



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: 2/14/2024 VisitType: Licensing Study

Arrival: 10:00 AM

Departure: 2:00 PM

CCLC-949

Early Start Learning Center

2186 Snapfinger Road Decatur, GA 30035 DeKalb County
(404) 284-4112 essiebaker@att.net

Process & QI Unit Consultant

Melyn Smith

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Mailing Address
Same

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.
02/14/2024	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
12/13/2023	TA Follow Up	Good Standing	
11/01/2023	TA Follow Up	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
Building II	C1-A	Three Year Olds	1	13	C	24	C	34	C	Transitioning, Circle Time
Building II	C1-B	GA PreK	2	18	C	20	C	28	C	Outside, Centers
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 44			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 165							
Main	B2-1st L	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	1	15	C	20	C	27	C	Centers, Transitioning
Main	Bck end 3L	Two Year Olds	1	10	C	17	C	23	C	Circle Time, Story
Main	Front entry 1r	One Year Olds and Two Year Olds	1	6	C	13	C	NA	NA	Centers, Diapering
Main	Middle back	Infants	1	5	C	10	C	NA	NA	Floor Play, Feeding
Main	Rear entry 2L		0	0	C	22	C	30	C	
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 82			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 165							
Total # Children this Date: 67			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 126							
			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 165							

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	Left Playground	50	C

Comments

The purpose of this visit was to conduct a Licensing Study and to follow up on the previous visit.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 02/14/2024

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.decga.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

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@decga.gov for more information. Free technical assistance is available!

Essie Baker, Program Official

Date

Melyn Smith, Process & QI Unit Consultant

Date



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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-.12 Equipment & Toys(CR)

Not Met

Finding

591-1-1-.12(2) requires 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. It was determined, based on observation, that the blue vinyl couch in Building II Room C1-B was observed to have tears with vinyl exposed, which prevented the couch from being thoroughly cleaned as required. It was further determined that the three soft chairs in the library area in Room 3L in the Main Building were observed to be stained and not clean on this date.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will ensure that equipment and furniture are used by the age-appropriate group of children.

Correction Deadline: 2/21/2024

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

N/A

Comment

Center does not provide swimming activities.

Children's Records

Records Reviewed: 6

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 1

Child # 3

Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.08(1)-Doctor, Clinic, Phone Numbers

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.08(1) - Please ensure that all required information is contained in children's files, as Child #3 was lacking the information for the child's primary physician on this date.

Correction Deadline: 2/14/2024

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)**Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.25(12) requires heating and cooling equipment to be protected to prevent children from touching it. Fans, space heaters, etc. shall be positioned or installed so as to be inaccessible to the children. It was determined, based on observation, that the heating and cooling equipment was observed to be accessible to children and not blocked off in the classrooms.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will re-position or re-install equipment, as needed, and will make all such equipment inaccessible to children.

Correction Deadline: 2/21/2024

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.25(13) - The Consultant discussed with the Director to please ensure plastic bags were inaccessible to children throughout the center on this date.

Correction Deadline: 2/14/2024

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.25(8) - The Consultant discussed with the Director to please ensure that surge protectors are mounted to walls making them a permanent fixture to the building, never loose under or behind furniture.

Correction Deadline: 2/14/2024

591-1-1-.26 Playgrounds(CR)**Not Met****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 chipping paint was observed on the red helicopter and red truck on this date.

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: 2/28/2024

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.26(9) - The Consultant discussed with the Director to please ensure that sticks and branches are removed from the playground before children's access.

Correction Deadline: 2/14/2024

Food Service

591-1-1-.15 Food Service & Nutrition**Technical Assistance****Comment**

Center menu meets USDA guidelines.

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.15(9) - The Consultant discussed with the Director to please ensure that a written statement is on file from a medical authority when a child requires a modified diet for medical reasons and from the child's Parent (s) when a child requires a modified diet for religious reasons.

Correction Deadline: 2/14/2024

Health and Hygiene**591-1-1-.10 Diapering Areas & Practices(CR)****Met****Comment**

Proper diapering procedures observed.

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

Proper hand washing observed throughout the center.

Comment

Staff were observed to remind children to wash hands.

591-1-1-.20 Medications(CR)**N/A****Comment**

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

Safety**591-1-1-.11 Discipline(CR)****Met****Comment**

Age-appropriate discussion and/or redirection observed.

591-1-1-.13 Field Trips(CR)**N/A****Comment**

Center does not participate in field trips at this time.

591-1-1-.36 Transportation(CR)**Technical Assistance****Comment**

Complete documentation of transportation observed.

Comment

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

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.36(7)(b) - The Consultant discussed with the Director to please ensure that the emergency medical authorizations contain the information for the child's primary physician on this date.

Correction Deadline: 2/15/2024

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

Comment

Pleasant naptime environment observed.

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

Criminal record checks were observed to be complete.

591-1-1-.14 First Aid & CPR**Met****Comment**

Complete first aid kits observed in center and on vehicles.

Comment

Evidence observed of 50% of center staff certified in First Aid and CPR.

591-1-1-.33 Staff Training**Met****Comment**

Documentation observed of required staff training.

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.