



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: 6/3/2022 **VisitType:** Monitoring Visit **Arrival:** 12:15 PM **Departure:** 2:15 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

Lynn Schnitzer
 Phone: (678) 717-5720
 Fax: (770) 344-5683
 lynn.schnitzer@decal.ga.gov

Quality Rated: No

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.
06/03/2022	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
01/19/2022	Complaint Closure	Good Standing	
12/30/2021	Complaint Investigation Follow Up	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 Building	A-1st Right	Infants and One Year Olds	1	5	C	13	C	NA	NA	TV,Feeding,Nap
Main Building	B-2nd Right	One Year Olds and Two Year Olds	1	6	C	11	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main Building	C-3rd Right	Three Year Olds	1	10	C	12	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main Building	D-1st Left	Two Year Olds	1	3	C	7	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main Building	E-Far Left	Four Year Olds	1	7	C	7	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main Building	G-2nd Suite #101		0	0	C	21	C	NA	NA	Field Trip
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 71					Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					
Total # Children this Date: 31			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 71			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0				

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance

Comments

The purpose of this visit was to conduct a monitoring visit and to follow up to the previous visit conducted on December15, 2021.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 06/03/2022

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.decgal.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 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@decgal.ga.gov 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)

Cathy Lampton, Program Official

Date

Lynn Schnitzer, Consultant

Date



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Findings Report

Date: 6/3/2022 **VisitType:** Monitoring Visit **Arrival:** 12:15 PM **Departure:** 2:15 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(14) requires center staff to limit the use of entertainment media, such as television, videotaped programs or movies and video or computer games to no more than two (2) hours daily per child or group; to provide such activities only at times when alternative activities are available for children who choose not to participate; and to use entertainment media that is age-appropriate in accordance with the Entertainment Software Rating Board (ESRB) and the Motion Picture Association of America (MPAA). It was determined based on observation that the children were buckled in seats and could not choose an alternative activity in classroom A-1st Right.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will have and use procedures to review and select entertainment media that meets these requirements and will train staff to provide alternate activities for children who choose not to participate.

Correction Deadline: 6/3/2022

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

Met

Comment

Equipment and furniture observed to be properly secured, as applicable.

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 met by center.

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

591-1-1-.25 - Please be mindful to keep items that pose a hazard inaccessible to children.

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.25(17) - Consultant discussed with director to ensure that plants containing thorns were removed from the playground.

Correction Deadline: 6/3/2022**Finding**

591-1-1-.25(8) requires protective caps on all unused electrical outlets within children's reach and requires that electrical outlets in use be made inaccessible to children. It was determined based on observation that Rooms A-1st Right, B-2nd Right, E-Far Left, and G-2nd Suite #101 contained uncovered outlets. All the outlets in classroom C-3rd Right were missing protective caps.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will train Staff to check outlets and replace protective caps when needed and identify and monitor how outlets in use are inaccessible to children.

Correction Deadline: 6/3/2022

591-1-1-.26 Playgrounds(CR)**Not Met****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 on observation that boards and fencing wire were stored accessible to children at the back of the playground and the spring see saw contained a broken seat.

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: 6/13/2022

Food Service

591-1-1-.15 Food Service & Nutrition**Not Met****Correction Deadline: 1/21/2022****Corrected on 6/3/2022**

.15(2) - The previous citation was observed to be corrected. Consultant observed all feeding plans to have been updated within 90 days. The dates on the feeding plans were March 28, 2022, April 12, 2022, and April 22, 2022.

Finding

591-1-1-.15(3) requires baby bottles and formula to be labeled with the individual child's name; supplied by the Parent daily in bottles; and refrigerated at a temperature of forty (40) degrees Fahrenheit or less. Only the current day's formula or breast milk shall be served. If formula must be provided by the Center, only commercially prepared, ready-to-feed formula shall be used. Refrigerated or frozen breast milk shall only be heated or thawed under warm running water or in a container of warm water. It was determined based on observation that several bottles were not labeled with the child's name. Staff stated bottles are warmed using the microwave.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will train Staff to follow the required procedures, ensure that parents are fully informed, and will review and monitor regularly.

Correction Deadline: 6/3/2022

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

Not Met

Finding

591-1-1-.10(4) requires that if diapers are changed on a diaper changing surface, the surface shall be smooth, nonporous, and equipped with a guard or rails to prevent falls. Between each diaper change, the diaper changing surface shall be cleaned with a disinfectant and dried with a single-use disposable towel. It was determined based on observation that the staff member in classroom A-1st Right failed to clean the diaper changing surface with disinfectant after completing the diaper changing process.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will ensure there is a smooth, nonporous changing surface that has a guard or rails for safety in each classroom that houses children wearing diapers. Center Staff will be trained and have adequate supplies to properly clean the diaper changing surface between each diaper change.

