



**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:** 2/7/2022    **VisitType:** Monitoring Visit    **Arrival:** 10:00 AM    **Departure:** 11:30 AM

**CCLC-35528**

**Jackson Heights Christian Academy**

3737 Inner Perimeter Road Valdosta, GA 31602 Lowndes County  
 (229) 244-4420 jacksonheights1612@yahoo.com

**Regional Consultant**

Kelly Wilson

Phone: (770) 405-7928  
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 kelly.wilson@dec.al.ga.gov

**Mailing Address**  
 Same

Joint with: Beth Houtz

**Quality Rated:** ★ ★

<b>Compliance Zone Designation</b>		
02/07/2022	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing
08/13/2021	Licensing Study	Good Standing
01/13/2021	Monitoring Visit	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-infants-1 yr	Infants and One Year Olds	3	13	C	15	C	NA	NA	Nap, Floor Play
MAIN	B-1 & 2 yrs	Two Year Olds	1	5	C	16	C	NA	NA	Art
MAIN	C-3+ yrs	Three Year Olds	1	6	C	15	C	NA	NA	Centers
MAIN	D-PreK (4+)	GA PreK	2	12	C	29	C	NA	NA	Transitioning
MAIN	E-3+		0	0	C	14	C	NA	NA	
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 79						Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0	Building @35 capacity limited by Fire Marshall Limitations			
Total # Children this Date: 36			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 79			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0				

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
MAIN	A-Left	41	C
MAIN	B-Back	73	C

**Comments**

An in-person walkthrough of the facility was conducted on February 7, 2022. A letter requesting documents be uploaded by February 14, 2022, for the annual review was left with the director after the walkthrough. The center does provide transportation. Background checks for all staff were reviewed during the walk though visit. The annual review was completed on February 17, 2022, and a copy of the report was emailed to the provider on this day.

Plan of Improvement: No Plan Developed

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.decal.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](mailto: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](mailto: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)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Cathy Green, Program Official

Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Kelly Wilson, Consultant

Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Beth Houtz, 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)**

**Technical Assistance**

**Comment**

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

**Technical Assistance**

The consultant discussed the requirement 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. A blue plastic chair in the reading area of the three year old room had a torn piece on the arm with exposed foam. The provider stated they would cover the tear with duct tape.

**Correction Deadline: 2/7/2022**

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

**Met**

**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)**

**Technical Assistance**

**Technical Assistance**

The consultant discussed with the provider the requirement that potentially hazardous equipment, materials and supplies be stored in a locked area inaccessible to children. The three-year-old classroom had a mop and empty bucket stored next to the children's cubicles that was in reach of children in care.

**Correction Deadline: 2/7/2022**

**Finding**

591-1-1-.26(4) requires that playgrounds be protected from traffic or other hazards by a (4) four foot high fence or other barrier approved by this Department. Fencing material shall not present a hazard to children and shall be maintained so as to prevent children from leaving the playground area by any means other than through an approved access route. Fence gates shall be kept closed except when persons are entering or exiting the area. It was determined based on observation that measurements taken at multiple locations around the perimeter of the fence were three feet eight inches, three feet ten inches, three feet nine inches, three feet eleven inches, and three feet ten inches and not the required four feet. Additionally, a five and one half inch gap was also observed at the back gate.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center will routinely check the fence to determine if it is in good repair and remains at least 4 feet high, and will repair any hazards. The Center will train Staff to identify and report any fence hazards and to keep the fence gates closed when not in use.

**Correction Deadline: 2/7/2022**

**Finding**

591-1-1-.26(6) requires that playground equipment provide an opportunity for the children to engage in a variety of experiences and shall be age-appropriate. For example, toddlers shall not be permitted to swing in swings designed for School-age Children. The outdoor equipment shall be free of lead-based paint, sharp corners and shall be regularly maintained in such a way as to be free of rust and splinters that could pose significant safety hazard to the children. All equipment shall be arranged so as not to obstruct supervision of children. It was determined based on observation that the following hazards were observed on the playground and were accessible to children in care.

- On the toddler playground the green sandbox had a cover that was cracked with sharp edges in two places, and there was a brown playhouse with a broken door that had a hole with sharp edges.
- On the preschool playground there was a green duplo container that had cracked sharp edges, a beige plastic writing desk with a cracked cup holder that had sharp edges, a blue merry-go-round with chipped paint and exposed rust, a plastic beige work bench with broken and sharp edges, and a red metal playhouse with a broken wooden bench and three rusted bolts protruding.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center will provide a variety of age-appropriate equipment that is arranged so as not to obstruct supervision of children. Staff will check the equipment daily to ensure that the equipment is free of hazards, rust and splinters.

