



**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:** 8/4/2022      **VisitType:** Monitoring Visit      **Arrival:** 9:05 AM      **Departure:** 11:45 AM

**CCLC-53829**

**Giggles & Smiles Learning Center, LLC**

112 Thomas Drive Americus, GA 31709 Sumter County  
(229) 380-0406 gsmileslearning@gmail.com

**Regional Consultant**

Charlene Story

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**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.
08/04/2022	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
05/16/2022	Incident Investigation & Follow Up	Good Standing	
01/25/2022	Licensing Study	Good Standing	

  

<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.

**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) 6wk - 18 mths	Infants and One Year Olds	2	7	C	12	C	NA	NA	Feeding, Nap, Flo or Play
Main	B / (2L) 2 years	One Year Olds	2	7	C	23	C	NA	NA	Circle Time
Main	C / (2R) 3- 4 years	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	2	19	C	25	C	NA	NA	Circle Time
Main	D / (1R) 1-2 years	Two Year Olds	2	12	C	25	C	NA	NA	Art
Main	E/ (Back Room) 5-12 Years Old	Six Year Olds and Over	1	4	C	23	C	NA	NA	Free Play
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 100					Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0		Building @35 capacity limited by Insufficient Toilets/Sinks			
Total # Children this Date: 49			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 100			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0				

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	Playground A- 6wks- 2 years	36	C
Main	Playground B- 3 yr- 12 yrs	30	C

## Comments

The purpose of this visit was to conduct a Monitoring Visit. This visit was conducted in person by the Consultant on August 4, 2022.

An Administrative Review for a Monitoring Visit was completed on August 8, 2022 by the consultant.

An Exit conference discussing the Monitoring visit report was conducted on August 8, 2022. Consultant emailed report to the Provider requesting signature and to be emailed back to consultant within two business days.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 08/04/2022

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

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Biscelgia Williams, Program Official

Date

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Charlene Story, Consultant

Date



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**Findings Report**

**Date:** 8/4/2022      **VisitType:** Monitoring Visit      **Arrival:** 9:05 AM      **Departure:** 11:45 AM

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The following information is associated with a Monitoring Visit:

**Activities and Equipment**

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

**Comment**

Equipment and furniture observed to be properly secured on this date.

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

**Comment**

Center does not provide swimming activities.

**Facility**

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

**Comment**

Licensed capacity observed to be met by center on this date.

**591-1-1-.25 Physical Plant - Safe Environment(CR)** **Not Met**

**Finding**

591-1-1-.25(13) requires that potentially hazardous equipment, materials and supplies be stored in a locked area inaccessible to children. It was determined based on consultant observation that in Classroom C, a stapler and hole puncher was accessible to the children. Also in Classroom D, a stapler was on the desk where children could reach.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center will identify all hazardous items and keep them in a locked area inaccessible to children. The Center will inform all Staff about hazardous items and the safe storage of those items.

**Correction Deadline: 8/4/2022**

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**591-1-1-.26 Playgrounds(CR)****Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.26(4) requires that playgrounds be protected from traffic or other hazards by a (4) four foot high fence or other barrier approved by this Department. Fencing material shall not present a hazard to children and shall be maintained so as to prevent children from leaving the playground area by any means other than through an approved access route. Fence gates shall be kept closed except when persons are entering or exiting the area. It was determined based on Consultant observation that the following hazards were found on the playground:

\* Front gate leading to Playground B had a gap of eight (8) inches from the ground to the bottom of the gate.

\* The gate right next to the front gate leading to Playground B there was a gap of seven (7) inches from the ground to the bottom of the gate.

\* A gap of four (4) inches was observed between the gate and fence post located between Playground A and Playground B.

\* The fence beside the storage shed of Playground A a gap of four (4) inches was observed from the ground to the bottom of the fence.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center will routinely check the fence to determine if it is in good repair and remains at least 4 feet high, and will repair any hazards. The Center will train Staff to identify and report any fence hazards and to keep the fence gates closed when not in use.

**Correction Deadline: 8/18/2022**

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<b>Health and Hygiene</b>
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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**

Hand washing was not observed during walk through. Consultant discussed proper hand washing with staff on this date.

