



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: 9/15/2022 **VisitType:** Licensing Study

Arrival: 11:30 AM **Departure:** 3:30 PM

CCLC-50130

The Mills Academy

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 (404) 768-1530 themillsacademy18@gmail.com

Regional Consultant

Princess Walton

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Mailing Address

2545 jolly rd
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Quality Rated: ★ ★

Compliance Zone Designation			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.
09/15/2022	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
02/01/2022	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
07/26/2021	Licensing Study	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	A-1L-Infants & 1's	Infants and One Year Olds and Five Year Olds	2	18	C	17	NC	NA	NA	Diapering,Nap
Main	B-2L- 2's	Infants	2	10	C	19	C	NA	NA	Free Play,Nap
Main	C-3L Back- 3's &4's	Three Year Olds	1	15	C	37	C	52	C	Lunch
Main	D-3R Back-3's, 4's & ASP	Three Year Olds	1	15	C	35	C	49	C	Lunch,Nap
Main	E- 2R-2's	Two Year Olds	2	16	C	22	C	NA	NA	Nap
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 130			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 159							
Total # Children this Date: 74			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 130							
			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 159							

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	Large	66	C
Main	Small	12	C

Comments

The purpose of this visit is to conduct a licesning study visit and to follow-up to previous visit.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 09/15/2022

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.state.ga.us/CCS/RuleAndRegulations.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 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.state.ga.us for more information. Free technical assistance is available!

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)

Tenisha Booker, Program Official

Date

Princess Walton, Consultant

Date



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Findings Report

Date: 9/15/2022 **VisitType:** Licensing Study

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The following information is associated with a Licensing Study:

Activities and Equipment

591-1-1-.03 Activities

Not Met

Finding

591-1-1-.03(2) requires the Center to keep current lesson plans on site that reflect appropriate instruction practices and activities to support children's development. The Center shall have sufficient and varied play and learning equipment and materials to support the above program of activities in all developmental areas. It was determined based on observation that none of the classrooms had lessons plans posted as required.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will keep current lesson plans on site that include appropriate instruction practices and activities and will have sufficient and varied play and learning equipment and materials to support the activities.

Correction Deadline: 9/15/2022

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

Met

Comment

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

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

Met

Comment

Center does not provide swimming activities.

Facility

591-1-1-.06 Bathrooms

Technical Assistance

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.06(7) - Please ensure that bathroom is cleaned.

Correction Deadline: 9/15/2022

591-1-1-.19 License Capacity(CR)**Technical Assistance****Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.19(1) - Consultant discuss license capacity with the owner/director.

Correction Deadline: 9/15/2022

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

591-1-1-.25(13) - Consultant discuss hazardous materials with staff.

Correction Deadline: 9/15/2022

591-1-1-.26 Playgrounds(CR)**Not Met****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 consultant observation that the back gate was left open.

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: 9/15/2022**Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.26(8) - Consultant discuss with the owner to ensure to have the required resilience under the climber.

Correction Deadline: 9/25/2022**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 there was trash on the playground, exposed roots and rocks that are potential hazard to children. Consultant further observed the wood pieces to have nails protruding that could be potential hazard. Also observed large tree branches and vines hanging over the fences.

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.

Correction Deadline: 9/15/2022

Food Service

591-1-1-.15 Food Service & Nutrition**Not Met****Comment**

Please ensure that bottles are covered and fully labeled with child's full name.

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.15(3) - Please ensure that baby bottles are labels.

Correction Deadline: 9/15/2022**Finding**

591-1-1-.15(4) requires that a feeding chair or similar equipment designed for feeding children shall be provided for the use of each child being fed who is capable of sitting up but who is unable to sit unassisted at a table and must be cleaned with a disinfectant after each use. Such chair or similar equipment shall have a broad base to prevent tipping, a surface that the child cannot raise, a strap or other device which prevents the child from sliding out of the chair, and a feeding surface free of cracks. It was determined based on consultant observation that in the infant classrooms the infant chairs was missing straps.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will inspect feeding equipment to ensure it meets each of the listed criteria and to verify a feeding chair or equipment is provided for each child who requires one. The Center will train staff and monitor to ensure that the feeding equipment is cleaned with a disinfectant after each use.

Correction Deadline: 9/15/2022

Finding

591-1-1-.15(6)(b) requires that food and beverages be served in individual plates or bowls and with individual glasses or cups. It was determined based on consultant observation that two 1yr olds were serve food on the table without plates..

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The center will use individual food service items to serve food and beverages.

