



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: 11/13/2019 **VisitType:** Monitoring Visit

Arrival: 9:00 AM

Departure: 11:30 AM

CCLC-35134

First Step Learning Center

406 Carver Drive Fort Valley, GA 31030 Peach County
 (478) 825-0509 firststeplearningc@att.net

Regional Consultant

Charlene Story

Phone: (770) 405-7942

Fax: (770) 408-0759

charlene.story@decal.ga.gov

Joint with: Yolanda Marable

Mailing Address

Same

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.
11/13/2019	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
01/17/2019	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
07/31/2018	Licensing Study	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	A- front right	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	1	9	C	10	C	NA	NA	Breakfast, Transitioning
Main	B1 1 Left	One Year Olds	2	5	C	8	C	NA	NA	Circle Time
Main	B2 - front left	One Year Olds	1	7	C	8	C	NA	NA	Transitioning, Circle Time
Main	C - back right	Infants and One Year Olds	2	6	C	8	C	NA	NA	Music, Circle Time
Main	D - back left	Two Year Olds	1	7	C	17	C	NA	NA	Circle Time
Main	E1-far bck	Two Year Olds	2	7	C	13	C	NA	NA	Circle Time, Music
Main	E2 Far bck front		0	0	C	10	C	NA	NA	
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 74						Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0				
Total # Children this Date: 41			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 74			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0				

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	PlayGround A: Left	58	C
Main	PlayGround B: Back Middle	14	C
Main	PlayGround C: Back Left	8	C

Comments

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.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

Linda Cooper, Program Official

Date

Charlene Story, Consultant

Date

Yolanda Marable, 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 on this date.

Comment

Equipment and furniture observed to be properly secured on this date.

591-1-1-.35 Swimming Pools & Water-related Activities(CR)

Met

Comment

Center does not provide swimming activities per director

Facility

591-1-1-.19 License Capacity(CR)

Met

Comment

Licensed capacity observed to be met by center on this date.

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 on this date.

Health and Hygiene

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

Met

Comment

Staff state proper knowledge of diapering procedures on this date.

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

Comment

Proper hand washing observed throughout the center on this date.

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

Comment

The Provider currently does not dispense or administer medication.

Safety

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

Comment

Age-appropriate discussion and redirection was observed by consultant observed.

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

Comment

Center does not provide routine transportation per director statement.

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

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

Comment

Discussed SIDS and infant sleeping position with staff on this date.

Staff Records

Records Reviewed: 9

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 0

Staff # 1	Met
Date of Hire: 04/12/2012	
Staff # 2	Met
Date of Hire: 03/01/2012	
Staff # 3	Met
Date of Hire: 09/06/2018	
Staff # 4	Met
Date of Hire: 10/18/2019	
Staff # 5	Met
Date of Hire: 06/28/2015	
Staff # 6	Met
Date of Hire: 10/21/2019	
Staff # 7	Met
Date of Hire: 01/13/1998	

Records Reviewed: 9

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 0

Staff # 8

Met

Date of Hire: 01/17/2019

Staff # 9

Met

Date of Hire: 09/07/2018

Staff Credentials Reviewed: 11

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

Met

Correction Deadline: 1/17/2019

Corrected on 11/13/2019

.09(1)(j) - Citation was observed to be corrected on this date. All employees have their Criminal Records Check on this date.

591-1-1-.31 Staff(CR)

Met

Comment

Staff observed to be compliant with applicable laws and regulations on this date.

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 on the date.