



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: 10/25/2023 **VisitType:** Licensing Study

Arrival: 10:20 AM

Departure: 1:50 PM

CCLC-25064

Higher Calling Christian Academy

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

Regional Consultant

Cassandra Jakes-Beasley

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cassandra.jakes-beasley@decal.ga.gov

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.
10/25/2023	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
03/02/2023	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
09/14/2022	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	201	Infants	1	6	C	10	C	NA	NA	Floor Play
Main	203	One Year Olds	1	6	C	12	C	NA	NA	Lunch, Floor Play
Main	204	Three Year Olds	1	7	C	20	C	NA	NA	Floor Play
Main	205	Two Year Olds	1	9	C	14	C	NA	NA	Floor Play
Main	208	Four Year Olds	2	2	C	20	C	NA	NA	Outside
Main	210		0	0	C	20	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Main	G		0	0	C	20	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 116					Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					
Total # Children this Date: 30					Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					

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

Comments

A Licensing Study was conducted on October 25, 2023. Staff files, children's files, and training documentation were all reviewed. The Consultant completed the exit conference, and a copy of the Licensing Study Visit report was given to the Person in Charge.

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.al.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

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.al.ga.gov for more information. Free technical assistance is available!

Linda McDonald, Program Official

Date

Cassandra Jakes-Beasley, Regional 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-.03 Activities

Met

Comment

591-1-1-.03(5) - Discussed activities in the one-year-old classroom during diapering.

Correction Deadline: 10/25/2023

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

Met

Comment

Discussed adding equipment and toys to enhance variety in the one-year-old class

Discussed age-appropriate feeding chairs for the one and two-year-old children in the cafeteria.

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

Met

Comment

Center does not provide swimming activities.

Children's Records

Records Reviewed: 5

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 2

Child # 3

Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.08(1)-Parent Names, Work Numbers

Child # 5

Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.08(1)-Parent Names, Work Numbers

591-1-1-.08 Children's Records**Met****Comment**

Please ensure all children files include the work address and phone numbers for the parents.

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**

Correction Deadline: 3/2/2023

Corrected on 10/25/2023

.25(13) The previous citation was corrected in that all hazardous items were removed.

Finding

591-1-1-.25(3) requires the Center and surrounding premises to be kept clean, free of debris and in good repair. Hygienic measures such as, but not limited to, screened windows and proper waste disposal procedures shall be utilized to minimize the presence of rodents, flies, roaches and other vermin at the Center. It was determined based on observations that the following parts of the center was not clean or in good repair in the following rooms.

- There was peeling wood at the bottom cabinets on the right side and bottom of the right storage door in classroom 210.
- The carpet was heavily stained in the kitchen area in room 205 and the carpet was stained on the back left side in 204.
- * There was a brown sticky substance on the top of one cubby unit in room 203.
- * The outside of the door in classroom 208 was chipping at the bottom and there was rotten/deteriorating wood on that side of the building, with splintering edges.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will have the Center and surrounding areas cleaned, make repairs where needed, and remove all debris is removed. The Center will implement a plan to keep areas clean and in good repair that includes regular monitoring.

Correction Deadline: 10/31/2023

Recited on 10/25/2023

591-1-1-.26 Playgrounds(CR)**Met****Comment**

Playground observed to be clean and in good repair.

Food Service

591-1-1-.15 Food Service & Nutrition**Met****Comment**

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

Comment

Please ensure that infant feeding forms are updated regularly.

591-1-1-.18 Kitchen Operations**Met****Comment**

Please ensure that all food items are stored in airtight containers.

Health and Hygiene

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

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

591-1-1-.17 Hygiene(CR)**Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-17(7) requires that children wash their hands with liquid soap and warm running water upon arrival for care, when moving from one child care group to another, upon re-entering the child care area after outside play, before and after eating meals and snacks, handling or touching food, playing in water; after toileting and diapering, playing in sand, touching animals or pets, and contact with bodily fluids and after contamination by any other means. It was determined based on observation a staff member did not wash one child's immediately after diapering.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will train Staff on required handwashing for children and Staff will ensure children's hands are washed when required. The Director will monitor for compliance.

Correction Deadline: 10/25/2023**Finding**

591-1-1-.17(8) requires staff to wash their hands with liquid soap and warm running water upon arrival for the day, when moving from one child care group to another, upon re-entering the child care area after outside play, before and after diapering each child, dispensing medication, applying topical medications, handling and preparing food, eating, drinking, preparing bottles, feeding each child, assisting children with eating and drinking, after toileting or assisting children with toileting, using tobacco products, handling garbage and organic waste, touching animals or pets, handling bodily fluids and after contamination by any means. It was determined based on observation a staff member did not wash their hands immediately after diapering in the one-year-old classroom.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will ensure liquid soap and warm running water are available for handwashing, train Staff on the handwashing requirements, review the requirements with Staff periodically, and monitor handwashing.

Correction Deadline: 10/25/2023

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

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

Safety

591-1-1-.05 Animals**Met****Comment**

Center does not keep animals on premises.

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

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

591-1-1-.13 Field Trips(CR)**Met****Comment**

Center does not participate in field trips at this time.

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(1)(b)3 requires that sheets or similar coverings for cots or mats shall either be marked for individual use or laundered daily. If marked for individual use, they must be laundered weekly or more frequently if needed. It was determined based on observation children in classroom 204 and 205 were napping without a bottom sheet.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will ensure that mats are covered with a sheet, marked and are washed at least weekly.

Correction Deadline: 10/25/2023

Staff Records

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

Met

Correction Deadline: 3/2/2023

Corrected on 10/25/2023

.09(1)(j) - Based on a review of records, all staff members had a current determination letters on file.

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

Met

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

Adequate supervision observed on this date.

591-1-1-.32 Supervision(CR)

Met

Comment

Adequate supervision observed on this date.