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**591-1-1-.20 Medications(CR)****N/A****Comment**

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

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<b>Safety</b>
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**591-1-1-.11 Discipline(CR)****Met****Comment**

Consultant observed staff use redirection in Classroom C and Classroom D. In Classroom C, teacher was observed redirecting a child back to circle time. In Classroom D, Consultant observed teacher redirect child back to art project by talking about the clouds.

**Comment**

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

**Finding**

591-1-1-.36(7)(c)2. requires that the driver or other designated person shall immediately document in writing, with a check or other mark/symbol to account for each child listed on the passenger transportation checklist each time a child enters and exits the vehicle. The driver or other designated staff person shall document in writing with a different mark/symbol to account for each child listed on the passenger transportation checklist who was not present on the vehicle for any reason. An explanation shall be documented in writing whenever a child is transported to a field trip site but is not present on the return trip to the Center. It was determined based on Transportation records, That five (5) out of twenty (20) children listed on the field trip form for July 13, 2022 were missing a symbol or mark showing absent when loading at the facility and unloading at the park and when loading from the park and unloading at the facility. In addition, two (2) out of fifteen (15) children present for the field trip were missing a symbol or mark showing when they loaded at the facility and unloaded at the park. Also one (1) out of fifteen (15) children present for field trip was missing a mark or symbol for unloading when returning to the facility that afternoon.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The driver/other designated person will immediately document in writing with a check/mark/symbol each time a child gets on and off the vehicle.

**Correction Deadline: 8/5/2022**

**Finding**

591-1-1-.36(7)(d)2. requires that the second designated Staff person conduct a check of the vehicle immediately upon the completion of the first check of the vehicle. The responsible person shall physically walk through the entire vehicle; visually inspect all seat surfaces, under all seats and in all compartments or recesses in the vehicle's interior; and sign the passenger transportation checklist(s), indicating all of the children have exited the vehicle. There shall be continuous watchful oversight of the vehicle between the first check and second check. It was determined based on review of transportation records, that a second check was not conducted when the vehicle arrived at the park and when the vehicle arrived back to the facility after the field trip.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center will train Staff who are or may be involved in transporting children in how to thoroughly inspect a vehicle and properly complete transportation documentation. The Center will review and monitor.

**Correction Deadline: 8/4/2022**

**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: 20**

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

Staff # 1 Met  
Date of Hire: 07/06/2021

Staff # 2 Met  
Date of Hire: 11/16/2021

Staff # 3 Date of Hire: 11/22/2021	Met
Staff # 4 Date of Hire: 11/16/2021	Met
Staff # 5 Date of Hire: 09/02/2021	Met
Staff # 6 Date of Hire: 02/18/2021	Met
Staff # 7 Date of Hire: 04/14/2021	Met
Staff # 8 Date of Hire: 11/16/2021	Met
Staff # 9 Date of Hire: 05/13/2021	Met
Staff # 10 Date of Hire: 08/01/2022	Met <u>Reminder - Health &amp; Safety training is required within 90 calendar days of hired</u>
Staff # 11 Date of Hire: 08/01/2022	Met <u>Reminder - Health &amp; Safety training is required within 90 calendar days of hired</u>
Staff # 12 Date of Hire: 05/19/2021	Met
Staff # 13 Date of Hire: 07/05/2022	Met <u>Reminder - Health &amp; Safety training is required within 90 calendar days of hired</u>
Staff # 14 Date of Hire: 05/10/2021	Met
Staff # 15 Date of Hire: 02/18/2021	Met
Staff # 16 Date of Hire: 08/13/2021	Met
Staff # 17	Met

**Records Reviewed: 20**

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

Date of Hire: 06/12/2020

Staff # 18

Met

Date of Hire: 01/27/2021

Staff # 19

Met

Date of Hire: 02/08/2021

Staff # 20

Met

Date of Hire: 05/25/2021

**Staff Credentials Reviewed: 7**

**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.

**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**

Staff observed to provide direct supervision and be attentive to children's needs.