



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: 5/24/2022 **VisitType:** Monitoring Visit

Arrival: 9:00 AM

Departure: 11:30 AM

CCLC-2636

Oma's Learning Center and Daycare

1345 West Hill Ave. Valdosta, GA 31601 Lowndes County
 (229) 247-2313 omaslearningctr@yahoo.com

Regional Consultant

Kelly Wilson

Phone: (770) 405-7928

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kelly.wilson@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.
05/24/2022	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
02/11/2022	POI Follow Up	Good Standing	
12/09/2021	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
bld2-rm H	Pre-K/ school age	GA PreK	2	15	C	40	C	56	C	Centers
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 40			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 168							
Main	Cafeteria		0	0	C	16	C	23	C	
Main	Room A - 2 1/2 yrs (right side of Bldg.)	Two Year Olds	2	11	C	18	C	NA	NA	Lunch
Main	Room B - 3 yrs (right side Bldg.)	Three Year Olds	2	27	C	30	C	42	C	Outside
Main	Room C - 1 yrs (left side of building)	One Year Olds	1	8	C	13	C	NA	NA	Free Play
Main	Room D - Infants (left side of Bldg.)	Infants	3	9	C	12	C	NA	NA	Nap, Floor Play
Main	Room E - 18 mth - 2 yrs (left side bldg)	One Year Olds and Two Year Olds	1	8	C	13	C	NA	NA	Free Play
Main	Room F - 2 year olds (left side of building)	Two Year Olds	1	7	C	13	C	NA	NA	Free Play
Main	Room G - 1 yrs (left side end of hallway)	One Year Olds	1	8	C	13	C	NA	NA	Circle Time
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 128			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 168							
Total # Children this Date: 93			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 168			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 168				

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	playground	67	C

Comments

An in-person walk through of the facility was conducted on May 24, 2022. A letter requesting documents be uploaded by May 31, 2022, for the annual review was left with the director after the walk through. Background checks for all staff were reviewed during the walk through visit. The annual review was completed on June 14, 2022, and a copy of the report was emailed to the provider on this day.

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 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)

Jazmine Newsome, Program Official

Date

Kelly Wilson, Consultant

Date



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Findings Report

Date: 5/24/2022 **VisitType:** Monitoring Visit

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The following information is associated with a Monitoring Visit:

Activities and Equipment

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

Not Met

Finding

591-1-1-.12(2) requires that all equipment and furniture be free from hazardous conditions such as, but not limited to, sharp rough edges or toxic paint; and be kept clean. It was determined based on observation that the following furniture presented a hazard.

-In classroom A there was a blue vinyl chair that was torn with exposed foam that presented a hazard to children in care.

-In classroom B there was a red vinyl sofa, a red vinyl chair and a blue vinyl chair that had worn and frayed spots that were not able to be kept clean as required.

-In classroom H there was a brown vinyl chair and sofa that had worn and frayed spots that were not able to be kept clean as required.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will ensure that equipment and furniture are used by the age-appropriate group of children.

Correction Deadline: 5/24/2022

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

Met

Comment

Center does not provide swimming activities.

Children's Records

Finding

591-1-1-.08(6) requires the Center to maintain records of a child's daily arrival and departure for the twelve (12) preceding months that the Parent or person(s) authorized by the Parent documents, in written or electronic format, each time the Parent or authorized person drops off and picks up the child. The documentation shall include at least the date, the child's name, the arrival and departure times, and the signature or initials of the Parent or authorized person at the time of arrival and departure. These records shall be made available to the Department in printed or written form upon request. It was determined based on a review of records from the week of January 31, 2022, on the sign sign-in/out records of February 1, 2022, 63 children did not have a parent or guardian signature for the sign-out portion of the daily sign in/out sheet and 10 children did not have a parent or guardian signature for the sign-in portion of the daily sign/out sheet.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will maintain arrival and departure records as required, will ensure the documentation includes all of the required information, and will provide the records to the Department when requested.

Correction Deadline: 2/11/2022

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)

Not Met

Comment

Please secure cleaning tools (i.e., broom, plunger) out of reach of children. The consultant discussed removing cleaning tools from the bathroom of classroom F. The director removed the tools during the visit.

Finding

591-1-1-.25(7) requires that doors to rooms not approved for child care, other than the kitchen doors, be latched or locked so children cannot wander into those areas. Except in School-age Centers, interior Center door locks shall permit Personnel to open the locked room from outside of the room in an emergency. It was determined based on observation that in classroom G the bathroom door did not have a lock to prevent children from wandering into that area.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will routinely check that doors to unapproved rooms remain latched or locked and that Staff can open the locked rooms in an emergency.

Correction Deadline: 5/24/2022

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

Technical Assistance

Technical Assistance

There was an exposed bolt on the blue plane and the wood was splintered on the seat of the green boat on playground 2. The consultant discussed the requirement that 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. The director contacted the maintenance staff during the visit to make the repairs.

