



**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:** 1/30/2020 **VisitType:** Complaint Investigation & Licensing Study **Arrival:** 11:55 AM **Departure:** 5:20 PM

**CCLC-30186**

**Blue River STEAM Academy**

4391 Glenwood Road Decatur, GA 30032 DeKalb County  
 (404) 284-8909 obamadaycare@outlook.com

**Mailing Address**

850 Shadow Lake Drive  
 Lithonia, GA 30058

**Regional Consultant**

Laurel Benta

Phone: (770) 357-3279

Fax: (770) 357-3281

carrie.spangler@decal.ga.gov

**Quality Rated:** ★

<u>Compliance Zone Designation</u>			<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.  <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.
01/30/2020	Complaint Investigation & Licensing Study	Deficient	
12/12/2019	POI Follow Up	Good Standing	
12/06/2019	Complaint Closure	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	Room A	One Year Olds	1	4	C	11	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main	Room B	Three Year Olds and Six Year Olds and Over and PreK	2	27	C	43	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main	Room C-1R		0	0	C	44	C	NA	NA	
Main	Room D - 1L		0	0	C	6	C	NA	NA	
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 104					Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					
Total # Children this Date: 31			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 104			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0				

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	A-Back Area	54	C
Main	B-Side area 3-12yrs	38	C

**Comments**

The investigation remains open on this date, pending additional information. Upon completion the finding will be reviewed with the provider and a final copy of the report will be sent.

Plan of Improvement: To Be Submitted 02/13/2020

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

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@decal.ga.gov](mailto:CCSRefutations@decal.ga.gov).

- 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://decal.ga.gov/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)



#### Important New Deadlines:

Your program must be Quality Rated by December 31, 2020 in order to continue to receive Childcare and Parent Services (CAPS).

Get started today! Sign up by completing a short online application: <https://qualityrated.decal.ga.gov/>  
Request free technical assistance to help you earn your star rating by contacting the Quality Rated help desk at 855-800-7747 or [qualityrated@decal.ga.gov](mailto:qualityrated@decal.ga.gov)

Stephanie Plummer, Program Official

Date

Laurel Benta, Consultant

Date



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### Summary Report

**Date:** 1/30/2020 **VisitType:** Complaint Investigation & Licensing Study **Arrival:** 11:55 AM **Departure:** 5:20 PM

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The following information is associated with a Licensing Study Visit:

### Activities and Equipment

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

**Technical Assistance**

**Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.12(2) - The consultant observed profanity carved into the stove set in housekeeping in Classroom C. The director will remove or repair the equipment.

**Correction Deadline: 1/30/2020**

**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: 3**

Child # 2

Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.08(1)(a)-Work Address Missing,.08(1)(a)-Work Number Missing

Child # 3

Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.08(1)(a)-Work Address Missing,.08(1)(a)-Work Number Missing

Child # 4

Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.08(1)(a)-Work Address Missing,.08(1)(a)-Work Number Missing

**Finding**

591-1-1-.08(1) requires the Center Staff to maintain a file for each child while such child is in care and for one year after that child is no longer enrolled. In order for the file to be complete, the file shall contain the following: child's name, birth date, sex, address, living arrangement, name of school if applicable; names of both Parents, home and work addresses, and home and work telephone numbers; name(s) and addresses of the person(s) to whom the child may be released including address, telephone numbers, relationship to child and to Parent(s), and other identifying information; name(s) and telephone number(s) of person(s) to contact in emergencies when the Parent cannot be reached; name and telephone number of the child's primary source of health care; and a statement regarding known allergies, physical problems, mental health disorders, mental retardation or developmental disabilities which limit the child's participation in the program. It was determined based on review of records that three out of five children's files lacked parents' work addresses and numbers.

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**Correction Deadline: 1/30/2020**

**Finding**

591-1-1-.08(6) requires the Center to maintain records of a child's daily arrival and departure for the twelve (12) preceding months that the Parent or person(s) authorized by the Parent documents, in written or electronic format, each time the Parent or authorized person drops off and picks up the child. The documentation shall include at least the date, the child's name, the arrival and departure times, and the signature or initials of the Parent or authorized person at the time of arrival and departure. These records shall be made available to the Department in printed or written form upon request. It was determined based on review of records that there was no sign in and out sheets available for parents on January 29, 2020 and January 30, 2020.

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**Correction Deadline: 1/30/2020**

<b>Facility</b>
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**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

**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 observation that a bottle of bleach and water was located on the window sill in the back left side of Classroom B accessible to children.

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**Correction Deadline: 1/30/2020**

**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 the following items were observed:

- Several ceiling tiles in Classroom C had brown and black stains throughout.
  - There was a broken ceiling tile which exposed a large hole and a hanging ceiling tile in the bathroom in Classroom B.
  - The top of the sink was detached from the bottom of the sink located outside of the backside bathroom in Classroom C.
  - The wooden panel on the wall was detached from the wall which exposed a nail accessible to children on the back left side of Classroom C.
  - The white wall above the wooden panels was cracked with exposed sharp metal pieces accessible to children in the back left side of Classroom C.
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**Correction Deadline: 1/30/2020**

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

**Met**

**Correction Deadline: 12/12/2019**

**Corrected on 1/30/2020**

**.26(9) - The previous citation was corrected on this date. The plywood has been removed.**

**Health and Hygiene**

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

**Met**

**Comment**

Hand washing requirements for diapering were discussed with the director on this date.

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

**Met**

**Comment**

Staff stated proper knowledge of handwashing procedures.

