



**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:** 2/11/2021    **VisitType:** Licensing Study    **Arrival:** 4:15 PM    **Departure:** 5:15 PM

**CCLC-3451**

**Atlanta Speech School**

3160 Northside Parkway, Nw Atlanta, GA 30327 Fulton County  
 (404) 233-5332 Istringer@atlantaspeechschool.org

**Regional Consultant**

Emma Smith

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emma.smith@decal.ga.gov

**Mailing Address**

3160 Northside Parkway NW  
 Atlanta, GA 30327

**Quality Rated:** No

<b>Compliance Zone Designation</b>			<b>Compliance Zone Designation</b> - 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.  <b>Good Standing</b> - Program is demonstrating an acceptable level of performance in meeting the rules. <b>Support</b> - Program performance is demonstrating a need for improvement in meeting rules. <b>Deficient</b> - Program is not demonstrating an acceptable level of performance in meeting the rules.
02/11/2021	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
09/16/2020	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
02/25/2020	Licensing Study	Good Standing	

**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	Center - 2134	Four Year Olds	2	6	C	10	C	NA	NA	Lunch
Main	Hamm-2062	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	3	11	C	25	C	NA	NA	Circle Time
Main	Hamm-2067	Two Year Olds and Three Year Olds	3	11	C	23	C	NA	NA	Music,Circle Time
Main	Hamm-2135	Three Year Olds	2	4	C	13	C	NA	NA	Lunch
Main	Hamm-2144		0	0	C	13	C	NA	NA	
Main	Hamm-2145	Two Year Olds	2	6	C	9	C	NA	NA	Centers
Main	Hamm-2146	Three Year Olds	2	4	C	9	C	NA	NA	Transitioning
Main	Hamm-2151		0	0	C	9	C	NA	NA	Transitioning,Ce nters
Main	Hamm-2154	Two Year Olds	2	5	C	8	C	NA	NA	Centers,Art
Main	Kenan-2063	Three Year Olds	3	13	C	23	C	NA	NA	Music,Circle Time
Main	Kenan-2064	Four Year Olds	2	15	C	24	C	NA	NA	Lunch
Main	Kenan-2065	Four Year Olds	2	15	C	15	C	NA	NA	Lunch
Main	Stepping Stones-1015	Three Year Olds	3	10	C	16	C	NA	NA	Transitioning,Ce nters
Main	Stepping Stones-1016	Four Year Olds	3	8	C	15	C	NA	NA	Circle Time
Main	Stepping Stones-1018		0	0	C	16	C	NA	NA	
Main	Taylor Stelmack - 2135		0	0	C	18	C	NA	NA	Not In Use

	Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 246	Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0
Total # Children this Date: 108	Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 246	Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	A	307	C

**Comments**


An Administrative Review was conducted on February 11, 2021. Staff files, children's files, training, and background checks were all reviewed. A virtual inspection was conducted on March 17, 2021 with the Provider. An in-person visit was not conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Compliance with the Executive Order issued on August 15, 2020 was reviewed during the virtual inspection.

Discussed new revision to the supervision rule, restricted food rule, and written feeding plans for children under the age of 1 years old with the Director on this date.

Discussed amendment requirements with the Director on this date.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 02/11/2021

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

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](mailto: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.decal.ga.gov/>  
Request free technical assistance to help you earn your star rating by contacting the Quality Rated help desk at 855-800-7747 or [qualityrated@decal.ga.gov](mailto:qualityrated@decal.ga.gov)

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Lola Stringer, Program Official

Date

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Emma Smith, Consultant

Date



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### Findings Report

**Date:** 2/11/2021    **VisitType:** Licensing Study    **Arrival:** 4:15 PM    **Departure:** 5:15 PM

#### CCLC-3451

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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 Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Additional cleaning and sanitizing requirements due to the COVID-19 pandemic were discussed and observed during a virtual walk through on this date. A variety of equipment and toys were observed throughout the center.

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

N/A

#### Comment

A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. During the virtual walk through there was no pool observed on the property. Per the provider no swimming activities were provided.

### 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

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**591-1-1-.08 Children's Records****Met****Comment**

A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Records were observed to be complete and well organized.

**Facility**

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**591-1-1-.19 License Capacity(CR)****Met****Comment**

A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Licensed capacity observed to be routinely met by center.

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

A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. During the virtual walk through storage of cleaning supplies and possible hazards were discussed and observed locked in a cabinet inaccessible to children. There were no hazards observed to be accessible to the children this date.

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

A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. During the virtual walk through the playground area was observed and appeared to be in good repair. Additional cleaning and sanitizing requirements due to the COVID-19 pandemic were also discussed and observed during a virtual walk through on this date.

**Food Service**

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**591-1-1-.15 Food Service & Nutrition****Technical Assistance****Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.15 - Discussed 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.

**Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.15 - Please ensure the new updated infant feeding form is used. Discussed 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.

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**591-1-1-.18 Kitchen Operations****Met****Comment**

A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Kitchen appears clean and well organized. Consultant observed meals individually packaged on this date.

**Health and Hygiene**

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

591-1-1-.10 - A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Hand washing and sanitizing requirements for diapering were discussed with the Director and staff on this date. During the virtual walk through staff displayed proper knowledge of the rules and regulations.

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**591-1-1-.17 Hygiene(CR)****Technical Assistance****Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.17 - A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Hand washing and sanitizing requirements were discussed with the Director and staff on this date. Liquid soap and paper towels were observed accessible in the restroom area.

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**591-1-1-.20 Medications(CR)****Met****Comment**

A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Documentation for emergency medications were observed complete. Program currently does not dispense/administer medication routinely at this time.

