



**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:** 10/8/2020    **VisitType:** Monitoring Visit    **Arrival:** 3:00 PM    **Departure:** 4:15 PM

**CCLC-32989**

**The Word of Truth A+ Learning Academy**

1380 Snapfinger Road Decatur, GA 30032 DeKalb County  
 (404) 288-4038 lhollins@bellsouth.net

**Regional Consultant**

Verlyn Gant  
 Phone: (404) 591-6059  
 Fax: (404) 591-6060  
 verlyn.gant@dec.al.gov

**Mailing Address**  
 Same

**Quality Rated:** ★

<b>Compliance Zone Designation</b>		
10/08/2020	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing
07/25/2019	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing
02/20/2019	Licensing Study	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
2nd Bldg	infant room		0	0	C	20	C	NA	NA	
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 20						Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0				
BLG 1	1 st left		0	0	C	30	C	NA	NA	
BLG 1	2 nd left	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	1	4	C	25	C	NA	NA	Free Play
BLG 1	2nd right	Infants and Two Year Olds	1	3	C	24	C	NA	NA	Floor Play,Nap
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 79						Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0				
Total # Children this Date: 7			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 99			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0				

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
BLG 1	Playground	56	C

**Comments**

Background checks were all reviewed on October 08, 2020. A virtual inspection was conducted on October 08, 2020 with the Director.

An in-person visit was not conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Compliance with the Executive Order issued on August 15, 2020 was reviewed during the virtual inspection.

The infant feeding plan was discussed with the Director during the virtual visits, for rule changes effective October 01, 2020.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 10/08/2020

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/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.

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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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Margaret Hollinshed, Program Official

Date

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Verlyn Gant, Consultant

Date



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### Findings Report

**Date:** 10/8/2020    **VisitType:** Monitoring Visit    **Arrival:** 3:00 PM    **Departure:** 4:15 PM

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The following information is associated with a Monitoring Visit:

### Activities and Equipment

**591-1-1-.03 Activities**

**Technical Assistance**

**Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.03(7) - Please ensure that outdoor activities are provided daily, weather permitting.

**Correction Deadline: 10/8/2020**

**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.

### Children's Records

**Records Reviewed: 4**

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

Child # 1

Met

Child # 2

Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.08(1)-Address Missing,.08(1)(a)-Work Number Missing,.08(1)-Emergency Contact information Missing

Child # 3

Met

Child # 4

Met

**Finding**

591-1-1-.08(1) requires the 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: child's name, birth date, sex, address, living arrangement, name of school if applicable; names of both Parents, home and work addresses, and home and work telephone numbers; name(s) and addresses of the person(s) to whom the child may be released including address, telephone numbers, relationship to child and to Parent(s), and other identifying information; name(s) and telephone number(s) of person(s) to contact in emergencies when the Parent cannot be reached; name and telephone number of the child's primary source of health care; and a statement regarding known allergies, physical problems, mental health disorders, mental retardation or developmental disabilities which limit the child's participation in the program. It was determined based on review of records that one of four children's files were missing the full address, the parent's work address and number and the release person's address and relationship to child and to Parent(s).

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

Center staff will develop a plan that includes how to obtain all required information for currently enrolled children and how to ensure this is done for future enrollees as well. The plan will also include how and where to maintain files for the required amount of time. The plan will be implemented and followed.

**Correction Deadline: 10/8/2020****Recited on 10/8/2020**

<b>Facility</b>
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**591-1-1-.19 License Capacity(CR)****Met****Comment**

Licensed capacity observed to be routinely met by center.

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**591-1-1-.25 Physical Plant - Safe Environment(CR)****Not Met****Comment**

Please secure cleaning tools (i.e., toilet brush) out of reach of children.

**Finding**

591-1-1-.25(13) requires that potentially hazardous equipment, materials and supplies be stored in a locked area inaccessible to children. It was determined based on observation that there was liquid toilet cleaner located on the bathroom floor of the one-year-old and two-year-old classroom accessible to children.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center will identify all hazardous items and keep them in a locked area inaccessible to children. The Center will inform all Staff about hazardous items and the safe storage of those items.

**Correction Deadline: 10/8/2020**

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**591-1-1-.26 Playgrounds(CR)****Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.26(6) requires that playground equipment provide an opportunity for the children to engage in a variety of experiences and shall be age-appropriate. For example, toddlers shall not be permitted to swing in swings designed for School-age Children. The outdoor equipment shall be 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. It was determined based on observation, that there was play equipment that was no longer in use and no longer in a good state of repair in that the equipment was broken and stored on the playground. There was also a tall ladder leaning up against the side of the building in the outdoor play area.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center will provide a variety of age-appropriate equipment that is arranged so as not to obstruct supervision of children. Staff will check the equipment daily to ensure that the equipment is free of hazards, rust and splinters.

**Correction Deadline: 10/18/2020**

## Health and Hygiene

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

Met

#### Comment

Hand washing and sanitizing requirements for diapering were discussed with the Director on this date.

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

Met

#### Comment

Hand washing and sanitizing requirements were discussed with the Director on this date.

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

Met

#### Comment

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

## Safety

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

Met

#### Comment

A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Discipline was not directly observed during the virtual walk through. Regulations regarding proper discipline were discussed with the Director on this date.

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

Met

#### Comment

Center does not provide transportation.

## Sleeping & Resting Equipment

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

Met

#### Comment

Discussed SIDS and infant sleeping position.

## Staff Records

Records Reviewed: 3

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 3

Staff # 1

Not Met

Date of Hire: 09/10/2015

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(5)-10 Hrs. Annual Training,.31(2)(b)2.-Staff Qualifications-Education Missing

Staff # 2

Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(5)-10 Hrs. Annual Training

Staff # 3

Not Met

Date of Hire: 04/10/2019

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(5)-10 Hrs. Annual Training

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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.

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**591-1-1-.33 Staff Training** **Not Met**

**Correction Deadline: 8/1/2019**

**Corrected on 10/8/2020**

**.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: It was determined based on review of records that the Director and two of two staff members had documentation indicating that the required health and safety orientation training had been completed.**

**Finding**

91-1-1-.33(5) requires that every calendar year after the first year of employment, all supervisory and caregiver Personnel, except independent contractors, Students-in-Training and volunteers shall attend ten (10) clock hours of diverse training which is task-focused in on-going health, safety and early childhood or child development related topics and which is offered by an accredited college, university or vocational program or other Department-approved source. The annual ten (10) clock hours of training shall be chosen from the following fields: child development, including discipline, guidance, nutrition, injury control and safety; health, including sanitation, disease control, cleanliness, detection and disposition of illness; child abuse and neglect, including identification and reporting, and meeting the needs of abused and/or neglected children; and business related topics, including parental communication, record keeping, etc.; provided however that such business related training shall be limited to no more than two (2) of the required ten (10) clock hours of training. Records of completion of such training shall be maintained, as required by these rules. It was determined based on a review of records that the Director and two out of two staff members had not completed the annual (10) clock hours of annual training for 2019 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: 11/7/2020**

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**591-1-1-.31 Staff(CR)** **Not Met**

**Finding**

591-1-1-.31(2)(b)2. requires teachers and lead caregivers to meet minimum academic requirements and qualifying experience at the time of employment. It was determined based on a review of records that one Lead Teacher, did not meet the academic requirements of having a credential or degree.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

A teacher/lead caregiver will be hired that meets the minimum academic requirements and qualifying work experience.

**Correction Deadline: 10/30/2020**

**Recited on 10/8/2020**

<b>Staffing and Supervision</b>
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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.