



**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: 5/17/2023 **VisitType:** Complaint Investigation Follow Up **Arrival:** 9:00 AM **Departure:** 2:40 PM

CCLC-25652

Joyful Journeys CEC

8358 Fortson Court Fortson, GA 31808 Muscogee County
(706) 507-7890 kelsey@joyfuljourneys2008.com

Region Consultant

Penny Svenson

Phone: (470) 346-1037

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Mailing Address
Same

Quality Rated: ★ ★ ★

Compliance Zone Designation		
05/17/2023	Complaint Investigation Follow Up	Good Standing
01/31/2023	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing
12/01/2022	Incident Investigation Closure	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	Rm A (BR2)	Infants	1	6	C	12	C	NA	NA	Feeding, Nap, Flo or Play
Main	Rm B (BR1)	Infants and One Year Olds	2	8	C	12	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main	Rm C (K4)	Four Year Olds	1	13	C	14	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main	Rm F (K2A)	Two Year Olds	2	18	C	20	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main	Rm G (K1B)	One Year Olds	2	16	C	16	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main	Rm H (K1A)	One Year Olds	2	15	C	16	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main	Rm I (K2B)	Two Year Olds and Three Year Olds	2	19	C	20	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main	Room D (K3)	Three Year Olds	1	27	C	30	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main	Room E ASP		0	0	C	14	C	NA	NA	
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 154					Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					
Total # Children this Date: 122			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 154			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0				

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	Playground-2 yrs	24	C
Main	Playground3-12	32	C

Comments

May 17, 2023--The visit was conducted on this date. The findings were discussed with the Director.

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

Kelsey MacMinn, Program Official

Date

Penny Svenson, Consultant

Date



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(Findings Report)

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The following information is associated with a Complaint Investigation Follow Up:

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

Not Met

Finding

591-1-1-.26(9) requires the playground to be kept clean, free from litter and free of hazards, such as but not limited to rocks, exposed tree roots and exposed sharp edges of concrete. It was determined based on observation that these hazards were present:

Main Playground (3-12)--a large rock near the entrance of the playground that measured 12 inches by 9 inches, a rock in the center of the playground that was exposed due to heavy rain that measured three inches by five inches, and a hole front center of the playground that measured 7 inches by 7 inches.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will remove any litter and fix or remove hazards from the playground and will routinely monitor the playground and remove litter and hazards. The Director will attempt to dig the rock out or will paint the rock with a bright colored spray paint as the rock has been covered with sand and filler on multiple occasions and will not stay covered. The hole will be filled in with top soil. The concrete with sharp edges will be covered with a rubberized coating or covered with concrete that is smooth and does not have sharp edges present.

Correction Deadline: 5/22/2023

Recited on 5/17/2023