



**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:** 9/12/2018    **VisitType:** Licensing Study    **Arrival:** 1:05 PM    **Departure:** 4:15 PM

**CCLC-18605**

**Let's Talk Learning Center**

1828 Mills B. Lane Savannah, GA 31405 Chatham County  
 (912) 443-4649 lmanker@bellsouth.net

**Regional Consultant**

Kesha McNeal

Phone: (866) 359-1672  
 Fax: (866) 359-7490  
 kesha.mcneal@dec.al.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.
09/12/2018	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
02/07/2018	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
09/21/2017	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	A	Infants and One Year Olds	1	6	C	6	C	NA	NA	Transitioning, Floor Play, Nap
Main	B	One Year Olds	1	6	C	7	C	NA	NA	Transitioning, Floor Play, Nap
Main	C	Two Year Olds	10	8	C	12	C	NA	NA	Transitioning, Nap
Main	D		0	0	C	5	C	NA	NA	
Main	E	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds and Five Year Olds	1	8	C	8	C	NA	NA	Free Play, Transitioning
Main	F	Three Year Olds	1	8	C	12	C	NA	NA	Nap, Transitioning, Snack
Main	G		0	0	C	13	C	NA	NA	
Main	H		0	0	C	5	C	NA	NA	
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 68			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0							
Total # Children this Date: 36			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 68							
			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0							

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	Playground A	11	C
Main	Playground B	74	C

## Comments

The center director provided two files for an employee hired since the last visit.

The center participates in transportation, and medication, but does not conduct field trips at this time.

On this date the consultant observed the center conducting the P.M. transportation route from The Economic Opportunity Authority for Savannah- Head Start back to the center.

The consultant emailed the center a copy of the emergency preparedness plan.

The consultant also left a handout containing the upcoming changes to background checks that will be effective October 1, 2018.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 09/12/2018

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.

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### 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.

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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)

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Matasha Berry, Program Official

Date

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Kesha McNeal, Consultant

Date



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### Findings Report

**Date:** 9/12/2018 **VisitType:** Licensing Study

**Arrival:** 1:05 PM

**Departure:** 4:15 PM

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The following information is associated with a Licensing Study:

### Activities and Equipment

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

**Not Met**

**Finding**

591-1-1-.12(2) requires that all equipment and furniture be free from hazardous conditions such as, but not limited to, sharp rough edges or toxic paint; and be kept clean. It was determined based on the consultant's observation that the dramatic play boat pillow in the one year old class was not clean. It was further determined based on the consultant's observation that the dramatic play sink was missing causing a potential entrapment hazard. It was further determined based on the consultant's observation that the wooden flower shaped table had a seat that was not in good repair and secured.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center will ensure that equipment and furniture are used by the age-appropriate group of children.

**Correction Deadline: 9/12/2018**

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

**Met**

**Comment**

Center does not provide swimming activities.

### Children's Records

**Records Reviewed: 4**

**Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 1**

Child # 1

Met

Child # 2

Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.08(1)-Doctor, Clinic, Phone Numbers

Child # 3

Met

Child # 4

Met

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

591-1-1-.08(1) - Please ensure that 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: number of the child's primary source of health care.

**Correction Deadline: 9/12/2018****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 routinely met by center.

**591-1-1-.25 Physical Plant - Safe Environment(CR)****Met****Comment**

No hazards observed accessible to children on this date.

**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 the consultant's observation that the fencing on the left corner section of the toddler playground was measuring approximately three feet, eight inches due to the pile up of resilient materials.

**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. The center will remove excess resilient materials.

**Correction Deadline: 9/12/2018****Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.26(6) - Please ensure that playground equipment is 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. On this date the consultant observed the red climbing dome on the big playground had chipping paint and the orange picnic table had a sharp edge on the top left section.

**Correction Deadline: 9/22/2018****Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.26(9) - Please ensure that the playground is kept free of hazards, such as but not limited to rocks, exposed tree roots and exposed sharp edges of concrete. On this date the consultant observed the PVC Border around the equipment had a sharp edge on the back left section.

**Correction Deadline: 9/12/2018**

## Food Service

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

Met

#### Comment

Center menu meets USDA guidelines.