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**Organization**

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**591-1-1-.16 Governing Body & License****Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.16(f) requires the Center to submit an application for an amended License at least 30 days prior to a change if there is a change in the name of the program or Center, changes in the ages of the children to be served, an increase in the regular hours of operation such that the Center would be providing evening or night-time care in addition to day-time care, changes in the services provided, or additions to or changes in the use of the building by the licensed Center. If an emergency situation arises which makes it impossible to give thirty (30) days' notice, the management of the Center shall notify the Department by telephone and shall submit an application for an amended License as soon as management becomes aware of the change that will be necessitated by the emergency situation. In no case, however, shall a new owner operate the Center without first securing a new License or Permit from the Department. It was determined based on observation during a virtual visit that the program was utilizing one classrooms that was not licensed. The consultant observed classroom Hamm 2132 that serves 18 - 24 month old children to be in use on this date. Two staff members were present and there were no children present at the time of the visit due to 12:00 PM dismissal. The consultant discussed rule 591-1-1-.16(f) and had the center submit an amendment for the classrooms on this date.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

An application for amendment and all necessary documentation will be submitted.

**Correction Deadline: 2/11/2021**

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**Policies and Procedures**

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**591-1-1-.21 Operational Policies & Procedures****Met****Comment**

A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Program had complete emergency drills and emergency plans on this date.

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**Safety**

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**591-1-1-.11 Discipline(CR)****Technical Assistance****Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.11 - 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 and staff on this date. Staff were observed to maintain a positive learning environment on this date.

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**591-1-1-.36 Transportation(CR)****N/A****Comment**

A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Per the provider there was no routine transportation provided.

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**Sleeping & Resting Equipment**

**Comment**

A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The correct number of mats were observed on this date. Cleaning and disinfecting of mats was discussed with the director on this date. The program does not have any infants currently enrolled.

**Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.30(1)(b)3 - Discussed mat sheets with the Director on this date.

**Correction Deadline: 2/11/2021**

<b>Staff Records</b>
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**Records Reviewed: 47****Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 0**

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Staff # 1	Met
Staff # 2	Met
Date of Hire: 08/01/2013	
Staff # 3	Met
Date of Hire: 01/07/2008	
Staff # 4	Met
Date of Hire: 08/01/2017	
Staff # 5	Met
Date of Hire: 10/18/2019	
Staff # 6	Met
Staff # 7	Met
Date of Hire: 08/03/2018	
Staff # 8	Met
Date of Hire: 08/12/2001	
Staff # 9	Met
Date of Hire: 08/01/2017	
Staff # 10	Met
Date of Hire: 08/01/2014	
Staff # 11	Met
Date of Hire: 08/01/2015	
Staff # 12	Met
Staff # 13	Met

Date of Hire: 07/31/2014

Staff # 14 Met

Date of Hire: 08/12/2019

Staff # 15 Met

Date of Hire: 08/05/2013

Staff # 16 Met

Date of Hire: 08/28/2019

Staff # 17 Met

Date of Hire: 08/01/2016

Staff # 18 Met

Date of Hire: 08/08/2017

Staff # 19 Met

Date of Hire: 11/07/2012

Staff # 20 Met

Date of Hire: 08/08/2018

Staff # 21 Met

Date of Hire: 08/01/2014

Staff # 22 Met

Date of Hire: 10/18/2019

Staff # 23 Met

Date of Hire: 01/09/2018

Staff # 24 Met

Date of Hire: 08/01/2019

Staff # 25 Met

Date of Hire: 08/01/2004

Staff # 26 Met

Date of Hire: 08/07/1991

Staff # 27 Met

Date of Hire: 08/12/2019

Staff # 28 Met

Date of Hire: 08/28/2017



Staff # 29 Date of Hire: 08/03/2018	Met
Staff # 30 Date of Hire: 08/03/2012	Met
Staff # 31 Date of Hire: 08/06/2019	Met
Staff # 32 Date of Hire: 08/01/2020	Met
Staff # 33 Date of Hire: 08/01/2019	Met
Staff # 34	Met
Staff # 35 Date of Hire: 11/30/2015	Met
Staff # 36	Met
Staff # 37 Date of Hire: 08/02/2019	Met
Staff # 38 Date of Hire: 08/01/1997	Met
Staff # 39	Met
Staff # 40	Met
Staff # 41	Met
Staff # 42 Date of Hire: 08/02/2019	Met
Staff # 43 Date of Hire: 09/08/2020	Met
Staff # 44 Date of Hire: 10/08/2019	Met
Staff # 45 Date of Hire: 08/01/2016	Met

Staff # 46 Met  
 Date of Hire: 06/25/2014

Staff # 47 Met  
 Date of Hire: 08/01/2001

**Staff Credentials Reviewed: 42**

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

**Comment**

A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Criminal record checks were observed to be complete for all staff on this date.

**591-1-1-.14 First Aid & CPR Met**

**Comment**

A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Evidence observed of 100% of center staff certified in First Aid and CPR.

**591-1-1-.33 Staff Training Met**

**Comment**

A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Documentation observed of required staff training.

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

**Comment**

Additional cleaning and sanitizing requirements 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 February 15, 2021.

**Staffing and Supervision**

**591-1-1-.32 Staff:Child Ratios and Group Size(CR) Met**

**Comment**

A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. During the virtual walk through appropriate ratios were observed.

**591-1-1-.32 Supervision(CR) Technical Assistance**

**Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.32 - Discussed 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.

**Comment**

A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. During the virtual walk through staff were observed to provide direct supervision and be attentive to children's needs.