



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: 10/5/2022 **VisitType:** Complaint Investigation & Licensing Study POI Follow Up **Arrival:** 9:45 AM **Departure:** 1:00 PM

CCLC-55384

Strong Roots Academy

101 Generation Blvd. Loganville, GA 30052 Walton County
 (770) 466-9660 childcare@strongrootsacademy.com

Regional Consultant

Rebekah Mullinax

Phone: (770) 357-7056

Fax: (770) 357-7055

rebekah.mullinax@dec.al.ga.gov

Mailing Address
 Same

Quality Rated: No

Compliance Zone Designation		
10/05/2022	Complaint Investigation & Licensing Study POI Follow Up	Good Standing
09/12/2022	Incident Investigation & Follow Up	Good Standing
06/02/2022	Incident Investigation Closure	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
Main	A- 1L	Infants and One Year Olds	3	11	C	18	C	NA	NA	Nap,Snack,Floor Play
Main	B- 2L		0	0	C	17	C	NA	NA	
Main	C- 3L	One Year Olds	1	5	C	18	C	NA	NA	Free Play
Main	D- 4L	One Year Olds	1	7	C	24	C	NA	NA	Free Play
Main	E- Center 1	PreK	2	15	C	28	C	NA	NA	Centers
Main	F- Center 2	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	2	14	C	27	C	NA	NA	Transitioning
Main	G- 3R	Three Year Olds	1	11	C	46	C	NA	NA	Centers
Main	H- 2R	Two Year Olds	1	6	C	32	C	NA	NA	Art
Main	I- 1R	Two Year Olds	1	10	C	40	C	NA	NA	Centers
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 250						Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0				
Total # Children this Date: 79			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 250			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0				

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	Back Playground	34	C
Main	Left Back Playground	155	C
Main	Left Front Playground	37	C
Main	Right Playground	89	C

Comments

Consultant requested to review all Criminal Record checks for all employees hired after last visit. Director provided six files for employees hired since last visit.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 10/05/2022

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.decal.ga.gov/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



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@decal.ga.gov 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)

Kelly Dawkins, Program Official

Date

Rebekah Mullinax, 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: 10/5/2022 **VisitType:** Complaint Investigation & Licensing Study POI Follow Up **Arrival:** 9:45 AM **Departure:** 1:00 PM

CCLC-55384

Strong Roots Academy

101 Generation Blvd. Loganville, GA 30052 Walton County
(770) 466-9660 childcare@strongrootsacademy.com

Regional Consultant

Rebekah Mullinax

Phone: (770) 357-7056

Fax: (770) 357-7055

rebekah.mullinax@decals.ga.gov

Mailing Address

Same

The following information is associated with a Complaint Investigation & Licensing Study POI Follow Up:

Activities and Equipment

591-1-1-.03 Activities

Met

Correction Deadline: 6/2/2022

Corrected on 10/5/2022

.03(8) - Previous citation corrected in that the Director stated that each staff member received training on when and how to respond appropriately to children's distress signals and need for comfort. Additionally, the program implemented a new policy regarding individual attention.

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

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.

Food Service

591-1-1-.15 Food Service & Nutrition

Met

Comment

Center menu meets USDA guidelines.

591-1-1-.18 Kitchen Operations

Met

Comment

Kitchen appears clean and well organized.

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)

N/A

Comment

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

Policies and Procedures

591-1-1-.21 Operational Policies & Procedures**Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.21(3) requires that the Center conduct drills for fire, tornado and other emergency situations. The fire drills will be conducted monthly and tornado and other emergency situation drills will be conducted every six months. The Center shall maintain documentation of the dates and times of these drills for two years. It was determined based on a review of records that the center did not conduct a fire drill the month of September 2022.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will hold the drills as required and keep the documentation of the drills on file for two years.

Correction Deadline: 10/10/2022

591-1-1-.27 Posted Notices**Met****Comment**

Observed all required posted notices.

591-1-1-.29 Required Reporting**Met****Comment**

Thank you for reporting as required.

Safety

591-1-1-.05 Animals**N/A****Comment**

Center does not keep animals on premises.

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

Please be mindful of voice tone in redirecting children.

591-1-1-.13 Field Trips(CR)**Met****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)**Met****Comment**

Discussed SIDS and infant sleeping position.

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**Records Reviewed: 25****Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 0**

Staff # 1

Met

Date of Hire: 01/04/2022

Staff # 2 Date of Hire: 06/20/2022	Met
Staff # 3	Met
Staff # 4 Date of Hire: 01/26/2022	Met
Staff # 5	Met
Staff # 6	Met
Staff # 7 Date of Hire: 07/05/2022	Met
Staff # 8	Met
Staff # 9	Met
Staff # 10 Date of Hire: 08/01/2022	Met <u>Reminder - Health & Safety training is required within 90 calendar days of hired</u>
Staff # 11 Date of Hire: 09/19/2022	Met <u>Reminder - Health & Safety training is required within 90 calendar days of hired</u>
Staff # 12 Date of Hire: 08/15/2022	Met <u>Reminder - Health & Safety training is required within 90 calendar days of hired</u>
Staff # 13 Date of Hire: 08/22/2022	Met <u>Reminder - Health & Safety training is required within 90 calendar days of hired</u>
Staff # 14	Met
Staff # 15 Date of Hire: 05/05/2022	Met
Staff # 16 Date of Hire: 09/05/2022	Met <u>Reminder - Health & Safety training is required within 90 calendar days of hired</u>
Staff # 17	Met
Staff # 18	Met
Staff # 19	Met

Records Reviewed: 25

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 0

Date of Hire: 07/11/2022

Reminder - Health & Safety training is required within 90 calendar days of hired

Staff # 20

Met

Date of Hire: 06/20/2022

Staff # 21

Met

Date of Hire: 06/06/2022

Staff # 22

Met

Staff # 23

Met

Date of Hire: 08/08/2022

Reminder - Health & Safety training is required within 90 calendar days of hired

Staff # 24

Met

Date of Hire: 07/25/2022

Reminder - Health & Safety training is required within 90 calendar days of hired

Staff # 25

Met

Date of Hire: 05/31/2022

Staff Credentials Reviewed: 10

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

Met

Comment

Criminal record checks were observed to be complete.

Comment

Director provided six files for employees hired since last visit.

591-1-1-.33 Staff Training

Met

Comment

Documentation observed of required staff training.

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

Correction Deadline: 6/2/2022

Corrected on 10/5/2022

.32(7) - Previous citation corrected in that the consultant observed staff supervising children at all times as required. Additionally, the Director stated that staff received supervision training.