



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: 4/15/2024 **VisitType:** Licensing Study

Arrival: 9:30 AM **Departure:** 2:15 PM

CCLC-14762

Bright Beginnings Learning Center

2327 Second Avenue Decatur, GA 30032 DeKalb County
(404) 941-7194 erikasherece2012@gmail.com

Regional Consultant

Jessica Johnson

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Mailing Address

Same

Quality Rated: ★

<u>Compliance Zone Designation</u>			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.
04/15/2024	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
01/29/2024	POI Follow Up	Good Standing	
12/12/2023	Monitoring Visit	Deficient	

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	One Year Olds and Two Year Olds	1	3	C	12	C	NA	NA	Outside
Main	B infant room		0	0	C	7	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Main	C		0	0	C	15	C	21	C	
Main	D	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	1	7	C	17	C	24	C	Outside
			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 51			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 51				
Total # Children this Date: 10			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 51			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 51				

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	Playground	88	C

Comments

An on-site inspection was conducted on April 15, 2024 with the Director Latrawn Ellis. Staff files, children's files, training, and background checks were all reviewed.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 04/15/2024

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

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 user id 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.state.ga.us for more information. Free technical assistance is available!



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(Findings Report)

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The following information is associated with a Licensing Study:

Activities and Equipment

591-1-1-.03 Activities

Met

Comment

591-1-1-.03(2) -The Consultant discussed with the Director that 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.

Correction Deadline: 4/15/2024

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

Technical Assistance

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.12(2) - The Consultant discussed with the Director tightening the loose handle bar on the refrigerator in classroom C.

Correction Deadline: 4/15/2024

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

Technical Assistance

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.08(1) - The Consultant discussed with the program updating the no liability forms for child # 1, #2, and #3.

Correction Deadline: 4/15/2024

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(13) requires that potentially hazardous equipment, materials and supplies be stored in a locked area inaccessible to children. It was determined based on a review of records that the following hazards were observed:

Classroom A

- Staples throughout.
- A two-year-old child hold a A & D ointment container.

Classroom D

- A plastic grocery bag hanging from the hooks on the back left side of the classroom.
- Benadryl gel, acetaminophen, and diaper wipes in an unlocked white cabinet.

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: 4/15/2024

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.25(3) - The Consultant discussed with the Director repairing the broken corner on the gray and yellow shelf under the television in classroom C. The Consultant discussed with the Director covering the small hole in the wall in the book area in classroom D.

Correction Deadline: 4/15/2024

591-1-1-.26 Playgrounds(CR)**Not Met****Comment**

Discussed maintenance of resilient surface. Please fluff and redistribute.

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.26(4) - The Consultant discussed adding a pool noodle to the three and a half inch gap at the front entrance gate near the van.

Correction Deadline: 4/15/2024

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.26(4) The Consultant discussed with the Director that fence gates shall be kept closed except when persons are entering or exiting the area.

Correction Deadline: 4/15/2024

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 observation that the following hazards were observed on the playground:

- Two active ant piles near the orange and green seesaw and orange car.
- Hanging tree limbs on the right back side of the fence.
- Exposed concrete near the back barrier in front of the tan/green truck.
- Two disconnected screws on the stairs on the white/purple/blue play equipment.
- Two protruding bolts from the black barrier near the fireman pole.
- Large tree limbs on the left side of the tree near the van.

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: 4/29/2024

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

Not Met

Comment

Hand washing requirements for diapering were discussed with the director on this date.

Finding

591-1-1-.10(3) requires Center Staff to change diapers in the child's own crib or on a diaper changing surface that is used for no purposes other than changing diapers and other clothing in each room where infants or any other children wearing diapers are served. It was determined based on observation that a staff member changed a two-year-old child's diaper while they were lying on the floor.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will ensure Staff are trained regarding specifically where to change diapers and clothing in each room housing children who are wearing diapers.

Correction Deadline: 4/15/2024

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

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.21(1)(p) - The Consultant discussed with the Director updating the emergency preparedness plan. The Consultant discussed that the the Center must have a written plan for handling emergencies, including but not limited to severe weather, loss of electrical power or water and death, serious injury or loss of a child, a threatening event, or natural disaster which may occur at the Center; to have in place procedures for evacuation, relocation, shelter-in-place, lock-down, communication and reunification with families, and continuity of operations. The plan must apply to all children in care and include specific accommodations for infants and toddlers, children with disabilities, and children with chronic medical conditions and shall include assurance that no Center Personnel will impede in any way the delivery of emergency care or services to a child by licensed or certified emergency health care professionals.

Correction Deadline: 4/20/2024

Safety

591-1-1-.05 Animals

Met

Comment

Center does not keep animals on premises.

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

Met

Comment

Age-appropriate discussion and/or redirection observed.

591-1-1-.13 Field Trips(CR)

Met

Comment

Center does not participate in field trips at this time.

