



**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

Cover Sheet

Date: 12/15/2021 **VisitType:** Licensing Study

Arrival: 2:00 PM

Departure: 3:00 PM

CCLC-50415

The Ark Learning Center

1860 Duluth Highway, #100 and #101 Lawrenceville, GA 30043
Gwinnett County
(770) 299-1283 thearklearningcenter1@gmail.com

Mailing Address
Same

Regional Consultant

Beth Holland

Phone: (404) 478-8075
Fax: (404) 478-8076
beth.holland@dec.al.ga.gov

Quality Rated: No

Compliance Zone Designation		
12/15/2021	Licensing Study	Good Standing
06/16/2021	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing
11/06/2020	Licensing Study	Good Standing

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.

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 Building	A-1st Right	Infants and One Year Olds	2	8	C	13	C	NA	NA	Clean Up, Nap
Main Building	B-2nd Right	One Year Olds	1	7	C	11	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main Building	C-3rd Right	Three Year Olds	1	11	C	12	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main Building	D-1st Left	Two Year Olds	1	5	C	7	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main Building	E-Far Left	Four Year Olds	1	4	C	7	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main Building	G-2nd Suite #101		0	0	C	21	C	NA	NA	

Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 71

Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0

Total # Children this Date: 35

Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 71

Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance

Comments

An Administrative Review was conducted on December 15, 2021. Staff files, children's files, training, and background checks were all reviewed. A virtual inspection was conducted on December 15, 2021 with the director. An in-person visit was not conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

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.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



Important New Deadlines:

Due to the ongoing COVID restrictions, the deadline to become Quality Rated for programs who want to continue to receive Childcare and Parent Services (CAPS), has been extended to at least December 31, 2021.

Get started today! Sign up by completing a short online application: <https://qualityrated.decal.ga.gov/>
Request free technical assistance to help you earn your star rating by contacting the Quality Rated help desk at 855-800-7747 or qualityrated@decal.ga.gov

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), e-mail the following information to CCSRefutations@decal.ga.gov.

- 1) Facility name, license number and visit date
- 2) Your name, title/relationship to the facility, e-mail address & up to two phone number(s) where you can be reached
- 3) Specific rule number(s) that you are refuting, along with your concerns or questions regarding the rule citation

Refutations must be submitted to Child Care Services (CCS) within 10 business days of the completion date.

A sample form for submitting a refutation can be found at: <http://decal.ga.gov/ChildCareServices/RefutationInformation.aspx>

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)

Cathy Lampton, Program Official

Date

Beth Holland, Consultant

Date



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

Findings Report

Date: 12/15/2021 **VisitType:** Licensing Study

Arrival: 2:00 PM

Departure: 3:00 PM

CCLC-50415

The Ark Learning Center

1860 Duluth Highway, #100 and #101 Lawrenceville, GA 30043
Gwinnett County
(770) 299-1283 thearklearningcenter1@gmail.com

Mailing Address
Same

Regional Consultant

Beth Holland

Phone: (404) 478-8075
Fax: (404) 478-8076
beth.holland@dec.al.ga.gov

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)

Met

Comment

Center does not provide swimming activities.

Children's Records

Records Reviewed: 5

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 0

Child # 1	Met
Child # 2	Met
Child # 3	Met
Child # 4	Met
Child # 5	Met

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.08 - Please ensure that the parents and/or guardians update the following information in the children's records as needed:

- Parents personal and work contact information (i.e. address and telephone number)
- Release to persons' names and contact information (i.e. address and telephone number)
- Emergency contact persons' names and contact information (i.e. address and telephone number)
- Known allergies/medical conditions
- Immunization Certificates

Facility

591-1-1-.19 License Capacity(CR)**Met****Correction Deadline: 9/12/2019****Corrected on 12/15/2021**

.19(1) - Previous citation observed to be corrected in that classroom capacity was met in all classrooms on this date.

591-1-1-.25 Physical Plant - Safe Environment(CR)**Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.25(13) requires that potentially hazardous equipment, materials and supplies be stored in a locked area inaccessible to children. It was determined based on observation that a staff members purse was accessible to children in the infant classroom.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will identify all hazardous items and keep them in a locked area inaccessible to children. The Center will inform all Staff about hazardous items and the safe storage of those items.

Correction Deadline: 12/15/2021**591-1-1-.26 Playgrounds(CR)****Met****Comment**

Please ensure to monitor the playground areas for the following hazards:

- Normal wear and tear of playground equipment and toys
- Potential entrapment hazards in the fence surrounding the playground area.
- Biting and/or stinging insects (i.e. ants, bees, etc.).
- Loose and/or weak tree branches surrounding the playground area.
- Standing water in and around playground equipment after inclement weather.

