



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: 6/1/2023 **VisitType:** Licensing Study **Arrival:** 10:35 AM **Departure:** 4:15 PM

CCLC-54770

Little Learners CDC, LLC

132 Locke Road Cornelia, GA 30531 Habersham County
 (706) 778-9205 brittany@littlelearnerscdc.com

Process & QI Unit Consultant

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Joint with: Melak Tessema

Mailing Address

4199 Old Highway 441 N
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Quality Rated: No

Compliance Zone Designation		
06/01/2023	Licensing Study	Good Standing
04/04/2022	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing
10/29/2021	Initial 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
Building 2	Three and Four Year Olds	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds and Five Year Olds and Six Year Olds and Over	2	22	C	23	C	NA	NA	Nap,Lunch
					Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 23	Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0				
Main	1L-Two Year Old	Two Year Olds	2	11	C	14	C	NA	NA	Outside,Lunch
Main	1R-6 Weeks-12 Months	Infants	1	3	C	6	C	NA	NA	Nap,Feeding
Main	2R-One Year Old	One Year Olds	2	14	C	14	C	NA	NA	Centers,Lunch
					Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 34	Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0				
Total # Children this Date: 50			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 57			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0				

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Building 2	Playground B	39	C
Main	Playground A	36	C

Comments

The purpose of this visit was to conduct a licensing study and to follow up on the previous visit.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 06/01/2023

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.decals.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@decals.ga.gov for more information. Free technical assistance is available!



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(Findings Report)

Date: 6/1/2023 **VisitType:** Licensing Study **Arrival:** 10:35 AM **Departure:** 4:15 PM

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The following information is associated with a Licensing Study:

Activities and Equipment

591-1-1-.12 Equipment & Toys(CR)

Technical Assistance

Comment

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

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.12(3) - The Consultant discussed with the Provider to please ensure chairs were not stacked when children were present and active. Chairs may be stacked at nap time as long as they are not near a resting child.

Correction Deadline: 6/1/2023

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

Met

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

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****Finding**

591-1-1-.25(12) requires heating and cooling equipment to be protected to prevent children from touching it. Fans, space heaters, etc. shall be positioned or installed so as to be inaccessible to the children. It was determined, based on observation, that the cooling equipment was observed to be accessible to children in the Main Building in Room 1L and Room 2R on this date.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will re-position or re-install equipment, as needed, and will make all such equipment inaccessible to children.

Correction Deadline: 6/5/2023**Finding**

591-1-1-.25(13) requires that potentially hazardous equipment, materials and supplies be stored in a locked area inaccessible to children. It was determined, based on observation, that the following potential hazards were observed on this date:

- Room 1L - A tube of Boudreaux's Butt Paste, and a bottle of Infant Motrin was observed accessible to children in a child's bag on this date.
- Room 2R - A tube of Boudreaux's Butt Paste, a tube of Aquaphor Baby Ointment, and a tube of Oragel was observed accessible to children in a child's bag on this date.
- building 2 - A staff purse was observed accessible to children on a low shelf behind the teacher's desk on this date. A stapler and tape dispenser with serrated edge was observed accessible to children on the teacher's desk on this date. A plastic bag containing soiled clothing was observed accessible to children in a child's cubby on this date.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will identify all hazardous items and keep them in a locked area inaccessible to children. The Center will inform all Staff about hazardous items and the safe storage of those items.

Correction Deadline: 6/1/2023

591-1-1-.25 Physical Plant-Structural/Mechanical**Technical Assistance****Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.25(4) - The Consultant discussed with the Director to please ensure all windows had screens in good repair, as one screen for a window in Room 1L was observed to be torn at the bottom on this date.

Correction Deadline: 6/1/2023

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

591-1-1-.26(4) - The Consultant discussed with the Director to please ensure bolts protruding toward the playground were no more than two threads in length, as the gate on Playground B had two protruding bolts on this date.

Correction Deadline: 6/1/2023**Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.26(9) - The Consultant discussed with the Director to please ensure the spindles on the ramp from the Main Building to Playground A were spaced less than three and a half inches on this date.