Correction Deadline: 6/3/2022

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

Not Met

Finding

591-1-1-.17(7) requires that children wash their hands with liquid soap and warm running water upon arrival for care, when moving from one child care group to another, upon re-entering the child care area after outside play, before and after eating meals and snacks, handling or touching food, playing in water; after toileting and diapering, playing in sand, touching animals or pets, and contact with bodily fluids and after contamination by any other means. It was determined based on observation that staff in classroom A-1st Right failed to wash the child's hands after completing the diaper changing process.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will train Staff on required handwashing for children and Staff will ensure children's hands are washed when required. The Director will monitor for compliance.

Correction Deadline: 6/3/2022

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

Met

Comment

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

Safety

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

Met

Correction Deadline: 1/19/2022

Corrected on 6/3/2022

.11(2) - The previous citation was observed to be corrected. Staff stated knowledge of appropriate disciplinary practices.

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

Not Met

Finding

591-1-1-.36(6) requires written Parental authorization for routine transportation provided by or on behalf of the Center. Written authorization must include the routine pick-up location, routine pick-up time, routine delivery location, routine delivery times and the name of any person authorized to receive the child. It was determined based on review of records that four of five transportation agreements did not contain the name of any person authorized to receive the child, four of five records did not contain pick-up and delivery times, and one record did not include pick-up and delivery locations.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will obtain the required written parental authorization.

Correction Deadline: 6/4/2022

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 review of records that one of five children did not have an emergency medical information record, two of five records did not have the name and telephone number of the child's doctor, and one record did not contain information regarding allergies, special medical needs and conditions, current prescribed medications that the child is required to take on a daily basis for a chronic condition.

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: 6/4/2022

Finding

591-1-1-.36(7)(c) 3. requires that the driver or other designated person document in writing the time of arrival and departure each time the vehicle departs from the Center, is loaded or unloaded at each school and when the vehicle returns to the Center; each time the vehicle departs from the Center, arrives at the location where any child is picked up or dropped off and when the vehicle returns to the Center; each time the vehicle leaves the Center, arrives at a field trip destination, leaves a field trip destination, and returns to the Center. It was determined based on review of records that on May 16, 2022, May 17, 2022, May 18, 2022, May 19, 2022, May 20, 2022, May 23, 2022, May 24, 2022, and May 25, 2022, center staff failed to document the time the vehicle departed from the Center, arrived at the location where any child is picked up or dropped off and when the vehicle returned to the Center during morning school transportation route to Benefield Elementary. Center staff also failed to document the time the vehicle returned to the center after completing the afternoon pick up route from Benefield Elementary on May 23, 2022, May 24, 2022, and May 25, 2022, and after completing the morning route to McKendree Elementary on May 23, 2022.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will ensure that each time of arrival and departure is documented by the driver or designated person with training, review and monitoring.

Correction Deadline: 6/4/2022

Technical Assistance

- 591-1-1-.36(7)(d) - Consultant discussed with provider to ensure that
- Staff notate the departure/arrival/return times of the vehicle upon departure and arrival.
 - Staff notate the presence or absence of children at the time of pick up or drop off
 - Staff members are walking the entire vehicle while completing the first and second check.
 - Two different staff members sign off on the first and second check. If a second person is not available, the driver should report by phone to the Director or designated Staff person that the check has been completed and no children remain on the vehicle. The time and verification of such telephone contact shall be immediately documented and signed on the passenger transportation checklist(s) by the driver.
 - Staff notate if a child withdraws from the program and/or no longer receives school transportation services.

Correction Deadline: 6/4/2022

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 review of records that on May 16, 2022, May 17,2022, May 18, 2022, May 19, 2022, May 20, 2022, May 23, 2022, May 24, 2022, and May 25, 2022, at the completion of the morning school transportation route from Benefield Elementary the same staff member completed the first and second vehicle checks. Further, on May 16, 2022, May 17, 2022, May 18,2022, May 19, 2022, and May 20, 2022, the same staff member completed the first and second vehicle checks at the completion of the morning school transportation route from McKendree Elementary. A vehicle check conducted by a second designated staff person, who may or may not have been present on the vehicle during the trip, was required.

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: 6/3/2022

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

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

Technical Assistance

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.30 - Discussed SIDS and infant sleeping position.

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.30(1)(d) - Consultant discussed with director to ensure that children are placed on cots and mats so that one child's head is toward another child's feet in the same row.

Correction Deadline: 6/3/2022

Staff Records

Records Reviewed: 12

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 0

Staff # 1	Met
Staff # 2	Met
Staff # 3	Met
Date of Hire: 08/10/2021	
Staff # 4	Met
Staff # 5	Met
Date of Hire: 01/26/2022	
Staff # 6	Met
Date of Hire: 12/13/2021	
Staff # 7	Met
Date of Hire: 10/11/2021	

Records Reviewed: 12

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 0

Staff # 8 Date of Hire: 03/05/2019	Met
Staff # 9 Date of Hire: 03/25/2019	Met
Staff # 10 Date of Hire: 01/25/2022	Met
Staff # 11 Date of Hire: 11/09/2020	Met
Staff # 12 Date of Hire: 06/18/2021	Met

Staff Credentials Reviewed: 0

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

Comment

Criminal record checks were observed to be complete.

Comment

Director provided two files for employees hired since last visit on December 30, 2021.

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.