



**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: 6/8/2021 **VisitType:** Monitoring Visit **Arrival:** 10:30 AM **Departure:** 11:30 AM

CCLC-51288

Learning Ladder Christian Childcare

111 South Belair Road Martinez, GA 30907 Columbia County
(706) 925-5608 learningladdercc1@gmail.com

Regional Consultant

Melyn Smith

Phone: (706) 855-3455
Fax: (706) 434-7640
melyn.smith@dec.al.gov

Mailing Address
Same

Quality Rated: ★

Compliance Zone Designation		
06/08/2021	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing
11/02/2020	Licensing Study	Good Standing
10/15/2020	POI Follow Up	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	1st Left	Infants	2	9	C	11	C	NA	NA	Nap, Floor Play
Main	1st Right	Two Year Olds	1	9	C	10	C	NA	NA	Story
Main	2nd Left	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	1	8	C	16	C	23	C	Centers
Main	2nd Right	One Year Olds	1	7	C	8	C	NA	NA	Art
Main	3rd Left	Two Year Olds	1	8	C	10	C	NA	NA	Music
Main	3rd Right	Three Year Olds	1	12	C	14	C	NA	NA	Centers
Main	Middle	Five Year Olds and Six Year Olds and Over	1	14	C	18	C	25	C	Outside
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 87						Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 101				
Total # Children this Date: 67			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 87			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 101				

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	Playground	31	C

Comments

A virtual inspection was conducted on June 8, 2021 with the Director. An in-person visit was not conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Compliance with the Executive Order issued on June 1, 2021 was reviewed during the virtual inspection.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 06/08/2021

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)

Melinda Williams, Program Official

Date

Melyn Smith, Consultant

Date



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Findings Report

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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. Additional cleaning and sanitizing due to the COVID-19 pandemic were also discussed and observed during a virtual walk through on this date.

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.

591-1-1-.25 Physical Plant - Safe Environment(CR) **Met**

Comment

No hazards observed accessible to children on this date.

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

Comment

Discussed maintenance of resilient surface. Please fluff and redistribute, especially after heavy or excessive rainfall.

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 a water hose was observed accessible to children on the playground on this date during the virtual walk through. The director stated that the water hose had been used for water play previously and was not put up after use.

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: 6/8/2021

Food Service

591-1-1-.15 Food Service & Nutrition

Met

Comment

591-1-1-.15(2) - The Consultant observed the center using the revised infant feeding plans on this date. The Consultant discussed with the Director the 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.

Correction Deadline: 6/8/2021

Comment

591-1-1-.15(7) - The Consultant discussed with the Director the 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.

Correction Deadline: 6/8/2021

Health and Hygiene

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

Met

Comment

Hand washing and sanitizing requirements for diapering were discussed with the Director on this date. The Director stated proper knowledge of diapering procedures.

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

Met

Comment

Hand washing requirements were discussed with the Director on this date.

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

Met

Comment

Documentation for medication dispensing observed complete.

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. The Director stated that positive redirection was primarily used in the Center.

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)**Met****Comment**

Pleasant naptime environment observed.

Staff Records

Records Reviewed: 24**Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 0**

Staff # 1	Met
Date of Hire: 02/08/2021	
Staff # 2	Met
Date of Hire: 02/22/2021	
Staff # 3	Met
Date of Hire: 03/17/2021	<u>Reminder - Health & Safety training is required within 90 calendar days of hired</u>
Staff # 4	Met
Date of Hire: 05/01/2019	
Staff # 5	Met
Date of Hire: 07/13/2020	
Staff # 6	Met
Date of Hire: 03/26/2021	<u>Reminder - Health & Safety training is required within 90 calendar days of hired</u>
Staff # 7	Met
Date of Hire: 08/19/2019	
Staff # 8	Met
Date of Hire: 09/16/2019	
Staff # 9	Met
Date of Hire: 12/10/2020	
Staff # 10	Met
Date of Hire: 04/22/2021	<u>Reminder - Health & Safety training is required within 90 calendar days of hired</u>
Staff # 11	Met
Date of Hire: 07/31/2019	

Records Reviewed: 24

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 0

Staff # 12 Met

Date of Hire: 07/31/2019

Staff # 13 Met

Date of Hire: 06/30/2020

Staff # 14 Met

Date of Hire: 10/26/2020

Staff # 15 Met

Date of Hire: 03/26/2021

Reminder - Health & Safety training is required within 90 calendar days of hired

Staff # 16 Met

Date of Hire: 06/20/2019

Staff # 17 Met

Date of Hire: 03/12/2019

Staff # 18 Met

Date of Hire: 09/05/2019

Staff # 19 Met

Date of Hire: 01/15/2019

Staff # 20 Met

Date of Hire: 08/25/2020

Staff # 21 Met

Date of Hire: 07/31/2019

Staff # 22 Met

Date of Hire: 05/01/2019

Staff # 23 Met

Date of Hire: 05/01/2019

Staff # 24 Met

Date of Hire: 05/01/2019

Staff Credentials Reviewed: 7

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

Met

Comment

Criminal record checks were observed to be complete.

Comment

Director provided eight files for employees hired since last visit.

591-1-1-.31 Staff(CR)

Met

Comment

Additional cleaning and sanitizing 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 June 1, 2021.

Comment

Discussed that all lead staff must enroll in an approved education program within 6 months of hire and complete degree within 18 months. A Professional Development Plan was developed for Staff # 2 and 15 on this date.

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

Adequate supervision observed on this date during the virtual walk through. The Consultant discussed with the Director the new revision to the supervision rule which states: 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.