Correction Deadline: 6/3/2022

Food Service

Finding

591-1-1-.15(2)(c) requires age-appropriate solid foods (including cereal) 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) and requires a child to be fed from individual spoons and individual containers or dishes as soon as the feeding plan indicates that a child is ready for solid foods. 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. It was determined based on observation that in classroom D that three of twenty four bottles and in classroom G one bottle and three of fifteen cups had cereal mixed in with milk.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will ensure that age-appropriate solid foods are given only as recommended by the child's physician and upon written instruction by the Parent(s). The Center will provide a sufficient number of spoons and dishes/containers and will train staff on proper feeding practices, review the procedures regularly and monitor to ensure procedures are followed.

Correction Deadline: 5/24/2022

Health and Hygiene

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

Met

Comment

Proper diapering procedures observed.

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)

Met

Comment

Complete documentation of transportation observed.

Comment

The vehicle had an approved fire extinguisher and first aid kit on this date.

Finding

591-1-1-.36(4)(b) requires that the interior of a transportation vehicle be clean, in safe repair and free of hazardous items, objects and/or other non-essential items which could cause injury. It was determined based on observation that on the bus with tag # 1255 the last seat had a hole in the seat cover with exposed foam and was not able to be kept clean and in safe repair as required.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The center will maintain that all transportation vehicles are clean, in safe repair, and free from hazards.

Correction Deadline: 5/25/2022

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

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

Met

Finding

591-1-1-.30(1)(b)1 requires that cots and mats are of sound construction and of sufficient size to accommodate comfortably the size and weight of the child; and that mats are in good repair, washable, covered with a waterproof material and at least two inches (2") thick. It was determined based on observation that twelve of thirty mats were torn and not in good repair as required.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will ensure that cots and mats are of sound construction and of sufficient size to accommodate the size and weight of the child and mats are in good repair, washable, covered with a waterproof material and is at least two inches thick.

Correction Deadline: 5/24/2022

Comment

requires that if cots and mats are stored in the children's activity room or area, they shall be stored to prevent children's access to them and to allow maximum use of play space. When storage is available and used for the storage of cots and mats that allows the cots, mats and any bedding to be stored without touching any other cots, mats or bedding, the bedding may be left on the cot or mat. When such storage is not available for the cots and mats, each child's bedding shall be kept separate from other children's bedding and stored in containers marked for individual use, such as, but not limited to, bins, cubbies, or bags. It was determined [].

Correction Deadline: 5/24/2022

Staff Records

Records Reviewed: 25

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 0

Staff # 1	Met
Staff # 2	Met
Date of Hire: 02/16/2021	
Staff # 3	Met
Date of Hire: 07/18/2019	
Staff # 4	Met
Date of Hire: 05/01/2002	
Staff # 5	Met
Staff # 6	Met
Staff # 7	Met
Staff # 8	Met
Staff # 9	Met
Date of Hire: 02/07/2017	
Staff # 10	Met

Records Reviewed: 25

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 0

Staff # 11	Met
Staff # 12	Met
Staff # 13	Met
Date of Hire: 06/05/2019	
Staff # 14	Met
Staff # 15	Met
Staff # 16	Met
Staff # 17	Met
Staff # 18	Met
Staff # 19	Met
Staff # 20	Met
Date of Hire: 05/16/2002	
Staff # 21	Met
Staff # 22	Met
Staff # 23	Met
Date of Hire: 04/11/2019	
Staff # 24	Met
Date of Hire: 10/07/2020	
Staff # 25	Met

Staff Credentials Reviewed: 4

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 on a review of records that Staff #5 had not been ported to the facility from the previous facility of employment.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

IMMEDIATE CORRECTION - The Center will set up a plan 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 review the CRC rules to ensure CRC rules are maintained.

Correction Deadline: 5/24/2022

591-1-1-.33 Staff Training

Not Met

Finding

91-1-1-.33(5) requires that every calendar year after the first year of employment, all supervisory and caregiver Personnel, except independent contractors, Students-in-Training and volunteers shall attend ten (10) clock hours of diverse training which is task-focused in on-going health, safety and early childhood or child development related topics and which is offered by an accredited college, university or vocational program or other Department-approved source. The annual ten (10) clock hours of training shall be chosen from the following fields: child development, including discipline, guidance, nutrition, injury control and safety; health, including sanitation, disease control, cleanliness, detection and disposition of illness; child abuse and neglect, including identification and reporting, and meeting the needs of abused and/or neglected children; and business related topics, including parental communication, recordkeeping, etc.; provided however that such business related training shall be limited to no more than two (2) of the required ten (10) clock hours of training. Records of completion of such training shall be maintained, as required by these rules. It was determined based on a review of records that two of thirteen staff members had not completed the required ten hours of annual training for the 2020 calendar year.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will plan and schedule the required 10 hours of annual training each year and follow up to ensure the training is completed.

Correction Deadline: 12/17/2021

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

Staff observed to provide direct supervision and be attentive to children's needs.