



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: 3/22/2024 **VisitType:** Licensing Study

Arrival: 8:40 AM **Departure:** 1:35 PM

CCLC-14421

New Era Learning Center

4640 Hiram Lithia Springs Road Powder Springs, GA 30127 Cobb
County
(770) 943-9055 onwukaeb@aol.com

Regional Consultant

Kaiyah Werts

Phone: ()

Fax:

kaiyah.werts@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.
03/22/2024	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
07/27/2023	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
02/17/2023	Complaint Closure	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 1st Left	One Year Olds and Two Year Olds	2	6	C	15	C	NA	NA	Free Play
Main	B 2nd Left	Infants and One Year Olds	1	5	C	13	C	NA	NA	Free Play
Main	C 3rd Left	Four Year Olds	1	11	C	20	C	NA	NA	Centers
Main	D 3rd Right	GA PreK	2	15	C	20	C	NA	NA	Outside
Main	E 2nd Right	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	1	10	C	20	C	NA	NA	Centers
Main	F 1st Right	Two Year Olds	1	10	C	19	C	NA	NA	Centers
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 107			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0							
Total # Children this Date: 57			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 107			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0				

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	infant Toddler Playground	11	C
Main	School Age Playground	33	C

Comments

The purpose of this visit is to conduct a licensing study.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 03/22/2024

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.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 1 855-800-7747 or qualityrated@dec.ga.gov for more information. Free technical assistance is available!

Ben Onwukaeme, Program Official

Date

Kaiyah Werts, 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-.12 Equipment & Toys(CR)

Technical Assistance

Comment

A variety of equipment and toys were observed throughout the center.

Correction Deadline: 7/27/2023

Corrected on 3/22/2024

.12(2) - Previous citation corrected in that there was no torn equipment with exposed foam in the classrooms on this date.

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.12(4) - Please ensure purifiers are out of reach of children. Provider removed purifiers on this date.

Correction Deadline: 3/22/2024

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

N/A

Comment

Center does not provide swimming activities.

Children's Records

591-1-1-.08 Children's Records

Met

Comment

Parent agreements observed obtained/completed.

Comment

Records were observed to be complete and well organized.

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****Comment**

Center appears clean and well maintained.

Correction Deadline: 7/27/2023

Corrected on 3/22/2024

.25(13) - Previous citation corrected in that all no hazardous items were observed to be accessible to children.

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 observation classroom A and classroom B had multiple water marks on the ceiling. Also, classroom A had chipped and peeling paint on the back wall near the back door and classroom C had chipped and peeling paint on the back right wall on this date.

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: 3/22/2024

591-1-1-.26 Playgrounds(CR)**Technical Assistance****Comment**

Playground observed to be clean and well maintained.

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.26(4) - Please monitor the fencing material for any separation from the ground. Provider stated, the fence was in the process of being replaced.

Correction Deadline: 3/22/2024

Food Service

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

591-1-1-.15 - Please ensure that infant feeding forms are fully completed with no blanks.

Comment

Center menu meets USDA guidelines on this date.

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

Kitchen appears clean and well organized.

Health and Hygiene

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

Staff state proper knowledge of diapering procedures.

Correction Deadline: 7/27/2023

Corrected on 3/22/2024

.10(4) - Previous citation corrected in that classroom B, the diaper changing pad was removed and is non-porous as required.

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

Comment

Staff stated the proper hand washing procedures.

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

Comment

The Provider did not dispense/administer medication on this date.

Policies and Procedures

591-1-1-.21 Operational Policies & Procedures Met

Comment

Program observed complete emergency drills

Safety

591-1-1-.05 Animals N/A

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) N/A

Comment

Center does not participate in field trips at this time.

591-1-1-.36 Transportation(CR) Not Met

Comment

A current and completed inspection was observed for all vehicles used in transporting children this date.

Comment

Complete documentation of transportation observed.

Comment

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

Finding

591-1-1-.36(4)(b) requires that the interior of a transportation vehicle be clean, in safe repair and free of hazardous items, objects and/or other non-essential items which could cause injury. It was determined based on observation, the vehicle used for transporting children with the license number WKX242, had two tears in one of the seats with exposed foam.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The center will maintain that all transportation vehicles are clean, in safe repair, and free from hazards.

Correction Deadline: 3/23/2024

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)(a)2 requires that a crib mattress is firm, tight-fitting without gaps, at least 2 inches thick and covered with a waterproof, washable material. Before a change of occupant, each mattress shall be cleaned with a disinfectant. It was determined based on observation that classroom B had three crib mattresses that measured one and a half inches thick when two inches are required.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The center will ensure that a crib mattress is firm, tight-fitting without gaps, at least

Correction Deadline: 3/22/2024**Correction Deadline: 7/27/2023****Corrected on 3/22/2024**

.30(2) - Previous citation corrected in that cribs were observed to have no items in them and staff stated children are placed on their backs with nothing in the crib.

Staff Records

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

Criminal record checks were observed to be complete.

Comment

Director provided four files for employees hired since last visit.

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**

Center observed to maintain appropriate staff:child ratios.

Correction Deadline: 7/27/2023**Corrected on 3/22/2024**

.32(1) - Previous citation corrected in that all classroom were observed to be in ratio on this date.

Finding

591-1-1-.32(7) requires that children be supervised at all times appropriate to the individual age, needs and capabilities of each child. Such supervision must include, but not be limited to, indoor and outdoor activities, mealtimes, naptime, transportation, field trips, and transitions between activities. "Supervision" means that the appropriate number of Staff members are physically present in the area where children are being cared for and are providing watchful oversight to the children, volunteers and Students-in-Training. The persons supervising in the child care area must be alert, positioned to maximize their ability to hear and see the children at all times, and able to respond promptly to the needs and actions of the children being supervised, as well as the actions of the volunteers and Students-in-Training, and provide timely attention to the children's actions and needs. Staff shall be attentive and participating with all children during mealtimes and shall be seated within an arm's length away from children thirty-six (36) months of age and younger. It was determined based on observation that the staff member in classroom F walked out of the classroom into another classroom across the hall for approximately one minute to take a child to the correct classroom. Children were observed to be free playing during the lapse in watchful oversight.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will continue to train Staff and monitor staff to ensure they are providing supervision and watchful oversight to the children at all times. Staff will call management for assistance whenever a staff needs to leave the classroom.

Correction Deadline: 3/22/2024

Recited on 3/22/2024