



**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:** 8/14/2023    **VisitType:** Licensing Study    **Arrival:** 3:25 PM    **Departure:** 5:15 PM

**CCLC-30411**

**YBASE at Heard Elementary**

414 Lee Boulevard Savannah, GA 31405 Chatham County  
 (912) 663-4624 joquana.kelson@ymcaofcoastalga.org

**Exemption Unit Coordinator**

Sarah Benton

Phone: (770) 357-5103

Fax: (770) 357-5105

sarah.benton@dec.al.ga.gov

**Mailing Address**

6400 Habersham St. Suite A  
 Savannah, GA 31405

**Quality Rated:** ★ ★

<b>Compliance Zone Designation</b>			<b>Compliance Zone Designation</b> - 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.  <b>Good Standing</b> - Program is demonstrating an acceptable level of performance in meeting the rules. <b>Support</b> - Program performance is demonstrating a need for improvement in meeting rules. <b>Deficient</b> - Program is not demonstrating an acceptable level of performance in meeting the rules.
08/14/2023	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
03/31/2023	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
09/20/2022	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	Cafeteria	Four Year Olds and Five Year Olds and Six Year Olds and Over	3	45	C	103	C	NA	NA	Transitioning, Snack
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.:			103		Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.:		0			
Total # Children this Date:			45		Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.:		103			
					Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.:		0			

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	Playground	54	C

**Comments**

This was the first regulatory visit of the fiscal year. Per the director, the program does not participate in swimming, field trips, transportation or medication.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 08/14/2023

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.decal.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](http://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@decal.ga.gov](mailto:qualityrated@decal.ga.gov) for more information. Free technical assistance is available!**

SHANAY DUNBAR, Program Official

Date

Sarah Benton, Exemption Unit Coordinator

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)**

**Met**

**Comment**

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

**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**

**Correction Deadline: 4/17/2023**

**Corrected on 8/14/2023**

**.08(1) - Observed complete children's records.**

**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)**

**Technical Assistance**

**Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.25 - As a reminder, ensure to keep hazards out of reach of children.

Correction Deadline: 3/31/2023

Corrected on 8/14/2023

.25(19) - Director stated that they no longer use the gym but requested information regarding possibly amending their license. Access your decal koala account to amend and add the space.

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 the following was observed on the playground used by the program:

On the right climber, a broken tic tak toe tile was observed and had sharp edges. Additionally, on this climber, rust was and peeling paint were observed along the edges and near the red hand rails.

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: 8/24/2023

Finding

591-1-1-.26(8) requires climbing and swinging equipment to have a resilient surface beneath the equipment and the fall zone from such equipment must be adequately maintained by the Center to assure continuing resiliency. It was determined based on observation that the climber on the left side of the playground had approximately less than 3 inches of resilient material.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will add additional resilient surfacing to the fall zones where needed and check daily, adding resilient surfacing as needed to maintain adequate resiliency.

Correction Deadline: 8/24/2023

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 on observation that the following was observed on the playground:

The concrete footings of the basketball goal were exposed posing a risk and tripping hazard. Exposed felt was observed under the climber on the left side of the playground.

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: 8/14/2023

Health and Hygiene

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

N/A

Comment

No children enrolled who require diapering. School age children attend only for after school hours.

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

**Comment**

Staff were observed to remind children to wash hands prior to snack

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**591-1-1-.20 Medications(CR)** **Not Evaluated**

**Comment**

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

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**Policies and Procedures**

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

**Correction Deadline: 4/28/2023**

**Corrected on 8/14/2023**

**.21(3) - Observed evidence of drills for last school year.**

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**591-1-1-.27 Posted Notices** **Met**

**Comment**

Please make sure that all required signs are posted and up to date.

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**Safety**

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

**Comment**

Age-appropriate discussion and/or redirection observed.

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

**Comment**

Center does not participate in field trips at this time.

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**591-1-1-.36 Transportation(CR)** **N/A**

**Comment**

Center does not provide routine transportation.

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**Sleeping & Resting Equipment**

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**591-1-1-.30 Safe Sleeping and Resting Requirements(CR)** **N/A**

**Comment**

Sleeping/Naps are not required for this program. School age children attend only for after school hours.

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**Staff Records**

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

**Comment**

Criminal record checks were observed to be complete for four of four staff employed at the program.

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**591-1-1-.09 Criminal Records Check(CR)** **Met**

**Comment**

Criminal records checks were observed to be complete.

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

Ensure evidence in the form of CPR /First Aid Cards or certificates are available for review.

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**591-1-1-.31 Staff(CR)****Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.31(1)(c) requires that a copy and/or written verification of the credential or degree awarded to the Director by the technical college, university, school or Department-approved trainer listed in 591-1-1-.31(1)(b)2. (i) through (xiii) be maintained by the Center in the Director's file and such documentation shall be available for inspection by Department staff upon request. It was determined based on the consultant's review of records that the center did not have evidence of a credential/degree at the center for the Director. It was determined based on a review of records that the the center did not have evidence of a credential/degree at the center for the Director.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center will obtain the written verification from the Director, place it in the Director's file, and provide it to the Department if requested. The director stated that she has completed the CDA and is awaiting observation and will place the credential in the file upon completion.

**Correction Deadline: 9/14/2023**

**Recited on 8/14/2023**

<b>Staffing and Supervision</b>
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**591-1-1-.32 Staff:Child Ratios and Group Size(CR)****Met****Comment**

Center observed to maintain appropriate staff:child ratios.

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

Adequate supervision observed on this date.