



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: 9/9/2022 **VisitType:** Monitoring Visit **Arrival:** 10:00 AM **Departure:** 4:00 PM

CCLC-25589

Excell Preparatory Center

5105 Salem Road Lithonia, GA 30038 DeKalb County
 (770) 322-5210 Inelson@excellprep.com

Regional Consultant

Kaycee Purvis

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 kaycee.purvis@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.
09/09/2022	Complaint Investigation & Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
08/23/2022	Complaint Investigation by Phone	Good Standing	
05/27/2022	Licensing Study	Good Standing	

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	A-Infants-1st Rt	Infants	1	5	C	11	C	NA	NA	Free Play,Nap,Floor Play
Main	B- 2nd Rt-Infants	Infants and One Year Olds	2	10	C	12	C	NA	NA	Free Play,Nap
Main	C- 3rd Rt- 1 y/o		0	0	C	16	C	NA	NA	
Main	D- 4th Rt- 1 y/o	One Year Olds	2	15	C	16	C	NA	NA	Outside
Main	E-5th Rt- 2 y/o	One Year Olds and Two Year Olds	2	12	C	20	C	NA	NA	Art
Main	F-6th Right-2 y/o	Two Year Olds	2	14	C	20	C	NA	NA	Centers,Transitioning
Main	G-1st Left- 3 y/o	Two Year Olds and Three Year Olds	2	17	C	25	C	NA	NA	Art
Main	H- 2nd Lft- 3 y/o	Three Year Olds	2	18	C	24	C	NA	NA	Centers
Main	I- 3rd Lft-4 y/o	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	1	17	NC	17	C	NA	NA	Outside
Main	J-Back Hall-4 y/o	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	1	15	C	18	C	NA	NA	Story
Main	K-Back Hall-5 y/o	Four Year Olds	1	11	C	19	C	NA	NA	Music
Main	L-Back Hall-6y/o	Four Year Olds and Five Year Olds	1	13	C	18	C	NA	NA	Music
Main	M-Back Hall-End-7+	Five Year Olds and Six Year Olds and Over	1	12	C	18	C	NA	NA	Homework
Main	N-Cafeteria-5-12y/o		0	0	C	19	C	NA	NA	

Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 253

Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	A: Infant - 2 year playground	55	C
Main	B: 3-4 Year Old Playground	23	C
Main	Back Playground	48	C
Main	C: School Age Playground	47	C
Main	Front Paved Playground	7	C
Main	Left Playground	19	C
Main	Right Playground	44	C

Comments

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 09/09/2022

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 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.state.ga.us for more information. Free technical assistance is available!

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)

Donna Brown, Program Official

Date

Kaycee Purvis, Consultant

Date



**Bright from the Start Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning
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Findings Report

Date: 9/9/2022 **VisitType:** Monitoring Visit **Arrival:** 10:00 AM **Departure:** 4:00 PM

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The following information is associated with a Monitoring Visit:

Activities and Equipment

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

Technical Assistance

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.12(2) - The Consultant and Director discussed repairing or replacing furniture and/or equipment as needed.

Correction Deadline: 9/9/2022

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.12(3) - The Consultant and Director discussed ensuring that staff do not stack chairs where children are present.

Correction Deadline: 9/9/2022

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

N/A

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.

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 upon observation that the following hazards were observed accessible to children:

E-5th Rt- 2 y/o

- A pack of Huggies Natural Care baby wipes were in a child's cubby.
- Two plastic bags were in children's cubbies.
- A jar of Vaseline Healing Jelly was in a child's cubby.
- A pack of Pampers Baby wipes was on a low shelf.