### 591-1-1-.18 Kitchen Operations

Technical Assistance

#### Comment

Discussed proper steps for dishwashing.

#### Comment

Kitchen appears clean and well organized.

#### Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.18(8) - Please ensure that containers for food storage other than the original container or package in which the food was obtained shall be impervious and non-absorbent, have tight-fitting lids or covers and labeled as to contents.

**Correction Deadline: 9/12/2018**

## Health and Hygiene

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

Met

#### Comment

Staff state proper knowledge of diapering procedures.

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

Met

#### Comment

Please ensure lids remain on trash containing organic waste.

#### Comment

Proper hand washing observed throughout the center.

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

Met

#### Comment

Documentation for medication dispensing observed complete.

## Policies and Procedures

### 591-1-1-.21 Operational Policies & Procedures

Technical Assistance

#### Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.21(1)(p) - Please ensure that the center has an updated written plan for handling emergencies, including but not limited to severe weather, loss of electrical power or water and death, serious injury or loss of a child, a threatening event, or natural disaster which may occur at the Center; to have in place procedures for evacuation, relocation, shelter-in-place, lock-down, communication and reunification with families, and continuity of operations. The plan must apply to all children in care and include specific accommodations for infants and toddlers, children with disabilities, and children with chronic medical conditions and shall include assurance that no Center Personnel will impede in any way the delivery of emergency care or services to a child by licensed or certified emergency health care professionals.

**Correction Deadline: 9/17/2018**

## Safety

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

Center does not keep animals on premises.

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

Age-appropriate discussion and/or redirection observed.

**Comment**

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

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**591-1-1-.13 Field Trips(CR)****Met****Comment**

Center does not participate in field trips at this time.

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**591-1-1-.36 Transportation(CR)****Technical Assistance****Comment**

A current/completed inspection was observed for all vehicles used in transporting children this date.

**Comment**

Complete documentation of transportation observed. The consultant observed the center conducting the P.M. transportation route from The Economic Opportunity Authority for Savannah- Head Start back to the center.

**Comment**

The vehicle had an approved fire extinguisher and first aid kit on this date.

**Comment**

The vehicle was checked for compliance. Proper restraints were discussed with the director. On this date there was restraints used that were in compliance.

**Correction Deadline: 2/17/2018**

**Corrected on 9/12/2018**

**.36(3)(a-b)- Previous citation observed corrected.**

**Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.36(4)(b) - Please ensure that the interior of a transportation vehicle be clean, in safe repair and free of hazardous items, objects and/or other non-essential items which could cause injury. On this date the consultant observed a minor tear to arm rest of the second row of the van with the tag # PXG 7750

**Correction Deadline: 9/13/2018**

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**Sleeping & Resting Equipment**

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**591-1-1-.30 Safe Sleeping and Resting Requirements(CR)****Met****Comment**

Pleasant naptime environment observed.

**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.

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**Staff Records**

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**Records Reviewed: 8****Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 1**

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Staff # 1

Met

Date of Hire: 08/28/2018

Staff # 2

Met

Date of Hire: 09/30/2016

**Records Reviewed: 8****Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 1**

Staff # 3	Not Met
Date of Hire: 05/30/2018	
<u>"Missing/Incomplete Components"</u>	
.14(2)-CPR missing,.14(2)-First Aid Missing	
Staff # 4	Met
Date of Hire: 01/03/1997	
Staff # 5	Met
Date of Hire: 03/27/2017	
Staff # 6	Met
Date of Hire: 09/01/1997	
Staff # 7	Met
Date of Hire: 01/20/2015	
Staff # 8	Met
Date of Hire: 02/21/2017	

**Staff Credentials Reviewed: 8****591-1-1-.09 Criminal Records Check(CR) Met****Comment**

Criminal records checks were observed to be complete.

**Comment**

Director provided two file(s) for employees hired since last visit.

**591-1-1-.14 First Aid & CPR Technical Assistance****Comment**

Complete first aid kits observed in center and on vehicles.

**Comment**

Evidence observed of 50% of center staff certified in First Aid and CPR.

**Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.14(2) - Please ensure that staff employed after September 30, 2016 must obtain first aid and CPR within 90 days of their hire date.

**Correction Deadline: 10/12/2018**

**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.

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

Adequate supervision observed on this date.