



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: 3/8/2023 **VisitType:** Incident Investigation/Monitoring Visit **Arrival:** 10:00 AM **Departure:** 2:00 PM

CCLC-1623

Appletree Academy #1

501 The Pass Martinez, GA 30907 Columbia County
 (706) 868-6060 bjhj136315@aol.com

Regional Consultant

Kajora McCoy

Phone: (678) 239-9361

Fax:

kajora.mccoy@dec.al.ga.gov

Mailing Address
 Same

Quality Rated: ★ ★ ★

<u>Compliance Zone Designation</u>			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.
03/08/2023	Incident Investigation/Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
12/06/2022	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
05/24/2022	Monitoring Visit	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	1st Left	Four Year Olds	1	13	C	16	C	NA	NA	Transitioning
Main	1st Right	Two Year Olds	2	19	C	23	C	NA	NA	Diapering, Transitioning
Main	2nd Left	Infants and One Year Olds	2	9	C	16	C	NA	NA	Floor Play
Main	2nd Right	Two Year Olds and Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	2	25	C	31	C	NA	NA	Outside
Main	3rd Left	One Year Olds	2	14	C	18	C	NA	NA	Outside, Floor Play
Main	3rd Right	GA PreK	2	21	C	26	C	NA	NA	Centers
Main	4th Left	GA PreK	2	18	C	23	C	NA	NA	Centers
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 153			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0							
Total # Children this Date: 119			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0							

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	PG- Back Playground	69	C
Main	PG- Left Playground	20	C
Main	PG- Right	53	C

Comments

The consultant conducted an onsite monitoring visit on March 8, 2023.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 03/08/2023

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.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 1 855-800-7747 or qualityrated@dec.ga.gov for more information. Free technical assistance is available!

Heather Case, Program Official

Date

Kajora McCoy, 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-.12 Equipment & Toys(CR)

Met

Comment

Discussed rotating toys to support the procedures of daily disinfecting.

Comment

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

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)

Met

Comment

No hazards observed accessible to children on this date.

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

Met

Comment

Discussed maintenance of resilient surface. Please fluff and redistribute.

Health and Hygiene

591-1-1-.10 Diapering Areas & Practices(CR)**Not Met****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 that staff members in classrooms 1st right and 3rd left did not sanitize the diaper changing table between each use as required.

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: 3/8/2023

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 that children in classrooms 1st right and 3rd left did not wash their hands after diapering as required.

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: 3/8/2023**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 that staff in classrooms 1st right and 3rd left did not wash hands upon entering the child care area or before and after diapering as required.

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: 3/8/2023

591-1-1-.20 Medications(CR)**Met****Comment**

Documentation for medication dispensing observed complete.

Safety

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

Age-appropriate discussion and/or redirection observed.

Comment

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

591-1-1-.13 Field Trips(CR) Met

Correction Deadline: 12/6/2022

Corrected on 3/8/2023

.13(2) - This citation was corrected on this date. Center has not provided any field trips.

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

Correction Deadline: 12/6/2022

Corrected on 3/8/2023

.36(7)(c)2. - This citation was corrected on this date. Transportation documentation was observed to be complete.

Correction Deadline: 12/6/2022

Corrected on 3/8/2023

.36(7)(c)3. - This citation was corrected on this date. Transportation documentation was observed to be complete.

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

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

Comment

Discussed SIDS and infant sleeping position.

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.

Staff Records

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

Correction Deadline: 12/7/2022

Corrected on 3/8/2023

.09(1)(a) - This citation was corrected on this date. Consultant observed satisfactory comprehensive background checks were observed for all staff members.

Correction Deadline: 12/7/2022

Corrected on 3/8/2023

.09(1)(c) - This citation was corrected on this date. Consultant observed satisfactory comprehensive background checks were observed for all staff members.

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

Correction Deadline: 12/30/2022

Corrected on 3/8/2023

.31(2)(b)2. - This citation was corrected on this date. Staff member #27 was identified as an assistant teacher and consultant observed a professional learning plan for staff #2 who was identified as the lead teacher.

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 the 2nd right classroom housed children who were ages two, three, and four-year-old.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

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

Correction Deadline: 3/8/2023

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

Adequate supervision observed on this date.