documents, staff members #1, #4, #5, #6, #7 and #12 did not complete ten (10) clock hours of training for the year 2022.

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: 4/9/2023**Technical Assistance**

Consultant discussed 591-1-1-.33(6) which requires that evidence of orientation and training shall be documented in the Personnel file of each Staff member and shall be available to the Department for inspection.

Correction Deadline: 3/20/2023

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

Met

Correction Deadline: 12/13/2022

Corrected on 3/10/2023

.31(2)(b)3.(iii) - Previous citation corrected.

Staffing and Supervision

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

Met

Comment

Center observed to maintain appropriate staff:child ratios.

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 of video footage, a staff member in classroom C-2R-3's &4's did not provide watchful oversight to the children in the classroom, when they were looking at their phone, with their back turned to the classroom, one child was observed to throw children sized chairs, two and three children were observed pulling each others arms around the room. Additionally, a child was observed tipping a rocking chair after rocking excessively, another child was observed to climb up a shelf multiple times. Staff members were also observed to be looking at their phones during nap time.

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: 3/10/2023