



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: 11/15/2022 VisitType: Monitoring Visit

Arrival: 10:15 AM

Departure: 11:25 AM

CCLC-39324

First Step Learning Academy, Inc.

750 Haskell Ward Drive Griffin, GA 30223 Spalding County
(678) 572-4440 Firststeplearningacademy@yahoo.com

Regional Consultant

Brandi Mangino

Phone: (478) 314-9726

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brandi.mangino@dec.al.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. 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.
11/15/2022	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
08/09/2021	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
03/15/2021	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
Total # Children this Date:			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 0			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.:				

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	Playground	55	C

Comments

No plan developed.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 11/15/2022

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.dec.state.ga.us/CCS/RuleAndRegulations.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), 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)



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!

Christina Artis, Program Official

Date

Brandi Mangino, Consultant

Date



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Findings Report

Date: 11/15/2022 **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)

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.

Children's Records

One or more parameters were not specified for the subreport, 'Subreport5', located at:
[myKoalaPDECreationConsole.Reports.RDLC.ChildMissingRequirements.rdlc](#)

591-1-1.08 Children's Records

Technical Assistance

Technical Assistance

Please ensure that allergies, disabilities, work number and release person address are all listed on enrollment application. No areas should be left blank.

Correction Deadline: 11/15/2022

Evening Care

591-1-1.32 Staffing/Supervision(CR)

Met

Comment

The center currently has no children enrolled for evening care hours. Rules discussed on this date.

Correction Deadline: 11/15/2022

Facility

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

Licensed capacity observed to be routinely met by center.

591-1-1-.25 Physical Plant - Safe Environment(CR)	Technical Assistance
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Comment

Please be mindful to keep items that pose a hazard inaccessible to children.

Technical Assistance

Consultant discussed the gold piece around the back door needs to be secured at the bottom.

Correction Deadline: 12/15/2022

591-1-1-.26 Playgrounds(CR)	Technical Assistance
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Comment

Discussed maintenance of resilient surface. Please fluff and redistribute.

Technical Assistance

Consultant discussed picking up limbs and treating the limbs/vines coming through the fencing.

Correction Deadline: 11/15/2022

Health and Hygiene

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

No diapering children enrolled at the time. Diapering requirements discussed.

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

. Proper hand washing of children and staff was discussed with the director on this date.

591-1-1-.20 Medications(CR)	Not Evaluated
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Comment

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

Safety

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

Age-appropriate discussion and/or redirection observed.

591-1-1-.36 Transportation(CR)	Not Evaluated
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Comment

Center does not provide routine transportation.

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

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

The correct number of mats, sheets and blankets were observed on this date. Cleaning and disinfecting of mats was discussed with the director on this date.

Staff Records

One or more parameters were not specified for the subreport, 'StaffMissingRequirements_CBC', located at:
[myKoolerPDECreationConsole-Reports-PDLC-StaffMissingRequirements_CBC.rdlc](#)

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

Comment

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

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

Defer

591-1-1-.33(5)-Citation will be deferred until next regulatory visit as the center has until December 31, 2022 to complete annual training for the 2022 year.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

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

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: 3/15/2021

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.