



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: 8/19/2019 **VisitType:** Licensing Study **Arrival:** 9:10 AM **Departure:** 12:30 PM

CCLC-2979

The Learning Treehouse

250 Goshen Rd Rincon, GA 31326 Effingham County
 (912) 826-2893 info@thelearningtreehouse.net

Mailing Address
 Same

Regional Consultant

Haley Carwile

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Joint with: Chrissy Miller

Quality Rated: ★ ★ ★

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. 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.
08/19/2019	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
04/15/2019	POI Follow Up	Good Standing	
04/02/2019	Complaint Investigation Follow Up	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	Left 1		0	0	C	13	C	NA	NA	
main	Left 2	One Year Olds	3	12	C	15	C	21	C	Floor Play
main	Left 3	One Year Olds and Two Year Olds	2	11	C	15	C	NA	NA	Clean Up, Transitioning
main	Left 4	Three Year Olds	2	14	C	15	C	21	C	Centers
main	Right 1	Infants	2	6	C	11	C	NA	NA	Diapering, Floor Play, Nap
main	Right 2		0	0	C	8	C	12	C	
main	Right 3	Two Year Olds and Three Year Olds	3	13	C	15	C	NA	NA	Outside
main	right 4	Two Year Olds	2	15	C	16	C	NA	NA	Outside
main	right 5	Three Year Olds	2	15	C	15	C	NA	NA	Centers
main	Screened porch	Infants and One Year Olds	2	11	C	12	C	16	C	Free Play
			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 135			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 171				
Tanner Hall	1	PreK	2	21	C	36	C	50	C	Centers
			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 36			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 171				
Total # Children this Date: 118			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 171			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 171				


Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
main	Front PG	19	C

main	PG LEFT	37	C
Tanner Hall	Back PG	81	C

Comments

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 08/19/2019

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.al.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@dec.al.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://dec.al.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.dec.al.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@dec.al.ga.gov

Jana Fox, Program Official

Date

Haley Carwile, Consultant

Date

Chrissy Miller, 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) **N/A**

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

No hazards observed accessible to children on this date.

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

Comment

Playground observed to be clean and in good repair.

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**

Staff were observed to remind children to wash hands.

591-1-1-.20 Medications(CR)**Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.20(4) requires the Center to keep medication in a cabinet or container that is locked or otherwise not accessible to the children and to be stored separate from cleaning chemicals, supplies or poisons. Medications requiring refrigeration shall be placed in a leak-proof container in a refrigerator that is not accessible to the children. It was determined based on observation that in the fourth left room After Bite Cream and a prescription skin cream was stored in a book bag hanging on a hook in a low cubby.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will train Staff on the safe and proper storage of medication and monitor to ensure that the rule is met.

Correction Deadline: 8/19/2019

Safety

591-1-1-.05 Animals**N/A****Comment**

Center does not keep animals on premises.

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

Age-appropriate discussion and/or redirection observed.

591-1-1-.13 Field Trips(CR)**Not Evaluated****Comment**

Center does not participate in field trips at this time.

591-1-1-.36 Transportation(CR)**Not Met****Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.36(6) - Please ensure that parental authorization forms are filled out and updated yearly and reflect when children are transported.

Correction Deadline: 8/20/2019**Finding**

591-1-1-.36(7)(d)2. requires that the second designated Staff person conduct a check of the vehicle immediately upon the completion of the first check of the vehicle. The responsible person shall physically walk through the entire vehicle; visually inspect all seat surfaces, under all seats and in all compartments or recesses in the vehicle's interior; and sign the passenger transportation checklist(s), indicating all of the children have exited the vehicle. There shall be continuous watchful oversight of the vehicle between the first check and second check. It was determined based on review of documents that on the morning route on August 19, 2019 a second check of the vehicle was not conducted as required.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will train Staff who are or may be involved in transporting children in how to thoroughly inspect a vehicle and properly complete transportation documentation. The Center will review and monitor.