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

**N/A**

**Comment**

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

**Organization**

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**591-1-1-.37 Inspections & Investigations****Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.37(b) requires the Center to consent for the Department's representative after displaying identification to any Center Staff to enter the premises at any time during operating hours for the purpose of inspecting the facility, including both scheduled and unscheduled inspections and includes consent for meaningful access to all Staff, parts of the premises, all children present and all records required by these rules. The Department shall have the right to photocopy or reproduce by any means any record required by these rules to be maintained and as needed for any inspection or investigation. It was determined based on observation that the center failed to provide meaningful access to all records during a visit on this date.

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**Correction Deadline: 1/30/2020**

<b>Policies and Procedures</b>
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**591-1-1-.22 Parental Access****Technical Assistance****Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.22 - Discussed parental access procedures on this date.

**Correction Deadline: 1/30/2020**

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**591-1-1-.27 Posted Notices****Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.27 requires each Center to post in a designated area for public viewing near the front entrance the following: the Center's current License or Permit; a copy of these rules; a copy of the current communicable disease chart; a statement allowing Parent(s) access to all child care areas upon notifying any staff member of his or her presence; names of persons responsible for the administration of the Center in the administrator's absence; the dated current week's menu for meals and snacks; emergency plans for severe weather, fire, and other emergency situations; a statement requiring visitors to check in with Staff when entering the Center; no smoking signs; and a notice provided by the Department which advises Parents of their right to review a copy of the Center's most recent licensure evaluation report upon request to the Center Director. The Center shall provide any Parent with a copy of this evaluation report upon request. It was determined based on observation that the Center's current License or Permit; a copy of these rules, updated names of persons responsible for the administration of the Center in the administrator's absence, emergency plans for severe weather, fire, and other emergency situations; a statement requiring visitors to check in with Staff when entering the Center and a statement allowing Parent(s) access to all child care areas upon notifying any staff member of his or her presence were not posted near the front entrance for public viewing.

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**Correction Deadline: 1/30/2020**

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

Age-appropriate discussion and/or redirection observed.

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

Center does not provide routine transportation.

**Sleeping & Resting Equipment****591-1-1-.30 Safe Sleeping and Resting Requirements(CR)****Met****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****591-1-1-.09 Criminal Records and Comprehensive Background Checks(CR)****Met****Comment**

Criminal record checks were observed to be complete.

**591-1-1-.14 First Aid & CPR****Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.14(1) requires the Center Director and, at any given time, at least fifty percent (50%) of the caregiver Staff to successfully complete a biennial training program in cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and a triennial training program in first aid. The first aid training must be done by certified or licensed health care professionals or trainers and must deal with the provision of emergency care to infants and children. The Center shall maintain current evidence of the successful completion of such training which shall be available to the Department for inspection. It was determined based on review of records that more than 50 percent of the staff did not complete CPR/First Aid training.

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**Correction Deadline: 2/29/2020**

**Finding**

591-1-1-.33(3) requires each Staff member with direct care responsibilities to complete health and safety orientation training within the first 90 days of employment. The state-approved training hours obtained will count toward required first year training hours. The training must address the following health and safety topics: prevention and control of infectious diseases (including immunizations); prevention of sudden infant death syndrome and use of safe sleeping practices; administration of medication, consistent with standards for parental consent; prevention of and response to emergencies due to food and allergic reactions; building and physical premises safety, including identification of and protection from hazards that can cause bodily injury such as electrical hazards, bodies of water, and vehicular traffic; prevention of shaken baby syndrome, abusive head trauma and child maltreatment; emergency preparedness and response planning for emergencies resulting from a natural disaster or a human-caused event (such as violence at a child care facility); handling and storage of hazardous materials and the appropriate disposal of bio contaminants; precautions in transporting children; recognition and reporting of child abuse and neglect; and child development. It was determined based on review of records that staff #6 did not complete health and safety orientation within 90 days of hire.

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Correction Deadline: 2/29/2020

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

Not Met

**Finding**

591-1-1-.31(1)(a) requires the Center to have a Director who is responsible for the supervision, operation and maintenance of the Center. The Director must be on the Center's premises. If the Director is absent from the Center at any time during the hours of the Center's operation, there shall be an officially designated person on the Center site to assume responsibility for the operation of the Center, and this person shall have full access to all records required to be maintained under these rules. It was determined based on observation that there was no director or designated person available on this date.

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Correction Deadline: 1/30/2020

<b>Staffing and Supervision</b>
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**591-1-1-.32 Staff:Child Ratios and Group Size(CR)**

Not Met

**Finding**

591-1-1-.32(2) requires the Center maintain Staff:child ratios in mixed-age groups based on the age of the youngest group of children that includes more than twenty percent of the total number of children in the mixed-age group. It was determined based on observation that a ratio of 1: 18 was observed when one staff member was responsible for six three-year-olds and 12 four-year-olds. A ratio of 2:18 was required.



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**Correction Deadline: 1/30/2020**

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

**Not Met**

**Finding**

591-1-1-.32(7) requires that children be supervised at all times and that the persons supervising in the child care area be alert, able to respond promptly to the needs and actions of the children being supervised, as well as the actions of the chaperones and Students-in-Training, and provide timely attention to the children's actions and needs. It was determined based on observation that four one-year-old and two two-year-old children in Classroom A were left unattended when the teacher walked out of the room and into the hallway to answer the door. It was further determined that children in Classroom A were left unattended when the teacher left the classroom and went into the kitchen and children in Classroom B were left unattended when a teacher left the classroom and stood in the hallway while waiting for afterschool children to arrive.

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**Correction Deadline: 1/30/2020**