



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: 9/8/2021 **VisitType:** Complaint Investigation & Monitoring Visit **Arrival:** 1:45 PM **Departure:** 5:15 PM

CCLC-52204

AMAZING BEGINNINGS ACADEMY

551 Highway 138 W Jonesboro, GA 30238 Clayton County
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Regional Consultant

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Quality Rated: ★

Compliance Zone Designation		
09/08/2021	Complaint Investigation & Monitoring Visit	Good Standing
03/25/2021	Complaint Closure	Good Standing
03/04/2021	Complaint Investigation 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	A-1	Infants	1	4	C	11	C	NA	NA	Floor Play,Nap
Main	A-2		0	0	C	11	C	NA	NA	
Main	B-3	One Year Olds	1	6	C	10	C	NA	NA	Story
Main	C-4	Two Year Olds	1	7	C	11	C	NA	NA	Circle Time
Main	D- Cafe		0	0	C	27	C	NA	NA	
Main	E-5		0	0	C	12	C	NA	NA	
Main	F-6	Three Year Olds	1	6	C	14	C	NA	NA	Music
Main	G-7		0	0	C	25	C	NA	NA	
Main	H-8	GA PreK	2	13	C	22	C	NA	NA	Centers
Main	I-9		0	0	C	24	C	NA	NA	

Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 167 Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0

Total # Children this Date: 36 Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 167 Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	A- Right	52	C
Main	B- Left	80	C
Main	C- Rear	38	C

Comments

An in-person inspection was conducted on September 8, 2021, with the Director.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 09/08/2021

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)

Grant Paula, Program Official

Date

Laura Swann, Consultant

Date



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Findings Report

Date: 9/8/2021 **VisitType:** Complaint Investigation & Monitoring Visit **Arrival:** 1:45 PM **Departure:** 5:15 PM

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The following information is associated with a Monitoring Visit:

Activities and Equipment

591-1-1-.03 Activities **Not Met**

Finding

591-1-1-.03(13) requires Center Staff to develop a daily schedule for each group to reflect routines and activities that is flexible but routinely followed to provide structure. The schedule must be posted in each group's room or area and made available to Parent(s) upon request. It was determined during an investigation that on September 8, 2021, the after school class did not follow a daily schedule due to no current after school schedule being posted or available.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will develop a daily schedule for each age group, post the schedule in each room, and make it available to parents upon request. The Center will train Staff and monitor to ensure the schedules are followed and remain posted.

Correction Deadline: 9/8/2021

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

No hazards observed accessible to children on this date.

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

Comment

Playground observed to be clean.

Health and Hygiene

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

Comment

Staff state proper knowledge of diapering procedures.

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

Comment

Proper hand washing observed throughout the center.

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

Staff were observed to maintain a positive learning environment on this date.

591-1-1-.36 Transportation(CR) **Not Met**

Finding

591-1-1-.36(4)(c) requires that each vehicle be equipped with a fire extinguisher maintained in working order and kept inaccessible to children. It was determined based on observation and staff statement that the van used for transportation on September 8, 2021, did not have a fire extinguisher on board the vehicle.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The center will ensure that each vehicle has a working fire extinguisher and that the fire extinguisher is kept out of reach of children.

Correction Deadline: 9/8/2021

Finding

591-1-1-.36(4)(f)1. requires that all transported children be secured in a child passenger restraining system or seat safety belt in accordance with current state and federal laws and regulations and according to manufacturer's directions. It was determined based on observation and a review of records that on September 8, 2021, the first three loads of children were transported to the center from the school in a minivan without using seat safety belts. Further, it was determined that on September 8, 2021, no car seats were used for any transportation.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will ensure that manufacturer directions and state and federal laws are met when using child passenger restraining systems and seat safety belts.

Correction Deadline: 9/9/2021

Finding

591-1-1-.36(4)(f)2. requires that no vehicle shall exceed the manufacturer's rated seating capacity and that proof of the seating capacity is maintained on file. It was determined by observation and a review of records that on September 8, 2021, eight school age children were transported from school to the center in a minivan exceeding the vehicle capacity of seven.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The manufacturer's rated seating capacity will not be exceeded and a copy of the manufacturer's seating capacity will be maintained on file at all times.

Correction Deadline: 9/9/2021

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.36(4)(g) - Consultant reviewed with the director the requirements for passengers in the front seat of vehicle as follows: Centers must follow applicable state and federal laws and regulations and the vehicle manufacturer's recommendations when children are allowed to sit in the front seat

Correction Deadline: 9/9/2021

Finding

591-1-1-.36(7)(a) requires that each vehicle contains current information including: the full names of all children to be transported, each child's pick-up location, pick-up time, delivery location, alternate delivery location if a Parent is not at home and name of person authorized to receive each child. In addition, the vehicle shall contain current information identifying the Center's name, telephone number and the name of the driver of the vehicle. It was determined based on observation and staff statement that on September 8, 2021, the vehicle had no information about the children or center on the van.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will ensure that the Center's information and the children's information is included on each vehicle.