**Correction Deadline: 2/17/2022**

**Finding**

591-1-1-.26(8) requires climbing and swinging equipment to have a resilient surface beneath the equipment and the fall zone from such equipment must be adequately maintained by the Center to assure continuing resiliency. It was determined based on observation that the fall zone around the ladder of the big climbing equipment on the preschool playground was less than six feet.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center will add additional resilient surfacing to the fall zones where needed and check daily, adding resilient surfacing as needed to maintain adequate resiliency.

**Correction Deadline: 2/17/2022**

<b>Food Service</b>
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**Finding**

591-1-1-.15(2)(c) requires age-appropriate solid foods (including cereal) not be given to infants or children less than one (1) year of age until recommended as developmentally appropriate by the child's primary care physician and indicated in writing by the Parent(s) and requires a child to be fed from individual spoons and individual containers or dishes as soon as the feeding plan indicates that a child is ready for solid foods. A child shall not be fed directly from the original baby food container if the contents are to be fed to the child at more than one (1) meal or to more than one (1) child. It was determined based on observation that a baby bottle for an infant less than one (1) year of age had cereal mixed in with formula.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center will ensure that age-appropriate solid foods are given only as recommended by the child's physician and upon written instruction by the Parent(s). The Center will provide a sufficient number of spoons and dishes/containers and will train staff on proper feeding practices, review the procedures regularly and monitor to ensure procedures are followed.

**Correction Deadline: 2/7/2022**

**Health and Hygiene**

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

Met

**Comment**

Staff state proper knowledge of diapering procedures.

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

Met

**Comment**

Staff were observed to remind children to wash hands.

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

Met

**Comment**

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

**Safety**

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

Met

**Comment**

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

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

Not Met

**Comment**

Complete documentation of transportation observed.

**Comment**

The vehicle had an approved fire extinguisher and first aid kit on this date.

**Finding**

591-1-1-.36(4)(b) requires that the interior of a transportation vehicle be clean, in safe repair and free of hazardous items, objects and/or other non-essential items which could cause injury. It was determined based on observation that the following hazards were observed on the vehicle tag 1037.

- On the middle seat of the middle row there was a broken seat belt cover where the belt is attached to the back of the seat that had exposed sharp edges that could cause injury to children in care.
- On the driver's side seats of the middle row and the third row there were buckles with broken covers that exposed sharp metal edges that could cause injury to children in care.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The center will maintain that all transportation vehicles are clean, in safe repair, and free from hazards.

**Correction Deadline: 2/8/2022**

**Comment**

The consultant discussed the floor mats of the van were folded in half and could cause a tripping hazard to the children entering and exiting the van. The provider stated the van had under gone cleaning and the mats would be straightened to their proper position.

**Correction Deadline: 2/8/2022**

<b>Sleeping &amp; Resting Equipment</b>
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**591-1-1-.30 Safe Sleeping and Resting Requirements(CR)**

**Not Met**

**Finding**

591-1-1-.30(1)(a)3 requires that each crib shall have only an individual, tight-fitting sheet which is changed daily or more often as needed and prior to a change of occupant. It was determined based on observation that two unoccupied cribs in the infant room had a loose fitting sheet on one crib and a sheet with a hole in it on another crib.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The center will ensure that each crib has an individual, tight-fitting sheet which is changed daily or more often as needed and prior to a change of occupant. The sheets were replaced while the consultant made observations.

**Correction Deadline: 2/7/2022**

**Comment**

The consultant discussed with the provider that infants should not sleep in sweat shirts with hoods due to the possibility of the infant becoming entangled in the hood or the hood covering the infants face as they roll over in the crib.

**Correction Deadline: 2/7/2022**

<b>Staff Records</b>
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**Records Reviewed: 12**

**Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 0**

Staff # 1	Met
Staff # 2	Met
Date of Hire: 08/30/2019	
Staff # 3	Met
Date of Hire: 09/11/1998	
Staff # 4	Met
Date of Hire: 07/08/2013	
Staff # 5	Met
Staff # 6	Met
Staff # 7	Met
Date of Hire: 02/18/2020	
Staff # 8	Met

**Records Reviewed: 12**

**Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 0**

Staff # 9	Met
Staff # 10	Met
Date of Hire: 05/19/2021	
Staff # 11	Met
Staff # 12	Met
Date of Hire: 08/25/2016	

**Staff Credentials Reviewed: 4**

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

**Comment**

Criminal record checks were observed to be complete.

**591-1-1-.33 Staff Training Defer**

**Defer**

591-1-1-.33(5)-This citation is deferred until the next regulatory visit when annual training for calendar year 2021 will be reviewed. Annual training for calendar year 2020 was reviewed during the August 13, 2021, Licensing visit.

**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. The employee #4 from the previous visit did complete the 10 hours annual training for 2020.

**Correction Deadline: 8/12/2022**

**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) Met**

**Comment**

Staff observed to provide direct supervision and be attentive to children's needs.