



**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

Date: 11/29/2018 **VisitType:** Licensing Study

Arrival: 11:40 AM

Departure: 2:45 PM

CCLC-32940

Early Beginners Learning Center

510 Main Street Thomson, GA 30824 McDuffie County
(706) 595-6629 earlybeginnerslearning@gmail.com

Regional Consultant

Valarie Musselwhite

Phone: (770) 357-9988

Fax: (678) 302-2440

valarie.musselwhite@decal.ga.gov

Mailing Address

Same

Quality Rated: ★ ★

Compliance Zone Designation		
11/29/2018	Licensing Study	Good Standing
01/22/2018	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing
09/19/2017	Licensing Study	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
Bldg 1	A 2nd Right	Infants and One Year Olds	3	11	C	12	C	NA	NA	Nap,Free Play
Bldg 1	B Front Left- 1Yr olds		0	0	C	12	C	NA	NA	
Bldg 1	C Back 2yrs	One Year Olds and Two Year Olds	2	18	C	22	C	NA	NA	Nap
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 99						Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0		Building @35 capacity limited by Centers Request		
Bldg 2	Back	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	2	18	C	24	C	NA	NA	Lunch,Nap
Bldg 2	Front Room	PreK	2	18	C	29	C	NA	NA	Lunch,Nap
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 53						Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0				
Total # Children this Date: 65		Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 152				Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0				

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Bldg 1	Small	13	C
Bldg 2	Large Rear	112	C

Comments

The consultant emailed the director a copy of the visit while on site.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 11/29/2018

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/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

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)



Important New Deadlines:

Your program must be Quality Rated by December 31, 2020 in order to continue to receive Childcare and Parent Services (CAPS).

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

Kimberly Heath, Program Official

Date

Valarie Musselwhite, Consultant

Date



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Findings Report

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The following information is associated with a Licensing Study:

Activities and Equipment

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)

N/A

Comment

Center does not provide swimming activities.

Children's Records

Records Reviewed: 5

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 0

Child # 1	Met
Child # 2	Met
Child # 3	Met
Child # 4	Met
Child # 5	Met

591-1-1-.08 Children's Records

Met

Comment

Records were observed to be complete and well organized.

Facility

591-1-1-.06 Bathrooms **Met**

Comment

Bathrooms observed to be clean and well maintained.

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**

Correction Deadline: 9/19/2017

Corrected on 11/29/2018

.25(13) - Correction of previous citation in that the consultant did not observe any hazards accessible to children on this date.

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

Correction Deadline: 1/22/2018

Corrected on 11/29/2018

.26(2) - Correction of previous citation in that the director stated the playground capacity is met daily during outside time.

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.26(4) - Please repair small area of fencing that has become loose at the bottom of the Small Playground.

Correction Deadline: 11/29/2018

Correction Deadline: 9/29/2017

Corrected on 11/29/2018

.26(8) - Correction of previous citation in that the consultant observed an adequate amount of sand to meet the required amount of resilient surfacing.

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 exposed concrete surrounded the small basketball goal in the middle of the Large Playground. It was further determined that a rain ditch ran along the middle of the playground posing as a tripping hazard.

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: 12/14/2018

Recited on 11/29/2018

Food Service

591-1-1-.15 Food Service & Nutrition **Not Met**

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.15(2) - Please ensure infant feeding plans are updated every 90 days.

Correction Deadline: 11/29/2018

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.15(3) - Please ensure staff are not using the microwave to warm bottles.

Correction Deadline: 11/29/2018

Finding

591-1-1-.15(4) requires that a feeding chair or similar equipment designed for feeding children shall be provided for the use of each child being fed who is capable of sitting up but who is unable to sit unassisted at a table and must be cleaned with a disinfectant after each use. Such chair or similar equipment shall have a broad base to prevent tipping, a surface that the child cannot raise, a strap or other device which prevents the child from sliding out of the chair, and a feeding surface free of cracks. It was determined based on an observation that one high chair in Room A 2nd Right had several tears exposing foam.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will inspect feeding equipment to ensure it meets each of the listed criteria and to verify a feeding chair or equipment is provided for each child who requires one. The Center will train staff and monitor to ensure that the feeding equipment is cleaned with a disinfectant after each use. The center will ensure to buckle children in when using the high chairs.

Correction Deadline: 12/7/2018

Health and Hygiene

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

Met

Comment

Staff stated proper knowledge of diapering procedures.

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

Technical Assistance

Comment

Proper hand washing observed throughout the center.

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.17(2) - Please ensure staff are circulating the classroom during rest time and uncovering children's faces if covered with a blanket.

