



**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:** 2/6/2023    **VisitType:** Initial Licensing Study    **Arrival:** 8:30 AM    **Departure:** 11:30 AM

**CCLC-58114**

**Bright Minds Learning Center**

166 Honey Hole Rd. Thomson, GA 30824 McDuffie County  
(706) 597-8855 brightmindslearn21@Gmail.com

**Regional Consultant**

Kedirile Knott

Phone: (770) 357-7016

Fax: (770) 357-7015

kedirile.magakgala@decal.ga.gov

**Temporary License**

**Mailing Address**

Same

**Quality Rated:** No

<b>Compliance Zone Designation</b>		
02/06/2023	Initial 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
Building 1	A-Right	Infants and One Year Olds	2	7	C	21	C	NA	NA	Floor Play, Diapering
Building 1	B- Left	Two Year Olds	2	10	C	28	C	NA	NA	Diapering, Centers, Free Play
Building 1	Back	Three Year Olds and GA PreK	3	20	C	32	C	45	C	Circle Time
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 81						Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 94				
Total # Children this Date: 37			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 81			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 94				

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Building 1	Playground	46	C

**Comments**

An Initial Licensing Study was conducted on February 6, 2023. A Temporary License was issued on this date. Facility carries Liability Insurance.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 02/06/2023

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), do the following:

- 1) Log into DECAL KOALA [www.decalkoala.com](http://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 1 855-800-7747 or [qualityrated@dec.state.ga.us](mailto:qualityrated@dec.state.ga.us) for more information. Free technical assistance is available!**

Kimberly Heath, Program Official

Date

Kedirile Knott, Consultant

Date



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**(Findings Report)**

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The following information is associated with a Initial Licensing Study:

**Activities and Equipment**

**591-1-1-.12 Equipment & Toys(CR)**

**Met**

**Comment**

Discussed adding equipment and toys to enhance variety.

**Comment**

Equipment and furniture observed to be properly secured, as applicable.

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

**Met**

**Comment**

Center does not provide swimming activities.

**Facility**

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

**Met**

**Comment**

Bathrooms observed to be clean and well maintained.

**Comment**

Please monitor bathrooms for necessary supplies.

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

**Met**

**Comment**

Licensed capacity observed to be routinely met by center. A Temporary License was issued on this date. The overall license capacity is 81 children.

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

**Met**

**Comment**

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

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

Consultant discussed with the director ensuring that the gap on the playground gate be reduced to less than 3.5 inches.

**Comment**

Playground observed to be clean and in good repair.

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**Food Service**

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

Consultant discussed with the director 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. Food shall not be accessible or served to children until it has been chopped, diced, cut, or mashed and is appropriate for each child's age and individual eating, chewing and swallowing ability.

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**Health and Hygiene**

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

Staff state proper knowledge of diapering procedures.

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

Staff were observed to remind children to wash hands.

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

Discussed proper medication documentation and procedures.

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**Safety**

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

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

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

Center does not provide routine transportation.

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**Sleeping & Resting Equipment**

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**591-1-1-.30 Safe Sleeping and Resting Requirements(CR)****Technical Assistance****Comment**

Consultant discussed SIDS and infant sleeping position with the director on this date.

**Technical Assistance**

Consultant discussed with the director ensuring that crib sheets are washed daily.

**Comment**

Four (4) cribs were present meeting safety compliance with Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) and American Society of Testing and Materials International (ASTM) safety standards as they were manufactured in 2021 and 2022.

**Staff Records**

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

**Comment**

Criminal record checks were observed to be complete. Ten (10) staff records were observed to have comprehensive satisfactory Criminal Background Check determination letters on file.

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

**Comment**

Discussed that all lead staff must enroll in an approved education program within 6 months of hire and complete degree within 18 months.

**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) Not Met**

**Comment**

A bathroom supervision plan was created on this date for classrooms B and C .

**Comment**

Adequate supervision observed on this date.

**Finding**

591-1-1-.32(7) requires that children be supervised at all times appropriate to the individual age, needs and capabilities of each child. Such supervision must include, but not be limited to, indoor and outdoor activities, mealtimes, naptime, transportation, field trips, and transitions between activities. "Supervision" means that the appropriate number of Staff members are physically present in the area where children are being cared for and are providing watchful oversight to the children, volunteers and Students-in-Training. The persons supervising in the child care area must be alert, positioned to maximize their ability to hear and see the children at all times, and able to respond promptly to the needs and actions of the children being supervised, as well as the actions of the volunteers and Students-in-Training, and provide timely attention to the children's actions and needs. 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. It was determined based on observation that a child in Classroom B was left to go to the bathroom without any supervision being provided.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center will train Staff and monitor to ensure they are providing supervision and watchful oversight to the children at all times.

**Correction Deadline: 2/6/2023**