Correction Deadline: 9/9/2021

Finding

591-1-1-.36(7)(b) requires that an emergency medical information record be maintained in the vehicle for each child being transported. The emergency medical information record for each child shall include a listing of the child's full name, date of birth, allergies, special medical needs and conditions, current prescribed medications that the child is required to take on a daily basis for a chronic condition, the name and telephone number of the child's doctor, the local medical facility that the Center uses in the area where the Center is located and the telephone numbers where the Parents can be reached. It was determined based on observation and staff statement that the van used for transportation on September 8, 2021, did not have any emergency information records on the vehicle.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will obtain a complete emergency medical information record for each child that is transported and maintain a copy on the vehicle.

Correction Deadline: 9/9/2021

Finding

591-1-1-.36(7)(c) requires the center to use passenger transportation checklists, in a format approved by the Department, to account for each child during transportation. A separate passenger checklist must be used for each vehicle. It was determined based on observation and staff statement that on September 8, 2021, the van had no passenger transportation checklist.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will maintain a passenger checklist as required.

Correction Deadline: 9/9/2021

Finding

591-1-1-.36(7)(c)1 requires that children be listed individually on the passenger transportation checklist using their first and last names. It was determined based on observation and staff statement that the van used for transportation on September 8, 2021, did not have a passenger checklist on the vehicle.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will ensure that each child is listed individually by first and last name on the checklist.

Correction Deadline: 9/9/2021

Finding

591-1-1-.36(7)(c)2. requires that the driver or other designated person shall immediately document in writing, with a check or other mark/symbol to account for each child listed on the passenger transportation checklist each time a child enters and exits the vehicle. The driver or other designated staff person shall document in writing with a different mark/symbol to account for each child listed on the passenger transportation checklist who was not present on the vehicle for any reason. An explanation shall be documented in writing whenever a child is transported to a field trip site but is not present on the return trip to the Center. It was determined based on observation and staff statement that on September 8, 2021, the driver had not immediately document in writing, with a check or other mark/symbol to account for each child listed on the passenger transportation checklist each time a child enters and exits the vehicle.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The driver/other designated person will immediately document in writing with a check/mark/symbol each time a child gets on and off the vehicle.

Correction Deadline: 9/9/2021

Finding

591-1-1-.36(7)(d) requires the vehicle be thoroughly checked first by a designated Staff person who was present on the vehicle during the trip and then by a second designated Staff person, who may or may not have been present on the vehicle during the trip. It was determined that on September 8, 2021, there was no first or second check completed on the vehicle.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will ensure that the vehicle is thoroughly checked by a staff person who was present on the vehicle during the trip and also checked by a second staff person.

Correction Deadline: 9/9/2021

Finding

591-1-1-.36(7)(d)1. requires that the first check be conducted immediately upon unloading the last child at any location including, but not limited to, a field trip destination, arrival at the Center, and the last stop during transportation to home or school. The responsible person on the vehicle shall physically walk through the entire vehicle; visually inspect all seat surfaces, under all seats and in all compartments or recesses in the vehicle's interior; sign the passenger transportation checklist (s), indicating all of the children have exited the vehicle; and give the passenger transportation checklist(s) to the second designated Staff person. It was determined based on observation that on September 8, 2021, no first check was completed at anytime by the person on the vehicle.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will train Staff who are or may be involved in transporting children in how to thoroughly inspect a vehicle and properly complete transportation documentation. The Center will review and monitor.

Correction Deadline: 9/9/2021

Finding

591-1-1-.36(7)(d)2. requires that the second designated Staff person conduct a check of the vehicle immediately upon the completion of the first check of the vehicle. The responsible person shall physically walk through the entire vehicle; visually inspect all seat surfaces, under all seats and in all compartments or recesses in the vehicle's interior; and sign the passenger transportation checklist(s), indicating all of the children have exited the vehicle. There shall be continuous watchful oversight of the vehicle between the first check and second check. It was determined based on observation that on September 8, 2021, there was no second check completed on the van used for transportation.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will train Staff who are or may be involved in transporting children in how to thoroughly inspect a vehicle and properly complete transportation documentation. The Center will review and monitor.

Correction Deadline: 9/8/2021

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

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

Comment

Pleasant naptime environment observed.

Staff Records

Records Reviewed: 12 Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 0

Staff # 1	Met
Date of Hire: 10/30/2019	
Staff # 2	Met
Date of Hire: 10/30/2019	
Staff # 3	Met
Date of Hire: 10/25/2020	
Staff # 4	Met
Date of Hire: 01/22/2021	
Staff # 5	Met
Date of Hire: 10/30/2019	
Staff # 6	Met
Date of Hire: 10/30/2019	
Staff # 7	Met
Staff # 8	Met
Date of Hire: 02/25/2021	
Staff # 9	Met
Date of Hire: 08/25/2021	

Records Reviewed: 12

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 0

Staff # 10 Met
Date of Hire: 11/12/2021

Staff # 11 Met
Date of Hire: 10/30/2019

Staff # 12 Met
Date of Hire: 10/30/2019

Staff Credentials Reviewed: 5

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

Comment

Criminal record checks were observed to be complete.

Comment

Director provided 1 file(s) for employees hired since last visit.

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) Met

Comment

Center observed to maintain appropriate staff:child ratios.

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

Comment

Adequate supervision observed on this date.