



**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:** 11/20/2019 **VisitType:** Licensing Study

**Arrival:** 12:25 PM

**Departure:** 4:00 PM

**CCLC-1123**

**Happy Kids Learning Center**

7139 Highway 29 South Hull, GA 30646 Madison County  
 (706) 546-8611 justingillespie@bellsouth.net

**Regional Consultant**

Kelly Jones

Phone: (770) 357-7062

Fax: (770) 357-7061

kelly.jones@decal.ga.gov

**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.  <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.
11/20/2019	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
06/21/2019	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
12/20/2018	Licensing Study	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	1R	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	3	22	C	23	C	NA	NA	Transitioning
Main	2L		0	0	C	18	C	NA	NA	
Main	2R		0	0	C	8	C	NA	NA	
Main	3L	Infants and One Year Olds	1	5	C	12	C	NA	NA	Diapering, Feeding, Lunch, Floor Play
Main	3R		0	0	C	10	C	NA	NA	
Main	4L	One Year Olds	1	7	C	10	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main	4R		0	0	C	16	C	NA	NA	
Main	5L	Two Year Olds	1	8	C	19	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main	A-1L	Four Year Olds and Five Year Olds	2	10	C	21	C	NA	NA	Transitioning, Centers
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 132			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0		Building @35 capacity limited by Health Department Limitations					
Total # Children this Date: 52			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 132		Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	back	107	C
Main	left playground	27	C
Main	right	16	C

## Comments

The purpose of this visit was to conduct a licensing visit and to follow-up on the previous visit conducted on June 21, 2019.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 11/20/2019

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.dec.state.ga.us/CCS/RuleAndRegulations.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@dec.state.ga.us](mailto:CCSRefutations@dec.state.ga.us).

- 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://dec.state.ga.us/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.dec.state.ga.us/>  
Request free technical assistance to help you earn your star rating by contacting the Quality Rated help desk at 855-800-7747 or [qualityrated@dec.state.ga.us](mailto:qualityrated@dec.state.ga.us)

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Justin Gillespie, Program Official

Date

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Kelly Jones, Consultant

Date



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### Findings Report

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The following information is associated with a Licensing Study:

### Activities and Equipment

**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)**

**Met**

**Comment**

Center does not provide swimming activities.

### Children's Records

**Records Reviewed: 5**

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

Child # 1	Met
Child # 2	Met
Child # 3	Met
Child # 4	Met
Child # 5	Met

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

**Met**

**Comment**

Records were observed to be complete and well organized.

### Facility

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

Bathrooms observed to be clean and well maintained.

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

**Correction Deadline: 6/21/2019**

**Corrected on 11/20/2019**

**.19(1) - The previous citation was observed to be corrected on this date. The consultant observed the correct licensing capacity throughout the center.**

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**591-1-1-.25 Physical Plant - Safe Environment(CR)****Not Met****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 walls had chipping paint throughout the center. The baseboards in classrooms 2L under the table, beside the fire alarm, classroom 5L beside the changing table and classroom 1L by the listening center shelf were detached from the wall. The vent in room 5L by the closet is rusted and the fans throughout the center had dust and dirt build-up.

**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: 1/3/2020**

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

591-1-1-.26(6) requires that playground equipment provide an opportunity for the children to engage in a variety of experiences and shall be age-appropriate. For example, toddlers shall not be permitted to swing in swings designed for School-age Children. The outdoor equipment shall be free of lead-based paint, sharp corners and shall be regularly maintained in such a way as to be free of rust and splinters that could pose significant safety hazard to the children. All equipment shall be arranged so as not to obstruct supervision of children. It was determined based on an observation that the following items on the back playground contained chipping paint and rust on this date:

- The yellow metal bus.
- The red car with the red tunnel.
- The blue tunnel.
- The two seesaws.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center will provide a variety of age-appropriate equipment that is arranged so as not to obstruct supervision of children. Staff will check the equipment daily to ensure that the equipment is free of hazards, rust and splinters.

