



**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

Cover Sheet

Date: 6/21/2021 **VisitType:** Complaint Investigation by Phone **Arrival:** 3:00 PM **Departure:** 4:00 PM

CCLC-52677

Northside Prep Downtown

1080 Second Street Macon, GA 31201 Bibb County
(478) 474-7333 thea@northsideprep.net

Regional Consultant

Sondra Paster

Phone: (478) 314-5803

Fax: (478) 314-5811

sondra.paster@dec.al.ga.gov

Mailing Address

Same

Quality Rated: ★

Compliance Zone Designation		
06/21/2021	Complaint Investigation by Phone	Good Standing
03/29/2021	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing
07/22/2020	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

Comments

The complaint was conducted by Phone. The complaint is closed as of July 16, 2021. The center was contacted and a the report was discussed. A plan of improvement is needed.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 07/30/2021

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.al.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



Important New Deadlines:

Due to the ongoing COVID restrictions, the deadline to become Quality Rated for programs who want to continue to receive Childcare and Parent Services (CAPS), has been extended to at least December 31, 2021.

Get started today! Sign up by completing a short online application: <https://qualityrated.decal.ga.gov/>
Request free technical assistance to help you earn your star rating by contacting the Quality Rated help desk at 855-800-7747 or qualityrated@decal.ga.gov

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), e-mail the following information to CCSRefutations@decal.ga.gov.

- 1) Facility name, license number and visit date
- 2) Your name, title/relationship to the facility, e-mail address & up to two phone number(s) where you can be reached
- 3) Specific rule number(s) that you are refuting, along with your concerns or questions regarding the rule citation

Refutations must be submitted to Child Care Services (CCS) within 10 business days of the completion date.

A sample form for submitting a refutation can be found at: <http://decal.ga.gov/ChildCareServices/RefutationInformation.aspx>

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)

Thea Ramsey, Program Official

Date

Sondra Paster, Consultant

Date



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Findings Report

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The following information is associated with a Complaint Investigation by Phone:

Activities and Equipment

591-1-1-.03 Activities

Not Met

Finding

591-1-1-.03(3) requires the Center to offer opportunities for each child to make choices in a variety of activities. It was determined based on investigative findings and review of video footage that on June 8, 2021, that a staff member grabbed a two-year-old child by the arm to prevent the child from playing with musical instruments during free play.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will train Staff to offer a variety of activity choices for each child. The Center will monitor regularly to ensure this is done.

Correction Deadline: 6/21/2021

Facility

591-1-1-.25 Physical Plant - Safe Environment(CR)

Technical Assistance

Technical Assistance

Consultant discussed with the director that bleach/water solutions should be kept inaccessible to children at all times throughout the center.

Health and Hygiene

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 review of video footage that on June 8, 2021, a staff member was observed to clean a child's nose and physically interact with children without washing her hands.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will ensure liquid soap and warm running water are available for hand washing, train Staff on the hand washing requirements, review the requirements with Staff periodically, and monitor hand washing.

Correction Deadline: 6/21/2021

Safety

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 investigative findings and review of video footage that on June 8, 2021, a staff member was observed to use inappropriate disciplinary practices when she forcefully grabbed a child by the arm causing the child to fall to the floor and she also forcefully grabbed another child by the arm. The staff member was observed to snatch a doll house across the top of the child's head, while trying to take the doll house away from the child as the child was holding it overhead. It was further determined that the staff member pulled a child by the back of the shirt and dragged the child across the floor towards the staff member. The staff member was also observed to point her finger in a child's face while talking to the child, swat her hand at a child as they attempted to talk to her, and snatch toys from children and throw them across the room.

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: 6/21/2021