



**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:** 10/29/2019 **VisitType:** Licensing Study

**Arrival:** 9:00 AM

**Departure:** 12:30 PM

**CCLC-39560**

**Stepping Stones Early Development Center**

125 Galan Drive Byron, GA 31008 Peach County  
(478) 956-1438 stepstones956@hotmail.com

**Regional Consultant**

Yolanda Marable

Phone: (770) 357-9953

Fax: (678) 302-2432

yolanda.marable@decal.ga.gov

**Mailing Address**

Same

**Quality Rated:** ★ ★

<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.
10/29/2019	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
03/18/2019	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
09/26/2018	Monitoring Visit	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	A	One Year Olds	2	12	C	16	C	NA	NA	Floor Play
Main	B	Infants	1	3	C	9	C	NA	NA	Floor Play
Main	C		0	0	C	25	C	35	C	
Main	D	Infants	1	2	C	9	C	NA	NA	Floor Play
Main	E	Two Year Olds	1	10	C	10	C	NA	NA	Free Play
Main	F	Two Year Olds	1	9	C	11	C	NA	NA	Free Play
Main	G	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	2	17	C	17	C	NA	NA	Centers
Main	H	Two Year Olds	1	8	C	11	C	NA	NA	Free Play
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 108						Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 118				
Total # Children this Date: 61			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 108			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 118				

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	Playground A	40	C
Main	Playground B	17	C
Main	Playground C	61	C
Main	Playground D	5	C
Main	Playground E	9	C

**Comments**

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 10/29/2019

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.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](mailto:qualityrated@dec.state.ga.us)

---

SHEILA RUCKER, Program Official

Date

---

Yolanda Marable, Consultant

Date



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

### Findings Report

**Date:** 10/29/2019 **VisitType:** Licensing Study

**Arrival:** 9:00 AM

**Departure:** 12:30 PM

**CCLC-39560**

**Stepping Stones Early Development Center**

125 Galan Drive Byron, GA 31008 Peach County  
(478) 956-1438 stepstones956@hotmail.com

**Mailing Address**  
Same

**Regional Consultant**

Yolanda Marable

Phone: (770) 357-9953

Fax: (678) 302-2432

yolanda.marable@decal.ga.gov

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)**

**Met**

**Comment**

Center does not provide swimming activities.

#### 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)**

**Met**

**Comment**

No hazards observed accessible to children on this date.

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

**Met**

**Comment**

Playground observed to be clean and in good repair.

#### Health and Hygiene

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

**Met**

**Comment**

Staff state proper knowledge of diapering procedures.

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

**Comment**

Staff were observed to remind children to wash hands.

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

**Comment**

Documentation for medication dispensing observed complete.

**Safety**

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

**Comment**

Age-appropriate discussion and/or redirection observed.

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

**Correction Deadline: 3/28/2019**

**Corrected on 10/29/2019**

**.36(3)(a-b) - Previous citation corrected on this date. Consultant observed completed transportation documentation.**

**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 by consultants observation four of the six cribs had lose fitting sheets on this date.

**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: 10/29/2019**

**Staff Records**

**Records Reviewed: 9**

**Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 0**

Staff # 1 Met

Date of Hire: 05/14/2018

Staff # 2 Met

Date of Hire: 03/15/2019

Staff # 3 Met

Date of Hire: 05/25/2017

Staff # 4 Met

Date of Hire: 09/26/2016

Staff # 5 Met

**Records Reviewed: 9**

**Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 0**

Staff # 6	Met
Staff # 7	Met
Date of Hire: 09/04/2019	
Staff # 8	Met
Date of Hire: 04/14/2016	
Staff # 9	Met
Date of Hire: 01/09/2018	

**Staff Credentials Reviewed: 5**

---

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

**Comment**  
Criminal record checks were observed to be complete.

---

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

**Comment**  
Staff observed to be compliant with applicable laws and regulations.

<b>Staffing and Supervision</b>
---------------------------------

---

**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.