Correction Deadline: 11/29/2018

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

N/A

Comment

The center currently does not dispense or administer medication.

Policies and Procedures

591-1-1-.21 Operational Policies & Procedures

Met

Correction Deadline: 1/27/2018

Corrected on 11/29/2018

.21(1)(p) - Correction of previous citation in that the consultant observed a completed emergency preparedness plan.

Safety

591-1-1-.05 Animals

Met

Comment

Consultant observed fish tank maintained clean.

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

Met

Comment

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

591-1-1-.13 Field Trips(CR)

N/A

Comment

Center does not participate in field trips at this time.

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

N/A

Comment

Center does not provide routine transportation.

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

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

Not Met

Finding

591-1-1-.30(1)(a)3 requires that each crib shall have only an individual, tight-fitting sheet which is changed daily or more often as needed and prior to a change of occupant. It was determined based on an observation that five of eleven cribs had loose fitting sheets with three infants asleep in cribs with loose fitting sheets.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The center will ensure that each crib has an individual, tight-fitting sheet which is changed daily or more often as needed and prior to a change of occupant.

Correction Deadline: 11/29/2018**Recited on 11/29/2018****Correction Deadline: 1/22/2018****Corrected on 11/29/2018****.30(2) - Correction of previous citation in that the consultant observed infant safe sleep practices being practiced.**

Staff Records

Records Reviewed: 12**Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 4**

Staff # 1

Met

Date of Hire: 09/22/2011

Staff # 2

Not Met

Date of Hire: 03/06/2017

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(4)-1st Yr. Training 2 Hrs. (Abuse) Missing,.33(4)-1st Yr. Training 4 Hrs. Missing,.33(5)-10 Hrs. Annual Training

Staff # 3

Met

Date of Hire: 06/14/2018

Staff # 4

Not Met

Date of Hire: 10/20/2004

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(5)-10 Hrs. Annual Training

Staff # 5

Met

Date of Hire: 09/21/2018

Records Reviewed: 12**Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 4**

Staff # 6 Date of Hire: 03/07/2016	Met
Staff # 7 Date of Hire: 10/01/2011	Met
Staff # 8 Date of Hire: 08/15/2018	Met
Staff # 9	Met
Staff # 10 Date of Hire: 03/20/2015 <u>"Missing/Incomplete Components"</u> .33(5)-10 Hrs. Annual Training	Not Met
Staff # 11 Date of Hire: 08/04/2017 <u>"Missing/Incomplete Components"</u> .33(5)-10 Hrs. Annual Training	Not Met
Staff # 12 Date of Hire: 10/03/2011	Met

Staff Credentials Reviewed: 12**591-1-1-.09 Criminal Records and Comprehensive Background Checks(CR)****Technical Assistance****Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.09(1)(d) - Please ensure all staff with a national criminal record check are supervised by staff with a comprehensive record check at all times. Please complete the process to obtain a comprehensive record check on your DECAL Koala account.

Correction Deadline: 11/29/2018**591-1-1-.14 First Aid & CPR****Met****Correction Deadline: 2/21/2018****Corrected on 11/29/2018****.14(1) - Consultant observed 100% of staff with current First Aid and CPR training.****591-1-1-.33 Staff Training****Not Met**

Finding

591-1-1-.33(4) requires all Staff who provide any direct care to children, except independent contractors, Students-in-Training and volunteers, to obtain ten (10) clock hours of training or instruction in child care issues from an accredited school or Department-approved source. At least six (6) of the clock hours must be divided as follows: four (4) clock hours of training in any of the following topics: disease control, cleanliness, basic hygiene, illness detection, illness disposition and childhood injury control and two (2) clock hours of training in identifying, reporting and meeting the needs of abused, neglected or deprived children. It was determined based on a review of records that one staff hired on March 6, 2017 did not complete the required first year training.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will plan and schedule training and follow up to ensure that direct care Staff complete the required hours of training in the required subjects.

Correction Deadline: 12/31/2018

Finding

591-1-1-.33(6) requires, in the first year of employment and then by calendar year thereafter, all supervisory and caregiver Personnel, except independent contractors, Students-in-Training and volunteers to attend ten (10) clock hours of training which is task-focused in early childhood education or child development or subjects relating to job assignment and is offered by an accredited college, university or vocational program or other Department-approved source. It was determined based on a review of records that three staff did not complete the required ten hours of annual training for 2017.

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 for the annual year of 2018.

Correction Deadline: 12/31/2018

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

Correction Deadline: 1/22/2018

Corrected on 11/29/2018

.32(1) - Correction of previous citation in that the consultant observed appropriate ratios throughout the center.

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

Met

Comment

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