



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: 4/8/2024 **VisitType:** Incident Investigation & Follow Up **Arrival:** 10:30 AM **Departure:** 3:45 PM

CCLC-25064

Higher Calling Christian Academy

2901 Wesley Chapel Road Decatur, GA 30034 DeKalb County
(404) 288-2494 Hccaadmin@hcfinc.org

Special Investigations Unit Sr. Specialist

Brittany Sawyers

Phone: ()

Fax:

brittany.sawyers@decal.ga.gov

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.
04/08/2024	Incident Investigation & Follow Up	Good Standing	
10/25/2023	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
03/02/2023	Monitoring Visit	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	201	Infants	1	3	C	10	C	NA	NA	Snack, Homewor k
Main	203	One Year Olds	2	6	C	12	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main	204	Three Year Olds	1	8	C	20	C	NA	NA	Free Play
Main	205	Two Year Olds	1	5	C	14	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main	208		0	0	C	20	C	NA	NA	Centers
Main	210		0	0	C	20	C	NA	NA	
Main	G	Four Year Olds	1	6	C	20	C	NA	NA	Centers
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 116					Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					
Total # Children this Date: 28					Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	A Outside	15	C
Main	B Outside	29	C

Comments

The purpose of the visit was to conduct an incident investigation and to follow up on the previous visit.

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.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 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.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 Incident Investigation & Follow Up:

	Facility
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591-1-1-19 License Capacity(CR)

Technical Assistance

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-19(1) - Consultant discussed with the center that a amendment request must be completed for room 202 to ensure that the center's license capacity requirements were met.

Correction Deadline: 4/8/2024

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

Met

Correction Deadline: 10/31/2023

Corrected on 4/8/2024

.25(3) - The previous citation was observed to be corrected, and the Consultant observed the center to be in good repair on this date.

	Health and Hygiene
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591-1-1-17 Hygiene(CR)

Met

Correction Deadline: 10/25/2023

Corrected on 4/8/2024

.17(7) - The previous citation was observed to be corrected, and the Consultant observed proper hand washing throughout the center on this date.

Correction Deadline: 10/25/2023

Corrected on 4/8/2024

.17(8) - The previous citation was observed to be corrected, and the Consultant observed proper hand washing throughout the center on this date.

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

Met

Correction Deadline: 10/25/2023

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

Not Met

Finding

591-1-1-.09(1)(b) requires the Center to ensure that every Director 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 Director 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. It was determined based on a review of records, that staff member #8 had a Comprehensive Records Check Determination that expired on December 28, 2023. This staff member was present at the center with an expired Comprehensive Records Check Determination on April 8, 2024, and while acting in the capacity as the director.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

IMMEDIATE CORRECTION - The Center will ensure that the Director 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 Director 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. The program's owner or an officer/member of the corporation must view the A to Z Background Check video units pertaining to this records check rule and return the signed affidavit within one week from this visit date. The center will ensure that the CRC rules are maintained.

Correction Deadline: 4/8/2024

Finding

591-1-1-.09(1)(l)3. requires the Center to immediately require a new Comprehensive Records Check Determination for a Director, Employee or Provisional Employee at least once every five years. It was determined, based on review of records, that staff #8 was observed to have a Comprehensive Records Check determination that expired on December 28, 2023, and had not reprinted as required.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

IMMEDIATE CORRECTION - The Center will ensure that the Director has a Comprehensive Records Check Determination on file that has been issued within the past five years. The program's owner or an officer/member of the corporation must view the A to Z Background Check video units pertaining to this records check rule and return the signed affidavit within one week from this visit date. The Center will to ensure CRC rules are maintained.

Correction Deadline: 4/8/2024