



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: 3/9/2020 **VisitType:** Monitoring Visit **Arrival:** 9:00 AM **Departure:** 11:35 AM

CCLC-2979

The Learning Treehouse

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

Regional Consultant

Haley Carwile

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Mailing Address
 Same

Quality Rated: ★ ★ ★

Compliance Zone Designation		
03/09/2020	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing
08/19/2019	Licensing Study	Good Standing
04/15/2019	POI Follow Up	Good Standing

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.

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	One Year Olds	2	10	C	13	C	NA	NA	Outside
main	Left 2	One Year Olds and Two Year Olds	2	12	C	15	C	21	C	Circle Time
main	Left 3	Two Year Olds and Three Year Olds	2	14	C	15	C	NA	NA	Free Play
main	Left 4	Four Year Olds	2	15	C	15	C	21	C	Outside
main	Right 1	Infants and One Year Olds	2	8	C	11	C	NA	NA	Breakfast,Nap, Floor Play
main	Right 2		0	0	C	8	C	12	C	
main	Right 3	Three Year Olds	2	10	C	15	C	NA	NA	Outside
main	right 4	Two Year Olds and Three Year Olds	3	16	C	16	C	NA	NA	Outside
main	right 5	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	2	12	C	15	C	NA	NA	Centers
main	Screened porch		0	0	C	12	C	16	C	
			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 135			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 171				
Tanner Hall	1	PreK	2	22	C	36	C	50	C	Centers
			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 36			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 171				
Total # Children this Date: 119			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 03/09/2020

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.

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.

- 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

Jana Fox, Program Official

Date

Haley Carwile, Consultant

Date



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Findings Report

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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)**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)**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 in Room 8 the wall by the back door was chipping paint and the sheet rock was exposed.

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: 3/9/2020

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.

Comment

Staff state proper knowledge of diapering procedures.

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

Technical Assistance

Comment

Staff were observed to remind children to wash hands.

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.17(7) - Warm running water was not available in classrooms that were not diapering classrooms. Director stated she would apply for a variance/waiver. Please ensure the v/w has been submitted by March, 23, 2020.

Correction Deadline: 3/9/2020

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

Met

Correction Deadline: 8/19/2019

Corrected on 3/9/2020

.20(4) - Observed no medication to be accessible on this date.

Safety

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

Met

Comment

Age-appropriate discussion and/or redirection observed.

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

Met

Correction Deadline: 8/19/2019

Corrected on 3/9/2020

.36(7)(d)2. - Observed corrected.

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

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

Technical Assistance

Correction Deadline: 8/19/2019

Corrected on 3/9/2020

.30(1)(d) - Observed cots to be apart when children are napping in them.

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.30(4) - Please ensure that cots/mats are not accessible to children in care.

Correction Deadline: 3/9/2020

Staff Records

Staff # 1 Date of Hire: 02/01/2019	Met
Staff # 2	Met
Staff # 3 Date of Hire: 11/01/2019	Met
Staff # 4 Date of Hire: 03/28/2019	Met
Staff # 5 Date of Hire: 02/13/2018	Met
Staff # 6 Date of Hire: 06/29/2016	Met
Staff # 7 Date of Hire: 06/04/2018	Met
Staff # 8	Met
Staff # 9 Date of Hire: 05/01/2002	Met
Staff # 10 Date of Hire: 09/02/2017	Met
Staff # 11 Date of Hire: 09/21/2018	Met
Staff # 12 Date of Hire: 10/15/2018	Met
Staff # 13 Date of Hire: 06/07/2016	Met
Staff # 14 Date of Hire: 10/26/2017	Met
Staff # 15 Date of Hire: 07/02/2018	Met
Staff # 16 Date of Hire: 01/08/2018	Met

Records Reviewed: 23

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 0

Staff # 17 Date of Hire: 01/08/2008	Met
Staff # 18	Met
Staff # 19	Met
Staff # 20 Date of Hire: 08/08/2016	Met
Staff # 21	Met
Staff # 22 Date of Hire: 07/24/2009	Met
Staff # 23 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.

Comment

Director provided six files for employees hired since last visit.

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 two 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: 3/23/2020

Recited on 3/9/2020

Correction Deadline: 9/18/2019

Corrected on 3/9/2020

.33(5) - The director completed the food prep training 01-21-19.

Correction Deadline: 9/18/2019

Corrected on 3/9/2020

.33(6) - The staff is no longer employed at the center.

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.