



**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:** 3/13/2020    **VisitType:** Monitoring Visit    **Arrival:** 10:00 AM    **Departure:** 1:30 PM

**CCLC-33581**

**Smarties Childcare, LLC**

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

**Regional Consultant**

Sherri Thompson

Phone: (770) 357-7038

Fax: (770) 357-7037

sherri.thompson@decal.ga.gov

**Mailing Address**

Same

**Quality Rated:** No

| <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.<br><br><b>Good Standing</b> - Program is demonstrating an acceptable level of performance in meeting the rules.<br><b>Support</b> - Program performance is demonstrating a need for improvement in meeting rules.<br><b>Deficient</b> - Program is not demonstrating an acceptable level of performance in meeting the rules. |
|------------------------------------|---|---------------|--|
| 03/13/2020                         | Monitoring Visit                          | Good Standing |  |
| 10/30/2019                         | Complaint Investigation & Licensing Study | Good Standing |  |
| 10/30/2019                         | Complaint Closure                         | 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                            | Dn D - 3rd Rt              | Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds | 3                               | 10       | C    | 21                            | C            | NA         | NA           | Outside     |
| Main                            | Dn E - 2nd Rt              | PreK                               | 2                               | 7        | C    | 10                            | C            | NA         | NA           | Outside     |
| Main                            | Dn F - 2nd Lt              | Two Year Olds and Three Year Olds  | 2                               | 9        | C    | 12                            | C            | NA         | NA           | Outside     |
| Main                            | Dn G - 1st Lt              | PreK                               | 2                               | 13       | C    | 15                            | C            | NA         | NA           | Outside     |
| Main                            | Dn H - 1st Rt              | PreK                               | 1                               | 4        | C    | 7                             | C            | NA         | NA           | Nap         |
| Main                            | Dn I - 4th Rt              | Two Year Olds                      | 7                               | 7        | C    | 11                            | C            | NA         | NA           | Outside     |
| Main                            | Up A - 1st Lt              | Infants                            | 2                               | 6        | C    | 8                             | C            | NA         | NA           | Outside     |
| Main                            | Up B - 2nd Lt              | One Year Olds and Two Year Olds    | 2                               | 11       | C    | 15                            | C            | NA         | NA           | Nap         |
| Main                            | Up C - 1st Rt After-School | Six Year Olds and Over             | 2                               | 2        | C    | 50                            | C            | NA         | NA           | Circle Time |
| Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 149 |                            |                                    |                                 |          |      | Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0 |              |            |              |             |
| Total # Children this Date: 69  |                            |                                    | Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 149 |          |      | Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0 |              |            |              |             |

| Building | Playground | Playground Occupancy | Playground Compliance |
|----------|------------|----------------------|-----------------------|
| Main     | PLAYGROUND | 96                   | C                     |

**Comments**

The purpose of today's visit was to conduct follow up from the previous visit conducted October 30, 2019 and to conduct a monitoring visit.

Plan of Improvement: No Plan Developed

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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Anna Kelly, Program Official

Date

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Sherri Thompson, Consultant

Date



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### Findings Report

**Date:** 3/13/2020 **VisitType:** Monitoring Visit **Arrival:** 10:00 AM **Departure:** 1:30 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**

Center appears clean and well maintained.

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

**Met**

**Correction Deadline: 7/19/2019**

**Corrected on 3/13/2020**

.26(4) - The consultant's measurements for the back fencing facing Clairemont Road measured four feet during the time of the visit.

### Health and Hygiene

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

**Comment**

Proper diapering procedures observed.

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

**Comment**

Proper hand washing observed throughout the center.

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

**Comment**

Medication documentation was viewed during the visit and observed to be complete.

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**Safety**

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

**Comment**

Staff were observed to maintain a positive learning environment on this date.

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

**Comment**

Complete documentation of transportation observed.

**Correction Deadline: 11/5/2019**

**Corrected on 3/13/2020**

**.36(6) - The consultant viewed Parental authorization forms for children who are currently transported and the forms were determined to be correct and included required information during the time of the visit.**

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**Sleeping & Resting Equipment**

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

**Comment**

The correct number of mats, sheets and blankets were observed on this date. Cleaning and disinfecting of mats was discussed with the director on this date.

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**Staff Records**

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**Records Reviewed: 25**

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

Staff # 1 Met

Date of Hire: 04/30/2019

Staff # 2 Met

Date of Hire: 08/01/2017

Staff # 3 Met

Date of Hire: 09/12/2018

Staff # 4 Met

Date of Hire: 09/13/2019

|  |     |
|--|-----|
| Staff # 5<br>Date of Hire: 01/01/2009  | Met |
| Staff # 6<br>Date of Hire: 08/15/2019  | Met |
| Staff # 7<br>Date of Hire: 09/30/2019  | Met |
| Staff # 8<br>Date of Hire: 04/17/2019  | Met |
| Staff # 9                              | Met |
| Staff # 10<br>Date of Hire: 05/01/2018 | Met |
| Staff # 11<br>Date of Hire: 01/03/2019 | Met |
| Staff # 12                             | Met |
| Staff # 13<br>Date of Hire: 03/01/2015 | Met |
| Staff # 14                             | Met |
| Staff # 15<br>Date of Hire: 01/01/2013 | Met |
| Staff # 16<br>Date of Hire: 01/02/2018 | Met |
| Staff # 17<br>Date of Hire: 08/01/2012 | Met |
| Staff # 18<br>Date of Hire: 10/05/2016 | Met |
| Staff # 19<br>Date of Hire: 06/01/2018 | Met |
| Staff # 20<br>Date of Hire: 06/14/2013 | Met |
| Staff # 21                             | Met |

**Records Reviewed: 25**

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

Date of Hire: 09/18/2012

Staff # 22

Met

Date of Hire: 04/23/2018

Staff # 23

Met

Date of Hire: 09/03/2019

Staff # 24

Met

Staff # 25

Met

Date of Hire: 10/05/2015

**Staff Credentials Reviewed: 21**

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

**Met**

**Correction Deadline: 10/30/2019**

**Corrected on 3/13/2020**

**.09(1)(a) - The satisfactory comprehensive background check was verified as completed and ported to the center during the time of the visit.**

**Correction Deadline: 10/30/2019**

**Corrected on 3/13/2020**

**.09(1)(d) - The satisfactory comprehensive background check was verified as completed for the contracted staff member during the time of the visit.**

**Correction Deadline: 10/30/2019**

**Corrected on 3/13/2020**

**.09(1)(j) -The satisfactory comprehensive background check was verified as completed and ported to the center during the time of the visit.**

**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**

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