F-6th Right-2 y/o

- Five plastic grocery bags were in children's cubbies.
- A pack of Pampers Sensitive baby wipes was in a child's cubby.
- A jar of Vaseline Healing Jelly was in a child's cubby.
- A pack of Baby Soft baby wipes was in a child's cubby.
- A pack of Huggies Natural Care baby wipes was in a low shelf in the bathroom.
- Two packs of Huggies Natural care baby wipes were in a box on a low shelf in the bathroom.
- A bottle of Lysol Disinfectant Spray was on a low shelf in the bathroom.
- A pack of Hocleans 75% Alcohol wipes were in an unlocked drawer in the bathroom.
- Plastic grocery bags were in an unlocked drawer in the bathroom.

G-1st Left- 3 y/o

- Two brooms and four dustpans were in an unlocked cabinet.
- A pack of Huggies Simply Clean baby wipes was on a low shelf.
- A pair of gloves were on a low shelf.
- Five plastic grocery bags were in children's cubbies.

H-2nd Lft- 3 y/o

- A plastic grocery bag was in a child's cubby.

I-3rd Lft- 4 y/o

- A pack of Parent's Choice Simply Basic baby wipes was at the sink used for handwashing.
- A sharpie was at the sink used for handwashing.
- A plastic grocery bag was in a child's cubby.

J-Back Hall 4 y/o

- Two staff bags were on the floor.
- A box of disposable gloves was on a low shelf.

M-Back Hall-End- 7+

- A staff bag was in an unlocked cabinet.
- A broom and dustpan were in an unlocked cabinet.

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: 9/9/2022

591-1-1-.26 Playgrounds(CR)**Not Met****Comment**

Discussed maintenance of resilient surface. Please fluff and redistribute.

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 upon observation that the coating was peeling off of four out of four swing chains on the Back Playground.

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: 9/19/2022

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 upon observation that there were six rakes, one hoe, two shovels, a broom, a mop, a broom stick and two wheel barrels on top of the air conditioning unit cover accessible to children on the Back Playground. It was further determined that there was a mop leaning against the wall by the door to a classroom on the Back 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: 9/9/2022

Health and Hygiene

591-1-1-.07 Children's Health

Technical Assistance

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.07(5) - Please ensure that staff do not allow children to use items attached to their clothing or around their neck.

Correction Deadline: 9/9/2022

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

Met

Comment

Proper diapering procedures observed.

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

Not Met

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 upon observation that staff in F-6th Right- 2 y/o classroom failed to wash hands after diapering two children.

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: 9/9/2022

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

Met

Comment

Discussed proper medication documentation.

Safety

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

Met

Correction Deadline: 8/23/2022

Corrected on 9/9/2022

.11(2) - Correction of previous citation in that the Consultant observed age appropriate discipline and/or redirection.

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

Met

Comment

Complete documentation of transportation observed.

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

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

Not Met

Finding

591-1-1-.30(2) requires the Center to provide a safe sleep environment in accordance with American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP), Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) and American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM) recommendations as listed in these rules for all infants. Center Staff shall place an infant to sleep on the infant's back in a crib unless the Center has been provided a physician's written statement authorizing another sleep position for that particular infant that includes how the infant shall be placed to sleep and a time frame that the instructions are to be followed. When an infant can easily turn over from back to front and back again, Staff shall continue to put the infant to sleep initially on the infant's back but allow the infant to roll over into his or her preferred position and not re-position the infant. Sleepers, sleep sacks and wearable blankets that fit according to the commercial manufacturer's guidelines and will not slide up around the infant's face may be used when necessary for the comfort of the sleeping infant. Swaddling shall not be used unless the Center has been provided a physician's written statement authorizing its use for a particular infant that includes instructions and a time frame for swaddling the infant. Center Staff shall not place objects or allow objects to be placed in or on the crib with an infant such as but not limited to toys, pillows, quilts, comforters, bumper pads, sheepskins, stuffed toys, or other soft items and shall not attach objects or allow objects to be attached to a crib with a sleeping infant, such as, but not limited to, crib gyms, toys, mirrors and mobiles. It was determined based upon observation that center staff in Classroom A-infants-1st Rt put a child to sleep in the crib with a stuff animal attached to their pacifier which was in use while in the crib.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will take all steps necessary to provide a safe sleep environment for infants as listed in these rules; will train Staff to follow these rules; and will monitor for compliance.

