



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: 10/7/2020 **VisitType:** Initial Licensing Study **Arrival:** 10:45 AM **Departure:** 1:35 PM

CCLC-53130

Little Steps Childcare and Learning Center

127 South Thompson Road Vidalia, GA 30474 Toombs County
 (478) 494-6386 chelsiediaz@yahoo.com

Regional Consultant

Twylah Tyner

Phone: ()

Fax:

twylah.tyner@decals.ga.gov

Mailing Address

Same

Quality Rated: No

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.
Date	Visit Type	Designation	
10/07/2020	Initial Licensing Study	Good Standing	

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
Building 1	A	One Year Olds and Two Year Olds	1	6	C	7	C	NA	NA	Nap
Building 1	B	Infants	1	3	C	8	C	NA	NA	Floor Play, Free Play, Nap
Building 1	C		0	0	C	9	C	NA	NA	
Building 1	D		0	0	C	7	C	NA	NA	
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.:			30			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.:		0		Building capacity limited by Health Department Limitations
Building 2	E		0	0	C	15	C	NA	NA	
Building 2	F		0	0	C	15	C	NA	NA	
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.:			30			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.:		0		
Total # Children this Date:			9			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.:		60		
						Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.:		0		

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Building 1	Playground A	30	C
Building 1	Playground B	4	C
Building 2	Playground C	35	C

Comments

A virtual inspection was conducted on October 7, 2020. An in-person visit was not conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Compliance with the Executive Order issued on June 16, 2020 was reviewed during the virtual inspection. Provider does not carry liability insurance.

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.

- 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

Chelsie Diaz, Program Official

Date

Twylah Tyner, Consultant

Date



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Findings Report

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The following information is associated with a Initial Licensing Study:

Activities and Equipment

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

Not Met

Comment

Equipment and furniture observed to be properly secured, as applicable.

Finding

591-1-1-.12(6) requires that a variety of age-appropriate toys and play materials be available, stored on low, open shelves accessible to children in each room or assigned area. It was determined based on observation of consultant that the one-year-old Classroom C did not have a variety of age-appropriate toys and play materials available for fine motor skills and science areas.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center director will ensure there is a variety of age-appropriate toys and play materials in each room for each age group, that are stored on low, open shelves accessible to children. The director stated that more toys and equipment had been ordered and would be delivered to the center within ten (10) days.

Correction Deadline: 11/8/2020

591-1-1-.35 Swimming Pools & Water-related Activities(CR)

Met

Comment

Center does not provide swimming activities.

Children's Records

591-1-1-.08 Children's Records

Met

Comment

Two of two children's records were observed to be complete and well organized.

Facility

591-1-1-.06 Bathrooms**Met****Comment**

Bathrooms observed to be clean and well maintained.

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

Licensed capacity observed to be met on this date. Licensed capacity of the facility is 60.

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

591-1-1-.25 - The center will ensure that floors are flush and non-porous in classrooms.

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.25 - The center will ensure that window curtains in Classroom A, B, C and D are secured and out of reach of children.

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.25(7) - The center will ensure the laundry room and hazardous material storage areas are locked at all times while children are present in the center.

Correction Deadline: 10/9/2020

Finding

591-1-1-.25(7) requires that doors to rooms not approved for child care, other than the kitchen doors, be latched or locked so children cannot wander into those areas. Except in School-age Centers, interior Center door locks shall permit Personnel to open the locked room from outside of the room in an emergency. It was determined based on observation of consultant, that the kitchen was not fully enclosed on all sides with a wall or barrier of at least four (4) feet in height.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will ensure that the kitchen is fully enclosed by a four (4) foot barrier on all sides by October 16, 2020.

Correction Deadline: 10/16/2020

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

591-1-1-.26 - The center will ensure that ramps from buildings to playgrounds are sealed with a non-slip material.

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.26 - The center will ensure there is six (6) inches of resilient material in the five (5) foot fall zone of the merry-go-round. The center will also ensure there is three (3) inches of resilient material around anchored bouncy seats on the playgrounds.

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.26(4) - The center will ensure the playground gate is secure and prevents access to the playground during arrival and departure times.

Correction Deadline: 10/9/2020

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.26(4) - The center will routinely monitor and ensure that gaps in the fence do not pose an entrapment hazard measuring more than three and a half inches (3.5).

Correction Deadline: 10/9/2020

Comment

591-1-1-.26(4) - The fence was observed to be four feet in height and in good repair.

Correction Deadline: 10/9/2020

Food Service

591-1-1-.18 Kitchen Operations**Met****Comment**

Kitchen appears clean and well organized.

Health and Hygiene

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

Staff state proper knowledge of diapering procedures.

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.10(4) - The center will ensure that all diaper changing surfaces are smooth and nonporous.

Correction Deadline: 10/9/2020

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

Proper hand washing of children and staff was discussed with the director on this date. Consultant observed running water on this date. The Director stated that the center has warm water.

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

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

Policies and Procedures

591-1-1-.27 Posted Notices**Technical Assistance****Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.27 - The center will ensure that names of persons responsible for the administration of the Center in the administrator's absence and current dated menus for meals and snacks are posted in a designated area for public viewing.

Safety

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

Center does not keep animals on premises.

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

The center's discipline policy was reviewed on this date. Regulations regarding proper discipline were discussed with the director on this date.

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

Center does not provide routine transportation at this time.

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

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

Comment

591-1-1-.30(1)(a) - The consultant observed five (5) cribs in Classroom B that were safety approved in compliance with Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) and American Society of Testing and Materials International (ASTM) safety standards.

Correction Deadline: 10/19/2020

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.30(4) - The center will ensure the cots are stored in a room or area inaccessible to children. The center will ensure that cots stored in the classroom are appropriately covered to prevent children's access to them and stored in an area that will allow maximum use of play space.

Correction Deadline: 10/9/2020

Staff Records

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

Met

Comment

Criminal record checks were observed to be complete. The consultant reviewed satisfactory comprehensive criminal record check determinations for four of four staff members on this date.

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 a review of records that three (3) of four (4) staff members did not have current evidence of successfully completing a biennial training program in cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and a triennial training program in first aid.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center Director and at least 50% of the caregiver Staff will complete the needed training. The Director will send written verification to the consultant upon completion and will develop a plan to ensure that at least 50% of the caregiver Staff have completed this training at any given time and that evidence of successful completion of the training is on file available for inspection.

Correction Deadline: 11/8/2020

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

Not Met

Comment

Staff observed to be compliant with applicable laws and regulations.

Finding

591-1-1-.31(2)(c) requires the Center to maintain a copy and/or written verification of the credential or degree awarded to the lead teacher that is required by these rules in the lead teacher's file, to make the document available for inspection and to provide the document to Department staff upon request. It was determined based on a review of records that three (3) of four (4) staff members did not have verification of credential or degree awarded in teacher's files.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will review lead teacher records to ensure the required documentation is on file and will obtain and file it if not found.

Correction Deadline: 11/8/2020

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**

A supervision plan for Classroom A was created on this date. The center will ensure extra staff are available to get mats for naptime that are located outside the classroom.

A supervision plan for Classroom B was created on this date. The center will ensure extra staff are available to transition infants outside and back into the classroom for outside playtime.

Comment

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