



**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:** 11/25/2019 **VisitType:** Licensing Study

**Arrival:** 2:00 PM

**Departure:** 4:00 PM

**CCLC-2304**

**Lighthouse Early Start Academy One**

507 E 5th Street Vidalia, GA 30474 Toombs County  
 (912) 538-8811 light@jewellmoore.com

**Regional Consultant**

Connie Boatright

Phone: (912) 544-9701

Fax: (912) 544-9700

connie.boatright@decal.ga.gov

**Mailing Address**

1507 South Bobby Drive  
 Vidalia, GA 30474

**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.
11/25/2019	Complaint Closure	Good Standing	
11/25/2019	Complaint Investigation & Licensing Study	Good Standing	
03/12/2019	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		
Main	A - 1st Left		0	0	C	13	C	18	C	Not In Use		
Main	B - 1st Right		0	0	C	7	C	NA	NA	Not In Use		
Main	C - 2nd Right		0	0	C	6	C	NA	NA	Not In Use		
Main	D - 2nd Left		0	0	C	6	C	NA	NA	Not In Use		
Main	E - 3rd Right		0	0	C	6	C	NA	NA	Not In Use		
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.:			29			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.:		0			Building @35 capacity limited by Fire Marshall Limitations	
Total # Children this Date:			0			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.:		29			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.:	0

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	Playground	50	C

**Comments**

This Licensing Study is the first regulatory visit for Lighthouse Early Start Academy One this 2019 - 2020 fiscal year. The center is currently operating at the sister center First Step Infant Toddler Center located at 501 Church Street, Vidalia, Georgia due to street construction and repairs at the Lighthouse. A Licensing Study was completed at First Step Infant Toddler Center on 11-25-2019 to include enrolled children and staff of the Lighthouse. A complaint was completed on Lighthouse Early Start Academy One on this day at First Step Infant Toddler Center. A copy of the findings was provided to the center director.

Plan of Improvement: No Plan Developed

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)

Doris McRae, Program Official

Date

Connie Boatright, Consultant

Date



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### Findings Report

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The following information is associated with a Licensing Study Visit:

<b>Activities and Equipment</b>
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**591-1-1-.03 Activities**

**Met**

**Comment**

Lighthouse is currently being operated at the sister center First Steps located at 501 Church Street, Vidalia, Georgia due to street repairs and construction. A LS was completed at First Steps on this day to include Lighthouse children and staff.

**Correction Deadline: 11/25/2019**

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

**Met**

**Comment**

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

**Met**

**Comment**

Center does not provide swimming activities.

<b>Children's Records</b>
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**Records Reviewed: 1****Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 0**

Child # 1

Met

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

Lighthouse is currently being operated at the sister center First Steps located at 501 Church Street, Vidalia, Georgia due to street repairs and construction. A LS was completed at First Steps on this day to include Lighthouse children and staff.

**Facility**

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

Lighthouse is currently being operated at the sister center First Steps located at 501 Church Street, Vidalia, Georgia due to street repairs and construction. A LS was completed at First Steps on this day to include Lighthouse children and staff.

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

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

Lighthouse is currently being operated at the sister center First Steps located at 501 Church Street, Vidalia, Georgia due to street repairs and construction. A LS was completed at First Steps on this day to include Lighthouse children and staff.

**Correction Deadline: 12/25/2019**

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

Lighthouse is currently being operated at the sister center First Steps located at 501 Church Street, Vidalia, Georgia due to street repairs and construction. A LS was completed at First Steps on this day to include Lighthouse children and staff.

**Correction Deadline: 11/25/2019****Health and Hygiene**

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

Lighthouse is currently being operated at the sister center First Steps located at 501 Church Street, Vidalia, Georgia due to street repairs and construction. A LS was completed at First Steps on this day to include Lighthouse children and staff.

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

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

Lighthouse is currently being operated at the sister center First Steps located at 501 Church Street, Vidalia, Georgia due to street repairs and construction. A LS was completed at First Steps on this day to include Lighthouse children and staff.

**591-1-1-.04 Admission and Enrollment****Met****Comment**

Lighthouse is currently being operated at the sister center First Steps located at 501 Church Street, Vidalia, Georgia due to street repairs and construction. A LS was completed at First Steps on this day to include Lighthouse children and staff.

**Correction Deadline: 11/25/2019****591-1-1-.38 Enforcement****Met****Comment**

Lighthouse is currently being operated at the sister center First Steps located at 501 Church Street, Vidalia, Georgia due to street repairs and construction. A LS was completed at First Steps on this day to include Lighthouse children and staff.

**Correction Deadline: 11/25/2019****591-1-1-.16 Governing Body & License****Met****Comment**

Lighthouse is currently being operated at the sister center First Steps located at 501 Church Street, Vidalia, Georgia due to street repairs and construction. A LS was completed at First Steps on this day to include Lighthouse children and staff.

**Correction Deadline: 11/25/2019****591-1-1-.37 Inspections & Investigations****Met****Comment**

Lighthouse is currently being operated at the sister center First Steps located at 501 Church Street, Vidalia, Georgia due to street repairs and construction. A LS was completed at First Steps on this day to include Lighthouse children and staff.

**Correction Deadline: 11/25/2019****591-1-1-.05 Animals****Met****Comment**

Lighthouse is currently being operated at the sister center First Steps located at 501 Church Street, Vidalia, Georgia due to street repairs and construction. A LS was completed at First Steps on this day to include Lighthouse children and staff.

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

Lighthouse is currently being operated at the sister center First Steps located at 501 Church Street, Vidalia, Georgia due to street repairs and construction. A LS was completed at First Steps on this day to include Lighthouse children and staff.

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

Lighthouse is currently being operated at the sister center First Steps located at 501 Church Street, Vidalia, Georgia due to street repairs and construction. A LS was completed at First Steps on this day to include Lighthouse children and staff.

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

Lighthouse is currently being operated at the sister center First Steps located at 501 Church Street, Vidalia, Georgia due to street repairs and construction. A LS was completed at First Steps on this day to include Lighthouse children and staff.

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

Lighthouse is currently being operated at the sister center First Steps located at 501 Church Street, Vidalia, Georgia due to street repairs and construction. A LS was completed at First Steps on this day to include Lighthouse children and staff.

**Correction Deadline: 11/25/2019**

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<b>Staff Records</b>
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**591-1-1-.09 Criminal Records and Comprehensive Background Checks(CR)****Met****Comment**

Lighthouse is currently being operated at the sister center First Steps located at 501 Church Street, Vidalia, Georgia due to street repairs and construction. A LS was completed at First Steps on this day to include Lighthouse children and staff.

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

Lighthouse is currently being operated at the sister center First Steps located at 501 Church Street, Vidalia, Georgia due to street repairs and construction. A LS was completed at First Steps on this day to include Lighthouse children and staff.

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

Lighthouse is currently being operated at the sister center First Steps located at 501 Church Street, Vidalia, Georgia due to street repairs and construction. A LS was completed at First Steps on this day to include Lighthouse children and staff.

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

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