Correction Deadline: 9/9/2022

Staff Records

Records Reviewed: 40

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 2

Staff # 1	Met
Staff # 2	Met
Staff # 3	Met
Staff # 4	Met
Date of Hire: 08/13/2019	

Staff # 5	Met
Staff # 6	Met
Date of Hire: 11/18/2021	
Staff # 7	Met
Date of Hire: 08/31/2020	
Staff # 8	Met
Staff # 9	Met
Staff # 10	Met
Staff # 11	Met
Staff # 12	Met
Staff # 13	Met
Staff # 14	Met
Staff # 15	Met
Staff # 16	Met
Staff # 17	Met
Staff # 18	Met
Staff # 19	Met
Date of Hire: 09/08/2021	
Staff # 20	Met
Staff # 21	Met
Staff # 22	Met
Staff # 23	Met
Date of Hire: 10/04/2021	
Staff # 24	Met
Staff # 25	Met
Staff # 26	Met
Staff # 27	Met

Records Reviewed: 40**Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 2**

Staff # 28	Met
Date of Hire: 01/25/2022	
Staff # 29	Met
Staff # 30	Not Met
Date of Hire: 08/19/2022	<u>Reminder - Health & Safety training is required within 90 calendar days of hired</u>
<u>"Missing/Incomplete Components"</u>	
.09-Criminal Records Check Missing	
Staff # 31	Met
Staff # 32	Met
Staff # 33	Met
Staff # 34	Met
Staff # 35	Met
Staff # 36	Met
Staff # 37	Met
Staff # 38	Met
Staff # 39	Not Met
<u>"Missing/Incomplete Components"</u>	
.09-Criminal Records Check Missing	
Staff # 40	Met

Staff Credentials Reviewed: 15**591-1-1-.09 Criminal Records and Comprehensive Background Checks(CR) Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.09(1)(j) requires that for portability for Directors, Employees and Provisional Employees, excluding Students-in-Training, only the most recently issued determination letter is eligible for portability and must be ported electronically. A Center may accept a satisfactory Fingerprint Records Check Determination letter or a satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination letter issued by the Department if the Records Check Clearance Date is within the preceding 12 months from the hire date, the individual has not had a lapse of employment from the child care industry that lasted for 180 days (6 months) or longer, and the Center does not know or reasonably should not know that the individual's satisfactory status has changed. It was determined based upon a review of records that the center failed to electronically port the most recently issued determination letter for Staff #39 who was present in the center. It was further determined that Staff #30 had been present in the center on August 19, 2022 and the center had failed to electronically port the most recently issued determination letter.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

IMMEDIATE CORRECTION - The Center will watch the videos to ensure that only the most recently issued determination letter is electronically ported for Directors, Employees and Provisional Employees, excluding Students-in-Training. A Center may accept a satisfactory Fingerprint Records Check Determination letter or a satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination letter issued by the Department if the Records Check Clearance Date is within the preceding 12 months from the hire date, the individual has not had a lapse of employment from the child care industry that lasted for 180 days (6 months) or longer, and the Center does not know or reasonably should not know that the individual's satisfactory status has changed. The program's owner or an officer/member of the corporation must view the A to Z Background Check video units pertaining to this records check rule and return the signed affidavit within one week from this visit date. The Center will watch the videos to ensure CRC rules are maintained.

Correction Deadline: 9/9/2022

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)

Not Met

Finding

591-1-1-.32(2) requires the Center maintain Staff:child ratios in mixed-age groups based on the age of the youngest group of children that includes more than twenty percent of the total number of children in the mixed-age group. It was determined based upon observation that Classroom I-3rd Lft- 4 y/o had a ratio of 1:17 when a ratio of 2:17 was required.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will provide adequate staff when there is a mixed-age group.

Correction Deadline: 9/9/2022

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

Met

Comment

Adequate supervision observed on this date.