



**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

Cover Sheet

Date: 1/12/2022 **VisitType:** Licensing Study

Arrival: 10:00 AM

Departure: 11:00 AM

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: ★ ★

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.
01/12/2022	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
07/27/2021	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
03/16/2021	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	Two Year Olds and Three Year Olds	2	13	C	16	C	NA	NA	Music
Main	B	Infants	1	5	C	9	C	NA	NA	Floor Play, Nap
Main	C	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	2	25	C	25	C	35	C	Circle Time
Main	D	One Year Olds	1	6	C	9	C	NA	NA	Floor Play
Main	E	Three Year Olds	1	10	C	10	C	NA	NA	Music
Main	F		0	0	C	11	C	NA	NA	
Main	G		0	0	C	17	C	NA	NA	
Main	H		0	0	C	11	C	NA	NA	
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 108						Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 118				
Total # Children this Date: 59			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

No plan developed. A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Consultant 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 36 months of age and younger.

Parents must be given access to the center if they request. Centers are not at liberty to deny access to a parent/guardian at this time.



Plan of Improvement: No Plan Developed

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

Important New Deadlines:

Due to the ongoing COVID restrictions, the deadline to become Quality Rated for programs who want to continue to receive Childcare and Parent Services (CAPS), has been extended to at least December 31, 2021.

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

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.

- 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)

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: 1/12/2022 **VisitType:** Licensing Study **Arrival:** 10:00 AM **Departure:** 11:00 AM

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

Proper hand washing observed throughout the center.

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

Comment

Documentation for medication dispensing observed complete.

Safety

591-1-1-.05 Animals **Met**

Comment

Animals maintained clean and appropriately caged.

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

Comment

Age-appropriate discussion and/or redirection observed.

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) **Met**

Comment

Complete documentation of transportation observed.

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

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

Comment

Discussed SIDS and infant sleeping position.

Staff Records

Records Reviewed: 17

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 0

Staff # 1 Met

Date of Hire: 10/05/2021

Staff # 2 Met

Date of Hire: 05/25/2017

Staff # 3 Met

Date of Hire: 04/25/2016

Staff # 4 Met

Date of Hire: 09/26/2016

Staff # 5 Met

Date of Hire: 11/06/2017

Records Reviewed: 17**Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 0**

Staff # 6	Met
Date of Hire: 11/08/2021	<u>Reminder - Health & Safety training is required within 90 calendar days of hired</u>
Staff # 7	Met
Staff # 8	Met
Date of Hire: 06/07/2021	
Staff # 9	Met
Date of Hire: 01/18/2021	
Staff # 10	Met
Date of Hire: 01/11/2021	
Staff # 11	Met
Date of Hire: 11/01/2021	<u>Reminder - Health & Safety training is required within 90 calendar days of hired</u>
Staff # 12	Met
Date of Hire: 05/17/2021	
Staff # 13	Met
Date of Hire: 09/04/2019	
Staff # 14	Met
Date of Hire: 04/14/2016	
Staff # 15	Met
Date of Hire: 05/28/2019	
Staff # 16	Met
Date of Hire: 05/09/2016	
Staff # 17	Met
Date of Hire: 01/09/2018	

Staff Credentials Reviewed: 4

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

Comment

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

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.