Correction Deadline: 6/1/2023

Food Service

Comment

Please ensure that infant feeding forms are updated regularly.

Finding

591-1-1-.15(3) requires baby bottles and formula to be labeled with the individual child's name; supplied by the Parent daily in bottles; and refrigerated at a temperature of forty (40) degrees Fahrenheit or less. Only the current day's formula or breast milk shall be served. If formula must be provided by the Center, only commercially prepared, ready-to-feed formula shall be used. Refrigerated or frozen breast milk shall only be heated or thawed under warm running water or in a container of warm water. It was determined, based on observation and staff interview, that staff prepared bottles for one infant enrolled using powder formula and water on this date, when it was required that only premixed bottles supplied by the parents or commercially prepared, ready-to-feed formula shall be used.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will train Staff to follow the required procedures, ensure that parents are fully informed, and will review and monitor regularly.

Correction Deadline: 6/1/2023**Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.15(7) - The Consultant discussed with the Director that 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.

Correction Deadline: 6/1/2023

591-1-1-.18 Kitchen Operations**Technical Assistance****Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.18(5) - The Consultant discussed with the Director to please ensure that expired items were removed from the refrigerator.

Correction Deadline: 6/1/2023

Health and Hygiene

591-1-1-.10 Diapering Areas & Practices(CR)**Not Met****Comment**

Staff state proper knowledge of diapering procedures.

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 the diapering changing pads in Rooms 1L, 1R, and 2R were observed to have tears on this date.

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: 6/2/2023

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

Proper hand washing observed throughout the center.

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

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

Policies and Procedures

591-1-1-.21 Operational Policies & Procedures**Technical Assistance****Comment**

Program observed complete emergency drills

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.21(1)(p) - The Consultant discussed with the Director to please ensure that a plan for possible flooding was included in the Emergency Preparedness Plans on this date.

Correction Deadline: 6/6/2023

591-1-1-.27 Posted Notices**Technical Assistance****Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.27 - The Consultant discussed with the Director to please ensure to post in a designated area for public viewing near the front entrance of each building the following: the Center's current License or Permit; a copy of these rules; a copy of the current communicable disease chart; a statement allowing Parent(s) access to all child care areas upon notifying any staff member of his or her presence; names of persons responsible for the administration of the Center in the administrator's absence; the dated current week's menu for meals and snacks; emergency plans for severe weather, fire, and other emergency situations; a statement requiring visitors to check in with Staff when entering the Center; no smoking signs; and a notice provided by the Department which advises Parents of their right to review a copy of the Center's most recent licensure evaluation report upon request to the Center Director.

Correction Deadline: 6/1/2023

Safety

591-1-1-.05 Animals**N/A****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)**N/A****Comment**

Center does not participate in field trips at this time.

591-1-1-.36 Transportation(CR)**N/A****Comment**

Center does not provide routine transportation.

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

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

Pleasant naptime environment observed.

Staff Records

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

Correction Deadline: 4/4/2022

Corrected on 6/1/2023

.09(1)(a) - Previous citation corrected, based on review of records, that every employee had a valid and current Comprehensive Records Check Determination on file on this date.

Correction Deadline: 4/4/2022

Corrected on 6/1/2023

.09(1)(c) - Previous citation corrected, based on review of records, that every employee had a valid and current Comprehensive Records Check Determination on file on this date.

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

Comment

Complete first aid kits observed in center.

Comment

Please be mindful of training expiration dates.

591-1-1-.33 Staff Training **Not Met**

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 records, that Staff #9 was lacking evidence for completing ten clock hours of annual training for 2022. There was evidence on file for five hours completed.

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: 12/31/2023

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) **Met**

Comment

Center observed to maintain appropriate staff:child ratios.

591-1-1-.32 Supervision(CR) **Technical Assistance**

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.32(7) - The Consultant discussed with the Director to please ensure that 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.

Correction Deadline: 6/1/2023