Finding

591-1-1-.36(3)(a-b) requires any Center that provides any type of transportation to obtain two (2) hours of state-approved or state-accepted transportation training, biannually, for the Director and for each person responsible for or who participates in the transportation of children. The training shall include, but is not limited to, a review of the transportation rules, a review of approved transportation forms and procedures, and instruction on the usage and completion of the forms and procedures. This training may be counted as part of the annual training requirements for Staff. It was determined based on a review of records that staff #6 did not complete the two hours of state-approved training as of this date.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will ensure that the Director, Center Staff, and any person responsible for the transportation of children has completed the required transportation training.

Correction Deadline: 5/2/2024

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.36(7)(b) - The Consultant discussed with the Director updating the doctor's contact information and the parent work contact number on the emergency vehicle medical forms.

Correction Deadline: 4/16/2024

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

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

Met

Comment

The Center does not currently have any infant in care.

Comment

The correct number of mats, sheets and blankets were observed on this date. Cleaning and disinfecting of mats was discussed with the director on this date.

Staff Records

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

Technical Assistance

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.09(1)(c) - requires the Center to ensure that every Employee has a valid and current satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination on file prior to being present at the Center while any child is present for care or before an individual age 17 or older resides in the Center. The Comprehensive Records Check Determination must have a Records Check Clearance Date that is no older than the preceding 12 months of the hire date; provided, however, if the Employee has had a lapse of employment from the child care industry that lasted for 180 days (6 months) or longer, a new satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination is required.

Correction Deadline: 4/15/2024

Correction Deadline: 1/29/2024

Corrected on 4/15/2024

.09(1)(j) - Citation corrected. Criminal records checks were observed complete.

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

Not Met

Finding

591-1-1-.14(2) requires a Staff member who is trained in CPR and first aid to be on the premises and on any field trip whenever any child is present. In addition, Staff who provide direct care to children must satisfactorily obtain certification in first aid and CPR by December 29, 2016 if employed prior to September 30, 2016 and within 90 days of their hire date if employed after September 30, 2016. It was determined based on a review of records that staff # 2 did not have a first aid and CPR certification within 90 days of employment.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will develop a schedule to ensure there is always a staff person with current first aid and CPR training present and will develop and implement a plan to ensure all staff members have satisfactorily completed first aid and CPR training by the specified date.

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

591-1-1-.33(3) requires each Staff member with direct care responsibilities to complete health and safety orientation training within the first 90 days of employment. The state-approved training hours obtained will count toward required first year training hours. The training must address the following health and safety topics: prevention and control of infectious diseases (including immunizations); prevention of sudden infant death syndrome and use of safe sleeping practices; administration of medication, consistent with standards for parental consent; prevention of and response to emergencies due to food and allergic reactions; building and physical premises safety, including identification of and protection from hazards that can cause bodily injury such as electrical hazards, bodies of water, and vehicular traffic; prevention of shaken baby syndrome, abusive head trauma and child maltreatment; emergency preparedness and response planning for emergencies resulting from a natural disaster or a human-caused event (such as violence at a child care facility); handling and storage of hazardous materials and the appropriate disposal of bio contaminants; precautions in transporting children; recognition and reporting of child abuse and neglect; and child development. It was determined based on a review of records that staff #6 did not complete the health and safety orientation training within the first 90 days of employment.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will develop and implement a plan to schedule and track this training for all employees based on their hire dates and will ensure that the training includes all required components as required.

Correction Deadline: 5/15/2024**Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.33(5) - The Consultant discussed with the Director 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.

Correction Deadline: 5/15/2024**591-1-1-.31 Staff(CR)****Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.31(2)(b)2. requires teachers and lead caregivers to meet minimum academic requirements and qualifying experience at the time of employment. It was determined based on a review of records that staff #1 did not have the minimum academic requirements for the lead teacher position as of this date.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

A teacher/lead caregiver will be hired that meets the minimum academic requirements and qualifying work experience.

Correction Deadline: 5/15/2024**Comment**

591-1-1-.31(8)(b) - The Consultant discussed with the Director that volunteers a person who volunteers no more than once per quarter and/or no more than four times in a 12-month period is not required to obtain a records check determination. Prior to volunteering, it is best practice for volunteers to participate in a structured orientation that covers the developmental needs of young children and current rules and regulations. Volunteers must be under the constant, direct supervision of a staff member who has a satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination at all times and must never be left alone with children. Volunteers do not count in staff:child ratios.

Correction Deadline: 4/15/2024**Staffing and Supervision**

591-1-1-.32 Staff:Child Ratios and Group Size(CR)**Not Met****Comment**

Center observed to maintain appropriate staff:child ratios.

Finding

591-1-1-.32(4)(a) requires that during the early morning times of arrival and late afternoon times of departure, infants and children younger than three (3) years may be grouped with older children so long as Staff: child ratios and group size are met based on the age of the youngest child in the group. It was determined based on observation that children younger than three years old were grouped with older children during nap time in classroom A.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will maintain Staff:child ratios based on the youngest child in the group during early morning and late afternoon times when children younger than three years of age may be grouped with older children.

Correction Deadline: 4/15/2024

Recited on 4/15/2024

591-1-1-.32 Supervision(CR)**Met****Comment**

Adequate supervision observed on this date.