Correction Deadline: 8/19/2019

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

Finding

591-1-1-.30(1)(d) requires that all sleeping and resting equipment shall be arranged to avoid obstructing access to exit doors, to provide the caregivers access to each child, and to prevent children's access to cords hanging from window treatments and other hazardous objects. To reduce the transfer of airborne diseases, sleeping and resting equipment shall be arranged as follows. There shall be a minimum of twenty-four inch (24") corridor between each row of sleeping or resting equipment. There shall be a minimum of twelve inches (12") between each piece of sleeping or resting equipment in each row of equipment. Children shall be placed on cots and mats so that one child's head is toward another child's feet in the same row. It was determined based on observation that two infants were napping in the first right room in cribs that were not twelve inches apart as required.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will arrange and place sleeping and resting equipment according to the requirements in the rule; will train Staff; and will monitor for continued compliance.

Correction Deadline: 8/19/2019

Staff Records

Records Reviewed: 22

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 4

Staff # 1	Met
Date of Hire: 02/01/2019	
Staff # 2	Not Met
Date of Hire: 03/28/2019	
<u>"Missing/Incomplete Components"</u>	
.14(2)-CPR missing,.14(2)-First Aid Missing	
Staff # 3	Met
Date of Hire: 02/13/2018	
Staff # 4	Met
Date of Hire: 06/29/2016	
Staff # 5	Met
Date of Hire: 06/04/2018	
Staff # 6	Met
Staff # 7	Met
Date of Hire: 11/04/2011	
Staff # 8	Not Met
Date of Hire: 05/01/2002	
<u>"Missing/Incomplete Components"</u>	
.33(4)-Food Prep Training Missing 4 hrs.	
Staff # 9	Met
Date of Hire: 09/02/2017	

Records Reviewed: 22

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 4

Staff # 10 Date of Hire: 09/21/2018	Met
Staff # 11 Date of Hire: 10/15/2018	Met
Staff # 12 Date of Hire: 06/07/2016	Met
Staff # 13 Date of Hire: 10/26/2017 <u>"Missing/Incomplete Components"</u> .14(2)-CPR missing,.14(2)-First Aid Missing	Not Met
Staff # 14 Date of Hire: 07/02/2018	Met
Staff # 15 Date of Hire: 01/08/2018	Met
Staff # 16 Date of Hire: 01/08/2008	Met
Staff # 17	Met
Staff # 18 Date of Hire: 04/10/2018	Met
Staff # 19 Date of Hire: 08/08/2016 <u>"Missing/Incomplete Components"</u> .14(2)-CPR missing,.14(2)-First Aid Missing	Not Met
Staff # 20	Met
Staff # 21 Date of Hire: 07/24/2009	Met
Staff # 22 Date of Hire: 04/17/2015	Met

Staff Credentials Reviewed: 8

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

Met

Comment

Criminal record checks were observed to be complete.

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

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

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 review of files that three staff members had not completed health and safety in a timely manner 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: 9/18/2019**Finding**

591-1-1-.33(5) requires the Director and person with primary responsibility for food preparation to have four clock hours of training in food nutrition planning, preparation, serving, proper dish washing and food storage. It was determined based on review of files that the directors food service and nutrition training had expired.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will schedule food preparation training, as required, and follow up to ensure the training is completed.

Correction Deadline: 9/18/2019**Finding**

591-1-1-.33(6) requires, in the first year of employment and then by calendar year thereafter, all supervisory and caregiver Personnel, except independent contractors, Students-in-Training and volunteers to attend ten (10) clock hours of training which is task-focused in early childhood education or child development or subjects relating to job assignment and is offered by an accredited college, university or vocational program or other Department-approved source. It was determined based on review of files that one staff was missing ten hours of annual training for 2018 as required.

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: 9/18/2019

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**

Adequate supervision observed on this date.