



**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:** 2/6/2019      **VisitType:** Technical Assistance      **Arrival:** 10:15 AM      **Departure:** 12:00 PM

**CCLC-36655**

**Rising S.T.A.R.S. Learning Center**

2006 Lumpkin Road Augusta, GA 30906 Richmond County  
 (706) 798-8100 risingstars00@gmail.com

**Regional Consultant**

Mari M. Springs  
 Phone: (706) 434-7652  
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 mari.springs@decal.ga.gov

**Mailing Address**  
 2006 Lumpkin Rd.  
 Augusta, GA 30906

**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.  <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.
11/21/2018	Complaint Closure	Good Standing	
10/29/2018	Complaint Investigation & Monitoring Visit	Support	
07/23/2018	POI Follow Up	Good Standing	

Building	Room	Age Group	Staff	Children	NC/C	Max 35 SF.	35 SF. Comp.	Max 25 SF.	25 SF. Comp.	Notes	
Main	Middle		0	0		12	C	NA	NA		
Main	One Left		0	0		7	C	NA	NA		
Main	One Right		0	0		9	C	NA	NA		
Main	Two Left		0	0		6	C	NA	NA		
Main	Two Right		0	0		0	C	NA	NA		
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.:			39			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.:		0			Building capacity limited by Fire Marshall Limitations
Total # Children this Date:			0			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.:		125			
						Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.:		0			

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	Only one	24	C

**Comments**

A 1-Day Letter was left for one staff person on this date.

TA Consultant discussed the new criminal records check requirements that took effect on February 1, 2019.

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)

Alicia Waltower, Program Official

Date

Mari M. Springs, Consultant

Date



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<b>Facility</b>
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**Rule:** 591-1-1-.26(7)Equipment-anchored

**Plan of Improvement:** The center will ensure that all climbing and swinging equipment is securely anchored to the ground at all times to provide a safe play environment for children on a daily basis.

Step Number	Action Step	Person Responsible	Due Date	Status	Completion Date	Action Taken	Action Date
1	The director will purchase industrial sized nails to anchor the purple U.S Air Force play equipment to ensure it doesn't rock when children play on the stationary air plane.	Director	02/08/2019	In-Progress			

**Health and Hygiene**

**Rule:** 591-1-1-.10(4)Diaper Changing surface

**Plan of Improvement:** The center will ensure that each diapering changing area is equipped with a nonporous surface to provide the children with a clean and disinfected diaper changing area on a daily basis.

Step Number	Action Step	Person Responsible	Due Date	Status	Completion Date	Action Taken	Action Date
1	Director will purchase adhensive contact paper (shelf lining) to replace torn diaper changing pad in the back bathroom for diapering purposes.	Director	11/16/2018	Developed		Director replaced the torn diaper changing pad with plastic adhesive contact paper to ensure the diapering area can be disinfected properly.  COMPLETED 2/6/19	02/06/2019

**Sleeping & Resting Equipment**

**Rule:** 591-1-1-.30(1)(a)Cribs

**Plan of Improvement:** The center will ensure that each infant enrolled has an approved crib available for use to maintain a safe sleeping environment for all infants in care on a daily basis.

Step Number	Action Step	Person Responsible	Due Date	Status	Completion Date	Action Taken	Action Date
1	Director will supply the infant room with an adequate number of approved cribs for the total number of infants in care (children under 12 months of age) (7/17/18).  **Currently, the center has five infants enrolled and four approved cribs available for use.	Director	08/14/2018	Completed		Infant teacher removed additional toys and supplies from one crib in the room that was unavailable for use. The director brought in another additional crib to ensure five approved cribs were available for the five infants in care.	08/14/2018
2	Director will require all staff to participate in a Core Rules Overview Training.	Director	07/17/2018	Completed		All staff participated in a Core Rules Overview Training presented by the TA Consultant.	07/09/2018

**Sleeping & Resting Equipment**

**Rule:** 591-1-1-.30(1)(b)3Cot and mat sheets

**Plan of Improvement:** The center will ensure that all children sleeping on mats or cots are provided sheets and covers to provide a comfortable sleeping environment on a daily basis.

Step Number	Action Step	Person Responsible	Due Date	Status	Completion Date	Action Taken	Action Date
1	Director will provide each child that sleeps on a cot or mat with the appropriate sheets and covers (if not brought in from home) to ensure a comfortable sleeping environment. The staff will develop a laundry schedule to ensure sheets and covers are clean each day for nap.	Director	11/13/2018	Developed		Each child has their own sheet and cover for napping. The teachers have developed a laundry schedule to ensure sheets and covers are clean.	02/06/2019

**Staff Records**

**Rule:** 591-1-1-.09(1)(j)Portability-Records Check Determination

**Plan of Improvement:** The center will ensure that every employee has completed the portability request and the Comprehensive Background Check is on file at the new center daily to provide the children with a safe learning environment.

Step Number	Action Step	Person Responsible	Due Date	Status	Completion Date	Action Taken	Action Date
1	Director will require any staff person with a Comprehensive Background Check from a previous center to be ported to the new center in a timely manner or resubmit an application for a current Comprehensive Background Check.	Director	02/06/2019	Developed			