



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: 4/21/2021 **VisitType:** Monitoring Visit

Arrival: 10:00 AM

Departure: 11:00 AM

CCLC-23311

Atkinson County Head Start

246 School Road Willacoochee, GA 31650 Atkinson County
 (912) 534-6035 rhollis@myactionpact.org

Regional Consultant

Beth Houtz

Phone: (229) 238-2130

Fax: (229) 238-2955

beth.houtz@decal.ga.gov

Mailing Address

P. O. Box 1965
 Waycross, GA 31502

Quality Rated: ★ ★ ★

Compliance Zone Designation		
04/21/2021	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing
10/19/2020	Licensing Study	Good Standing
10/07/2019	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	EHS-1	One Year Olds and Two Year Olds and Three Year Olds	2	6	C	21	C	NA	NA	Centers
Main	EHS-2	One Year Olds and Two Year Olds and Three Year Olds	2	6	C	21	C	NA	NA	Outside
Main	EHS-3	Infants and One Year Olds and Two Year Olds	2	6	C	24	C	NA	NA	Centers
Main	HS-1	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	2	16	C	23	C	NA	NA	Centers
Main	Parent Room		0	0	C	24	C	NA	NA	
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.:			113			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0				
Total # Children this Date:			34			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0				

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	Infant - Toddler	16	C
Main	Playground: B	98	C

Comments

A virtual inspection was conducted on April 21, 2021 with the Provider. An in-person visit was not conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Compliance with the Executive Order issued on April 8, 2021 was reviewed during the virtual inspection.

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.dec.state.ga.us/CCS/Regulations.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.dec.state.ga.us/>
Request free technical assistance to help you earn your star rating by contacting the Quality Rated help desk at 855-800-7747 or qualityrated@dec.state.ga.us

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@dec.state.ga.us.

- 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://dec.state.ga.us/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)

Sheri Hollis, Program Official

Date

Beth Houtz, 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: 4/21/2021 **VisitType:** Monitoring Visit **Arrival:** 10:00 AM **Departure:** 11:00 AM

CCLC-23311

Atkinson County Head Start

246 School Road Willacoochee, GA 31650 Atkinson County
(912) 534-6035 rhollis@myactionpact.org

Mailing Address

P. O. Box 1965
Waycross, GA 31502

Regional Consultant

Beth Houtz

Phone: (229) 238-2130
Fax: (229) 238-2955
beth.houtz@decal.ga.gov

The following information is associated with a Monitoring Visit:

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.

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)

Met

Comment

Please be mindful to keep items that pose a hazard inaccessible to children.

591-1-1-.26 Playgrounds(CR)

Met

Comment

A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The grass on the playground appeared to be well maintained. Regulations regarding the associated rules with fencing, playground equipment, resilient surfacing and keeping playground area free of hazards were discussed with the Director/Provider on this date.

Food Service

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

591-1-1-.15(7) - Discussed new revision to restricted food rule which states: Foods that are associated with young children's choking incidents, such as, but not limited to, peanuts, hot dogs, raw carrots, popcorn, fish with bones, cheese cubes, grapes and any other food that is of similar shape and size of the trachea/windpipe shall not be served to the children less than four (4) years of age. Children older than four (4) years of age may be served these foods provided that the foods are cut in such a way as to minimize choking.

591-1-1-.15(2) - Please ensure the new updated infant feeding form is used. Discussed revision to the written feeding plans for children under the age of 1 years old. Age-appropriate solid foods (including cereal) shall not be given to infants or children less than one (1) year of age until recommended as developmentally appropriate by the child's primary care physician and indicated in writing by the Parent(s). As soon as the feeding plan indicates that a child is ready for solid foods, the child shall be fed from individual spoons and individual containers or dishes. A child shall not be fed directly from the original baby food container if the contents are to be fed to the child at more than one (1) meal or to more than one (1) child.

Health and Hygiene

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

A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Diapering was not directly observed during the virtual walk through. Procedures and sanitation regarding proper diapering were discussed with the Director/Provider on this date.

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

A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Hand washing was not directly observed during the virtual walk through. Hand washing supplies were observed, and hand washing practices were discussed with the Director on this date.

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

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

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/Provider on this date.

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)**Met****Comment**

A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Tight fitting sheets, SIDS, and infant sleeping position were discussed with the Director on this date. The correct number of mats, sheets and blankets were observed on this date. Cleaning and disinfecting of mats was discussed with the director on this date.

Staff Records

Records Reviewed: 13

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 0

Staff # 1 Date of Hire: 08/24/2005	Met
Staff # 2 Date of Hire: 03/17/2008	Met
Staff # 3 Date of Hire: 02/13/2019	Met
Staff # 4 Date of Hire: 09/20/2004	Met
Staff # 5 Date of Hire: 09/07/2010	Met
Staff # 6	Met
Staff # 7 Date of Hire: 07/29/2015	Met
Staff # 8 Date of Hire: 07/21/2004	Met
Staff # 9 Date of Hire: 03/12/2018	Met
Staff # 10 Date of Hire: 08/25/2005	Met
Staff # 11 Date of Hire: 02/13/2019	Met
Staff # 12 Date of Hire: 11/04/2019	Met
Staff # 13 Date of Hire: 02/13/2019	Met

Staff Credentials Reviewed: 11

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

Met

Comment

Criminal record checks were observed to be complete.

591-1-1-.31 Staff(CR)**Met****Comment**

Additional cleaning and sanitizing requirements due to the COVID-19 pandemic were discussed and observed during a virtual walk through on this date. The program was in compliance with the Executive Order issued on April 8, 2021.

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**

591-1-1-.32(7) - Discussed new revision to the supervision rule which states: Staff shall be attentive and participating with all children during meal times and shall be seated within an arm's length away from children thirty-six (36) months of age and younger.