



**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:** 12/19/2018 **VisitType:** Licensing Study

**Arrival:** 10:00 AM

**Departure:** 2:30 PM

**CCLC-33581**

**Smarties Childcare, LLC**

465 Clairemont Avenue Decatur, GA 30030 DeKalb County  
(770) 630-1921 anna.kelly@smartiesacademy.com

**Regional Consultant**

Laurel Benta

Phone: (770) 357-3279

Fax: (770) 357-3281

carrie.spangler@dec.al.ga.gov

**Mailing Address**

Same

**Quality Rated:** No

<b>Compliance Zone Designation</b>		
12/19/2018	Licensing Study	Good Standing
04/18/2018	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing
11/28/2017	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
Main	Dn D - 3rd Rt	Four Year Olds	3	19	C	21	C	NA	NA	Outside
Main	Dn E - 2nd Rt	Three Year Olds	2	10	C	10	C	NA	NA	Transitioning
Main	Dn F - 2nd Lt	Two Year Olds and Three Year Olds	2	10	C	12	C	NA	NA	Lunch
Main	Dn G - 1st Lt	Four Year Olds and Five Year Olds	2	14	C	15	C	NA	NA	Lunch
Main	Dn H - 1st Rt	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	1	7	C	7	C	NA	NA	Transitioning
Main	Dn I - 4th Rt	Two Year Olds	2	9	C	11	C	NA	NA	Transitioning
Main	Up A - 1st Lt	Infants	2	7	C	8	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main	Up B - 2nd Lt	One Year Olds	3	10	C	15	C	NA	NA	Transitioning, Nap
Main	Up C - 1st Rt After-School		0	0	C	50	C	NA	NA	
<b>Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.:</b>						149				
<b>Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.:</b>						0				
<b>Total # Children this Date:</b> 86			<b>Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.:</b> 149			<b>Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.:</b> 0				

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	PLAYGROUND	96	C

**Comments**

A one- day letter was left on this date.

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](mailto: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](mailto:qualityrated@dec.al.ga.gov)

---

Anna Kelly, Program Official

Date

---

Laurel Benta, Consultant

Date



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

### Findings Report

Date: 12/19/2018 VisitType: Licensing Study

Arrival: 10:00 AM

Departure: 2:30 PM

#### CCLC-33581

#### Smarties Childcare, LLC

465 Clairemont Avenue Decatur, GA 30030 DeKalb County  
(770) 630-1921 anna.kelly@smartiesacademy.com

#### Mailing Address

Same

#### Regional Consultant

Laurel Benta

Phone: (770) 357-3279

Fax: (770) 357-3281

carrie.spangler@dec.al.ga.gov

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.

### Children's Records

Records Reviewed: 5

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 1

Child # 1 Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.08(3)-Address of Release Person Missing

Child # 2 Met

Child # 3 Met

Child # 4 Met

Child # 5 Met

#### 591-1-1-.08 Children's Records

Technical Assistance

#### Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.08(1) - Please ensure the full address of release person is documented for all children enrolled.

Correction Deadline: 12/19/2018

<b>Facility</b>
-----------------

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

**Comment**

Bathrooms observed to be clean and well maintained.

**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)** **Technical Assistance**

**Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.26(4) - Please monitor the height of fence. Director stated that the center will add additional material to the fencing.

Correction Deadline: 12/19/2018

<b>Food Service</b>
---------------------

**591-1-1-.15 Food Service & Nutrition** **Met**

**Comment**

Center menu meets USDA guidelines. The consultant observed rice, pinto beans and pico de gallo on menu and on children's plates.

**591-1-1-.18 Kitchen Operations** **Met**

**Comment**

Kitchen appears clean and well organized.

<b>Health and Hygiene</b>
---------------------------

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

**Comment**

Proper diapering procedures observed.

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

**Comment**

Proper hand washing observed throughout the center.

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

**Comment**

Documentation for medication dispensing observed complete.

<b>Safety</b>
---------------

---

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

Age-appropriate discussion and/or redirection observed.

---

**591-1-1-.36 Transportation(CR)****N/A****Comment**

Center does not provide routine 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: 29****Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 1**

---

Staff # 1	Met
Date of Hire: 01/01/2009	
Staff # 2	Met
Date of Hire: 01/02/2018	
Staff # 3	Met
Date of Hire: 04/01/2008	
Staff # 4	Met
Date of Hire: 06/17/2014	
Staff # 5	Met
Date of Hire: 10/15/2018	
Staff # 6	Met
Date of Hire: 05/20/2013	
Staff # 7	Met
Date of Hire: 09/12/2018	
Staff # 8	Met
Date of Hire: 01/01/2018	
Staff # 9	Met
Date of Hire: 10/05/2016	
Staff # 10	Met
Date of Hire: 08/01/2012	
Staff # 11	Met

Date of Hire: 04/23/2018

Staff # 12 Met

Date of Hire: 09/28/2018

Staff # 13 Met

Date of Hire: 08/01/2017

Staff # 14 Met

Date of Hire: 04/09/2018

Staff # 15 Met

Date of Hire: 06/14/2013

Staff # 16 Met

Date of Hire: 05/01/2018

Staff # 17 Met

Date of Hire: 05/10/2016

Staff # 18 Met

Date of Hire: 03/01/2015

Staff # 19 Met

Date of Hire: 11/01/2016

Staff # 20 Met

Date of Hire: 08/01/2006

Staff # 21 Met

Date of Hire: 04/01/2012

Staff # 22 Met

Date of Hire: 10/05/2015

Staff # 23 Met

Staff # 24 Met

Date of Hire: 01/01/2013

Staff # 25 Met

Date of Hire: 11/09/2015

Staff # 26 Met

Date of Hire: 09/18/2012

Staff # 27 Met  
Date of Hire: 03/12/2018

Staff # 28 Met  
Date of Hire: 08/01/2017

Staff # 29 Not Met  
Date of Hire: 06/01/2018

"Missing/Incomplete Components"  
.09-Criminal Records Check Missing

**Staff Credentials Reviewed: 29**

---

**591-1-1-.09 Criminal Records and Comprehensive Background Checks(CR) Not Met**

**Finding**

591-1-1-.09(1)(j) requires that for portability for Directors, Employees and Provisional Employees, excluding Students-in-Training, only the most recently issued determination letter is eligible for portability and must be ported electronically. A Center may accept a satisfactory Fingerprint Records Check Determination letter or a satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination letter issued by the Department if the Records Check Clearance Date is within the preceding 12 months from the hire date, the individual has not had a lapse of employment from the child care industry that lasted for 180 days (6 months) or longer, and the Center does not know or reasonably should not know that the individual's satisfactory status has changed. It was determined based on review of records that an employee hired on June 1, 2018 did not meet portability requirements. A one-day letter was left on this date.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center will ensure that only the most recently issued determination letter is electronically ported for Directors, Employees and Provisional Employees, excluding Students-in-Training. A Center may accept a satisfactory Fingerprint Records Check Determination letter or a satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination letter issued by the Department if the Records Check Clearance Date is within the preceding 12 months from the hire date, the individual has not had a lapse of employment from the child care industry that lasted for 180 days (6 months) or longer, and the Center does not know or reasonably should not know that the individual's satisfactory status has changed.

**Correction Deadline: 12/19/2018**

---

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

**Comment**

Evidence observed of 100% of center staff certified in First Aid and CPR.

---

**591-1-1-.33 Staff Training Met**

**Correction Deadline: 12/28/2017**

**Corrected on 12/19/2018**

**.33(6) - The citation was corrected on this date. The consultant observed all employees to have completed the ten required hours of training for the year 2017.**

---

**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.