**Correction Deadline: 12/6/2019**

**Recited on 11/20/2019**

**Finding**

591-1-1-.26(8) requires climbing and swinging equipment to have a resilient surface beneath the equipment and the fall zone from such equipment must be adequately maintained by the Center to assure continuing resiliency. It was determined based on observation that there was three inches of resilient surface under the swings on the Back and Left playground not the required six inches of resilient surface required under climbing equipment and swings.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center will add additional resilient surfacing to the fall zones where needed and check daily, adding resilient surfacing as needed to maintain adequate resiliency.

**Correction Deadline: 11/30/2019**

**Finding**

591-1-1-.26(9) requires the playground to be kept clean, free from litter and free of hazards, such as but not limited to rocks, exposed tree roots and exposed sharp edges of concrete. It was determined based on observation that the following hazards were observed on the playground on this date:

Back Playground

- Exposed sharp edges of concrete posing a potential tripping hazard.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center will remove any litter and fix or remove hazards from the playground and will routinely monitor the playground and remove litter and hazards.

**Correction Deadline: 12/6/2019**

**Recited on 11/20/2019**

**Food Service**

**591-1-1-.15 Food Service & Nutrition**

**Met**

**Correction Deadline: 6/21/2019**

**Corrected on 11/20/2019**

.15(2)(a) -The previous citation was corrected on this date. The consultant observed infants being held while feeding a bottle.

**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)**

**Met**

**Comment**

Proper diapering procedures observed.

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

**Met**

**Comment**

Proper hand washing observed throughout the center.

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

**Met**

**Comment**

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

**Safety**

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

**Met**

**Comment**

Center does not keep animals on premises.

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

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

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<b>591-1-1-.13 Field Trips(CR)</b>	<b>Met</b>
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**Comment**

Center does not participate in field trips at this time.

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<b>591-1-1-.36 Transportation(CR)</b>	<b>Met</b>
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**Comment**

Center does not provide routine transportation.

<b>Sleeping &amp; Resting Equipment</b>
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<b>591-1-1-.30 Safe Sleeping and Resting Requirements(CR)</b>	<b>Met</b>
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**Comment**

Discussed SIDS and infant sleeping position.

**Comment**

Pleasant naptime environment observed.

<b>Staff Records</b>
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<b>Records Reviewed: 4</b>
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<b>Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 0</b>
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Staff # 1	Met
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Date of Hire: 10/11/2009

Staff # 2	Met
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Date of Hire: 07/29/2019

Staff # 3	Met
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Date of Hire: 04/25/2019

Staff # 4	Met
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<b>Staff Credentials Reviewed: 3</b>
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<b>591-1-1-.09 Criminal Records and Comprehensive Background Checks(CR)</b>	<b>Met</b>
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**Comment**

Criminal record checks were observed to be complete.

**Comment**

Director provided 6 files for employees hired since last visit.

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<b>591-1-1-.14 First Aid &amp; CPR</b>	<b>Met</b>
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**Correction Deadline: 7/5/2019**

**Corrected on 11/20/2019**

**.14(1) - The previous citation was corrected on this date. The consultant reviewed records and there was evidence that all staff had current CPR and first aid training on file.**

**Correction Deadline: 7/5/2019**

Corrected on 11/20/2019

.14(2) - The previous citation was corrected on this date. The consultant reviewed records and there was evidence that all staff had current CPR and first aid training on file.

591-1-1-.33 Staff Training

Not Met

Correction Deadline: 6/28/2019

Corrected on 11/20/2019

.33(1) - The previous citation was corrected on this date. The consultant observed all Employees and Provisional Employees to receive Initial Center orientation prior to assignment to children or task

**Finding**

591-1-1-.33(3) requires each staff member with direct care responsibilities to complete health and safety training at the time of employment that will count toward required annual training: Staff employed prior to September 30, 2016 will complete the training by December 29, 2016 and Staff employed after September 30, 2016 will complete the health and safety training within the first 90 days of employment. It was determined based on a review of records that one staff member did not have evidence of Health and Safety Orientation Training.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center will develop and implement a plan to schedule and track this training for all employees based on their hire dates.

Correction Deadline: 11/29/2019

Recited on 11/20/2019

**Defer**

591-1-1-.33(6)- Defer due to training for the 2018 year was checked at the previous visit.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center will plan and schedule the required 10 hours of annual training each year and follow up to ensure the training is completed.

Correction Deadline: 6/28/2019

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.