Correction Deadline: 9/15/2022

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

591-1-1-.18(5) - Please ensure that the refrigerator is set to 40 degrees and below.

Correction Deadline: 9/15/2022

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 consultant observation that the diaper changing pad had tears and was not smooth 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: 9/15/2022

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.10(7) - Please ensure that lids are on trash cans.

Correction Deadline: 9/15/2022

591-1-1-.17 Hygiene(CR)**Met****Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.17(6) - Please ensure that trash cans have lids on them.

Correction Deadline: 9/15/2022

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****Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.21(3) - Please ensure that drills are conducted as required.

Correction Deadline: 9/20/2022

591-1-1-.29 Required Reporting

Met

Comment

Discussed reporting requirements.

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)

Met

Comment

Center does not provide routine transportation.

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

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

Not Met

Comment

Discussed SIDS and infant sleeping position.

Finding

591-1-1-.30(2) requires the Center to provide a safe sleep environment in accordance with American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP), Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) and American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM) recommendations as listed in these rules for all infants. Center Staff shall place an infant to sleep on the infant's back in a crib unless the Center has been provided a physician's written statement authorizing another sleep position for that particular infant that includes how the infant shall be placed to sleep and a time frame that the instructions are to be followed. When an infant can easily turn over from back to front and back again, Staff shall continue to put the infant to sleep initially on the infant's back but allow the infant to roll over into his or her preferred position and not re-position the infant. Sleepers, sleep sacks and wearable blankets that fit according to the commercial manufacturer's guidelines and will not slide up around the infant's face may be used when necessary for the comfort of the sleeping infant. Swaddling shall not be used unless the Center has been provided a physician's written statement authorizing its use for a particular infant that includes instructions and a time frame for swaddling the infant. Center Staff shall not place objects or allow objects to be placed in or on the crib with an infant such as but not limited to toys, pillows, quilts, comforters, bumper pads, sheepskins, stuffed toys, or other soft items and shall not attach objects or allow objects to be attached to a crib with a sleeping infant, such as, but not limited to, crib gyms, toys, mirrors and mobiles. It was determined based on consultant observation that blankets were observed in the cribs with 6 sleeping infants. Consultant also observed infants to have bibs on and pacifies while sleeping in the cribs. Consultant further observed one infant swaddled in the crib.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will take all steps necessary to provide a safe sleep environment for infants as listed in these rules; will train Staff to follow these rules; and will monitor for compliance.

Correction Deadline: 9/22/2022

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.30(2)(a) - Please ensure that the temperature is comfortable for the infants.

Correction Deadline: 9/15/2022

Staff Records

Staff # 1	Met
Staff # 2	Met
Date of Hire: 10/01/2018	
Staff # 3	Met
Date of Hire: 07/09/2020	
Staff # 4	Met
Date of Hire: 10/15/2020	
Staff # 5	Met
Staff # 6	Met
Date of Hire: 01/02/2022	
Staff # 7	Met
Date of Hire: 10/20/2020	
Staff # 8	Met
Date of Hire: 06/21/2021	
Staff # 9	Met
Date of Hire: 11/01/2018	
Staff # 10	Met
Date of Hire: 10/01/2021	
Staff # 11	Met
Date of Hire: 02/08/2021	
Staff # 12	Met
Staff # 13	Met
Date of Hire: 01/13/2022	
Staff # 14	Met
Date of Hire: 01/13/2022	
Staff # 15	Met
Date of Hire: 01/13/2022	
Staff # 16	Met
Date of Hire: 02/08/2021	
Staff # 17	Met

Date of Hire: 03/09/2021

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**Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.33(4) requires within the first year of employment, the Director and person with primary responsibility for food preparation shall have four clock hours of training in food nutrition planning, preparation, serving, proper dish washing and food storage. It was determined based on consultant that the director and employee responsible for preparation of food did not have the four hours of nutrition training.

It was determined, based on review of documents, that the director did not have evidence of completing the required four hours of nutrition training.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will schedule food preparation training, as required, and follow up to ensure the training is completed.

Correction Deadline: 9/22/2022**Recited on 9/15/2022****591-1-1-.31 Staff(CR)****Met****Comment**

Discussed that all lead staff must enroll in an approved education program within 6 months of hire and complete degree within 18 months.

Staffing and Supervision**591-1-1-.32 Staff:Child Ratios and Group Size(CR)****Technical Assistance****Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.32(1) - Consultant discuss ratio with the owner/director.

Correction Deadline: 9/15/2022**591-1-1-.32 Supervision(CR)****Met****Comment**

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