Food Service

591-1-1-.15 Food Service & Nutrition**Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.15(2) requires that a signed written feeding plan for children less than one (1) year of age shall be obtained from Parent(s) and that instructions from the Parent(s) shall be updated regularly as new foods are added or other dietary changes are made. The feeding plan shall be posted in the child's assigned room and must include the child's feeding schedule, the amount of formula or breast milk to be given, instructions for the introduction of solid foods, the amount of food to be given and notation of any type(s) of commercially premixed formula which may not be used in an emergency because of food allergies. It was determined based on observation that infant feeding plans were not available for enrolled children under one-year of age.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center Director will develop and implement a plan to obtain and post the completed feeding plan as part of the enrollment process and to have parents update the plans on a regular basis that will include center staff involved with enrollment and those working in the infant classrooms.

Correction Deadline: 12/15/2021

Health and Hygiene

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

Met

Correction Deadline: 5/23/2019

Corrected on 12/15/2021

.10(1) - Previous citation observed to be corrected.

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

Met

Comment

Please ensure lids remain on trash containing organic waste.

591-1-1-.20 Medications(CR)

Met

Comment

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

Policies and Procedures

591-1-1-.29 Required Reporting

Met

Comment

Discussed reporting requirements.

Safety

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

Met

Comment

A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Discipline was not directly observed during the virtual walk through. Regulations regarding proper discipline were discussed with the Director on this date.

Correction Deadline: 9/12/2019

Corrected on 12/15/2021

.11(1) - the center was not cited for discipline during the previous visit and discipline procedures were discussed with the director.

591-1-1-.36 Transportation(CR)

Met

Comment

Complete documentation of transportation observed.

Comment

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

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

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

Not Met

Finding

591-1-1-.30(2)(b) requires that wedges, other infant positioning devices and monitors shall not be used unless the Parent provides a physician's written statement authorizing its use that includes how to use the device and a time frame for using the device is provided for that particular infant. It was determined based on observation that a child was in a crib with a bobby pillow with physicians written statement.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will not use such devices without a doctor's statement that includes the required information.

Correction Deadline: 12/15/2021

Staff Records

Records Reviewed: 17

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 0

Staff # 1	Met
Staff # 2	Met
Staff # 3	Met
Date of Hire: 12/13/2021	<u>Reminder - Health & Safety training is required within 90 calendar days of hired</u>
Staff # 4	Met
Staff # 5	Met
Staff # 6	Met
Date of Hire: 12/13/2021	<u>Reminder - Health & Safety training is required within 90 calendar days of hired</u>
Staff # 7	Met
Date of Hire: 09/27/2021	
Staff # 8	Met
Date of Hire: 03/05/2019	
Staff # 9	Met
Staff # 10	Met
Staff # 11	Met
Date of Hire: 05/22/2019	
Staff # 12	Met
Date of Hire: 05/22/2019	
Staff # 13	Met
Date of Hire: 03/25/2019	
Staff # 14	Met
Staff # 15	Met
Staff # 16	Met
Date of Hire: 08/19/2021	

Staff # 17

Met

Date of Hire: 06/18/2021

Staff Credentials Reviewed: 0**591-1-1-.09 Criminal Records and Comprehensive Background Checks(CR)****Met****Comment**

Director provided four file(s) for employees hired since last visit.

Correction Deadline: 6/16/2021**Corrected on 12/15/2021****.09(1)(b) - Previous citation observed to be corrected in that no volunteers were present and all staff members had evidence of a satisfactory criminal background check 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**Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.33(3) requires each staff member with direct care responsibilities to complete health and safety training at the time of employment that will count toward required annual training: Staff employed prior to September 30, 2016 will complete the training by December 29, 2016 and Staff employed after September 30, 2016 will complete the health and safety training within the first 90 days of employment. It was determined based on review of records that staff members #16 and #17 did not complete health and safety orientation training within the first 90-days of their hire date.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will develop and implement a plan to schedule and track this training for all employees based on their hire dates.

Correction Deadline: 12/31/2021**Recited on 12/15/2021****591-1-1-.31 Staff(CR)****Met****Comment**

Staff observed to be compliant with applicable laws and regulations.

Correction Deadline: 6/16/2021**Corrected on 12/15/2021****.31(3)(b)1. - Previous citation observed to be corrected in that all staff members present on this date met eligible requirements.****Staffing and Supervision****591-1-1-.32 Staff:Child Ratios and Group Size(CR)****Met****Correction Deadline: 9/12/2019****Corrected on 12/15/2021****.32(1) - Previous citation observed to be corrected on this date.****591-1-1-.32 Supervision(CR)****Met**

Comment

The consultant discussed staff being attentive and participating with all children during mealtime and shall be seated within an arm's length away from children thirty-six (36) months of age and younger.

Correction Deadline: 9/12/2019

Corrected on 12/15/2021

.32(7) - Previous citation observed to be corrected in that adequate supervision was observed on this date.