



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: 3/28/2023 **VisitType:** Incident Investigation/Licensing Study **Arrival:** 7:45 AM **Departure:** 1:00 PM

CCLC-28751
Stepping Stones Early Development Center
 305 West White Road Byron, GA 31008 Peach County
 (478) 956-2510 stepstones956@hotmail.com

Regional Consultant
 Brandi Mangino
 Phone: (478) 314-9726
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 Same

Quality Rated: ★ ★

<u>Compliance Zone Designation</u>		
03/28/2023	Incident Investigation/Licensing Study	Good Standing
11/02/2022	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing
01/18/2022	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
Main	A	Infants and One Year Olds	2	6	C	17	C	NA	NA	Floor Play, Feeding, Diapering
Main	B	Infants	2	7	C	14	C	NA	NA	Feeding, Floor Play, Nap
Main	C	One Year Olds	2	12	C	14	C	NA	NA	Free Play
Main	D	One Year Olds	1	3	C	13	C	NA	NA	Breakfast
Main	E	One Year Olds	1	5	C	12	C	NA	NA	Breakfast
Main	F	Three Year Olds	1	7	C	15	C	NA	NA	Transitioning
Main	G	Two Year Olds and Three Year Olds	1	5	C	15	C	NA	NA	Centers
Main	H	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	1	6	C	17	C	NA	NA	Centers
Main	I	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	1	8	C	17	C	NA	NA	Centers
Main	J	GA PreK	2	19	C	20	C	28	C	Circle Time
Main	K	GA PreK	2	19	C	26	C	36	C	Circle Time
Main	L	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	1	11	C	25	C	35	C	Centers
Main	M	Two Year Olds	2	8	C	13	C	NA	NA	Free Play
Main	N	Two Year Olds and Three Year Olds	1	3	C	10	C	NA	NA	Transitioning
Main	O	GA PreK	2	17	C	32	C	45	C	Circle Time

	Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 260	Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 301
Total # Children this Date: 136	Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 260	Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 301


Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	Playground E	58	C
Main	Playground A	12	C
Main	playground B	44	C
Main	playground C	50	C
Main	playground D	50	C

Comments

Plan of Improvement developed on this date.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 03/28/2023

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.al.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

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.al.ga.gov for more information. Free technical assistance is available!

Katey Ray, Program Official

Date

Brandi Mangino, Consultant

Date



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(Findings Report)

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The following information is associated with a Licensing Study Visit:

Activities and Equipment

591-1-1-.03 Activities

Not Met

Finding

591-1-1-.03(2) requires the Center to keep current lesson plans on site that reflect appropriate instruction practices and activities to support children's development The Center shall have sufficient and varied play and learning equipment and materials to support the above program of activities in all developmental areas. It was determined based on observation that in Room A, Room M and Room E current lesson plans could not be given for review as they were outdated lesson plans posted.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will keep current lesson plans on site that include appropriate instruction practices and activities and will have sufficient and varied play and learning equipment and materials to support the activities.

Correction Deadline: 3/28/2023

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)

Not Evaluated

Comment

Center does not provide swimming activities.

Facility

591-1-1-.06 Bathrooms

Technical Assistance

Technical Assistance

Consultant discussed checking restroom ventilation to ensure it is working correctly.

Correction Deadline: 4/27/2023

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) **Not Met**

Correction Deadline: 11/2/2022

Corrected on 3/28/2023

.25(13) - Citation observed to be corrected.

Finding

591-1-1-.25(3) requires the Center and surrounding premises to be kept clean, free of debris and in good repair. Hygienic measures such as, but not limited to, screened windows and proper waste disposal procedures shall be utilized to minimize the presence of rodents, flies, roaches and other vermin at the Center. It was determined based on observation that the following items were in need of being repaired:

-baseboards in the classrooms and restrooms of Rooms: H, I, J, K, and L

-O Rings being the toilets of Rooms: F, N, M, H, I, J, K, L and O

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will have the Center and surrounding areas cleaned, make repairs where needed, and remove all debris is removed. The Center will implement a plan to keep areas clean and in good repair that includes regular monitoring.

Correction Deadline: 4/11/2023

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

Please ensure that infant feeding forms are updated regularly.

Health and Hygiene

591-1-1-.07 Children's Health **Technical Assistance**

Technical Assistance

Consultant discussed that pacifier clips are not permitted.

Correction Deadline: 3/28/2023

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

Comment

Proper diapering procedures observed.

591-1-1-.17 Hygiene(CR) **Not Met**

Comment

Please ensure lids remain on trash containing organic waste.

Finding

591-1-1-17(7) requires that children wash their hands with liquid soap and warm running water upon arrival for care, when moving from one child care group to another, upon re-entering the child care area after outside play, before and after eating meals and snacks, handling or touching food, playing in water; after toileting and diapering, playing in sand, touching animals or pets, and contact with bodily fluids and after contamination by any other means. It was determined based on observation that a child in Room H was not required to wash hand upon arrival and went to center time.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will train Staff on required handwashing for children and Staff will ensure children's hands are washed when required. The Director will monitor for compliance.

Correction Deadline: 3/28/2023

Correction Deadline: 11/2/2022

Corrected on 3/28/2023

.17(8) - Citation observed to be corrected.

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

Comment

Documentation for medication dispensing observed complete.

Safety

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

Comment

Center does not keep animals on premises.

591-1-1-.11 Discipline(CR) **Technical Assistance**

Technical Assistance

Consultant discussed when talking to children about behaviors it should not be stated to them, "do I need to call..."

591-1-1-.13 Field Trips(CR) **Not Evaluated**

Comment

Center does not participate in field trips at this time.

591-1-1-.36 Transportation(CR) **Technical Assistance**

Comment

A current/completed inspection was observed for all vehicles used in transporting children this date.

Comment

Complete documentation of transportation observed.

Technical Assistance

Please ensure that work number are listed on emergency medical forms or N/A is placed in the area by the parent.

Correction Deadline: 4/2/2023

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.

Correction Deadline: 11/2/2022

Corrected on 3/28/2023

.30(2) - Citation observed to be corrected.

Staff Records

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

Met

Comment

Criminal record checks were observed to be complete.

Requirements for anyone coming into the center for any services was disussed.

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.

Staffing and Supervision

591-1-1-.32 Staff:Child Ratios and Group Size(CR)

Met

Comment

Discussed combining children of mixed ages.

591-1-1-.32 Supervision(CR)

Met

Comment

Adequate supervision observed on this date.

Correction Deadline: 11/2/2022

Corrected on 3/28/2023

.32(7) - Citation observed to be corrected.