



**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:** 8/13/2019    **VisitType:** Monitoring Visit    **Arrival:** 8:45 AM    **Departure:** 12:30 PM

**CCLC-26490**

**Tree House Academy**

2600 Sugarmill Blvd. St. Marys, GA 31558 Camden County  
 (912) 576-8697 st.marys@treehouseacademy.org

**Regional Consultant**

Jerica Davis

Phone: (478) 314-9452  
 Fax: (478) 314-9443  
 jerica.davis@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.
08/13/2019	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
01/29/2019	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
08/10/2018	Monitoring Visit	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-1st right	One Year Olds and Two Year Olds	1	8	C	16	C	NA	NA	Centers,Music	
Main	B - 2nd right	One Year Olds	1	6	C	11	C	NA	NA	Music,Centers	
Main	C - 3rd right	PreK	2	21	C	22	C	NA	NA	Transitioning,Breakfast,Circle Time	
Main	D -Back left		0	0	C	20	C	NA	NA		
Main	E -far left	Two Year Olds and Three Year Olds	1	12	C	19	C	NA	NA	Centers	
Main	F-Front left	Infants and One Year Olds	2	11	C	12	C	NA	NA	Feeding,Floor Play	
Main	Room G -3 yrs		0	0	C	14	C	NA	NA		
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.:			114			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.:			0		
Total # Children this Date: 58			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.:			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.:			0		

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	Playgrd -A frt lft	23	C
Main	Playgrd B back lft	67	C
Main	Playgrd-back rt	33	C
Main	playgrd-Front Rt	9	C

### Comments

The purpose of today's visit is to conduct a monitoring visit.

The center provides routine transportation and the vehicles and logs were inspected on this date.

The center is currently participating in the Quality Rated program and has earned a rating of one star.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 08/13/2019

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/Regulations.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.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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Jessie Durbin, Program Official

Date

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Jerica Davis, Consultant

Date



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### Findings Report

**Date:** 8/13/2019 **VisitType:** Monitoring Visit **Arrival:** 8:45 AM **Departure:** 12:30 PM

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The following information is associated with a Monitoring Visit:

### 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.

### Facility

**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**

Please be mindful to keep items that pose a hazard inaccessible to children. Please ensure to keep diaper ointments and creams inaccessible to the children in care.

**Correction Deadline: 1/29/2019**

**Corrected on 8/13/2019**

**.25(3) - This citation was observed to be corrected on this date.**

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

**Met**

**Comment**

Discussed maintenance of resilient surface. Please fluff and redistribute.

### Health and Hygiene

**Technical Assistance**

Please ensure center staff to not permit children to wear items around their necks or attach to their clothing including bibs, pacifiers or other hazardous items. Bibs may only be worn during feeding.

**Correction Deadline: 8/13/2019**

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

**Met**

**Correction Deadline: 1/29/2019**

**Corrected on 8/13/2019**

**.10(4) - This citation was observed to be corrected on this date. All changing pads have been replaced.**

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

**Not Met**

**Correction Deadline: 1/29/2019**

**Corrected on 8/13/2019**

**.17(7) - This citation was observed to be corrected on this date.**

**Finding**

591-1-1-17(7) requires that children wash their hands with liquid soap and warm running water upon arrival for care, when moving from one child care group to another, upon re-entering the child care area after outside play, before and after eating meals and snacks, handling or touching food, playing in water; after toileting and diapering, playing in sand, touching animals or pets, and contact with bodily fluids and after contamination by any other means. It was determined based on the consultant's observation that a staff member in the infant classroom changed a one-year-old child and did not wash the child's hands with liquid soap and warm running water after the diaper change as required. Additionally, four children in the Pre-K classroom were observed to get up from the breakfast table and did not wash their hands after eating as required.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center will train Staff on required handwashing for children and Staff will ensure children's hands are washed when required. The Director will monitor for compliance.

**Correction Deadline: 8/13/2019**

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

**Met**

**Comment**

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

**Safety**

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

**Met**

**Comment**

Age-appropriate discussion and/or redirection observed.

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

**Met**

**Comment**

Field trip documentation observed to be complete.

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

**Met**

**Comment**

Documenting when a vehicle is not used for a route was discussed with the director on this date.

**Comment**

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

**Sleeping & Resting Equipment**

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

Discussed SIDS and infant sleeping position.

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**Staff Records**

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**Records Reviewed: 7****Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 0**

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Staff # 1	Met
Date of Hire: 01/22/2016	
Staff # 2	Met
Date of Hire: 04/29/2014	
Staff # 3	Met
Date of Hire: 03/06/2008	
Staff # 4	Met
Date of Hire: 08/16/2016	
Staff # 5	Met
Date of Hire: 03/16/2015	
Staff # 6	Met
Date of Hire: 06/19/2017	
Staff # 7	Met
Date of Hire: 09/10/2008	

**Staff Credentials Reviewed: 12**

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

Criminal record checks were observed to be complete.

**Comment**

Director provided five files for employees hired since last visit.

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**591-1-1-.14 First Aid & CPR****Met****Comment**

Please replace expired antibiotic ointment in both bus first aid kits.

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**591-1-1-.33 Staff Training****Not Met****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 three staff members hired in the months of March and April of 2019 did not have evidence of completing health and safety training within the first ninety days of employment as required.

**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: 9/3/2019**

**Recited on 8/13/2019**

**Correction Deadline: 2/28/2019**

**Corrected on 8/13/2019**

**.33(4) - This citation was observed to be corrected on this date.**

**Defer**

591-1-1-.33(6)- This citation will be evaluated at the next regulatory visit conducted after January 1, 2019.

**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: 2/28/2019**

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

**Met**

**Comment**

Staff observed to be compliant with applicable laws and regulations.

**Staffing and Supervision**

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**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**

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