



**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:** 12/8/2020    **VisitType:** Monitoring Visit    **Arrival:** 11:55 AM    **Departure:** 12:25 PM

**CCLC-36259**

**The Ark**

9120 Whitefield Ave. Savannah, GA 31406 Chatham County  
(912) 355-1505 francelerobertson@gmail.com

**Regional Consultant**

Stacey Foston

Phone: (706) 806-0407

Fax: (706) 806-0406

stacey.foston@dec.al.ga.gov

**Mailing Address**

Same

**Quality Rated:** No

<b>Compliance Zone Designation</b>		
12/08/2020	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing
11/13/2019	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing
05/06/2019	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
Main	A	Five Year Olds and Six Year Olds and Over	2	14	C	75	C	NA	NA	Homework
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 75						Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0				
Total # Children this Date: 14			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 75			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0				

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	Playground A	33	C
Main	Playground B	156	C
Main	Playground C	91	C

**Comments**

A virtual inspection was conducted on December 8, 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.

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.

**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.

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)

Francel Robertson, Program Official

Date

Stacey Foston, Consultant

Date



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### Findings Report

**Date:** 12/8/2020 **VisitType:** Monitoring Visit **Arrival:** 11:55 AM **Departure:** 12:25 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 Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Additional cleaning and sanitizing of toys and equipment due to the COVID-19 pandemic were also discussed with the Director.

**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**

A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. During the virtual visit the Licensed capacity was observed to be met by center.

**591-1-1-.25 Physical Plant - Safe Environment(CR)**

**Met**

**Comment**

A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. No hazards were observed accessible to the children during the virtual walkthrough on this date. The center will be mindful to keep items that may pose a hazard inaccessible to the children.

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

**Met**

**Comment**

A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. During the virtual walk through on this date, discussed maintenance of resilient surface. Please fluff and redistribute.

### Health and Hygiene

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**591-1-1-.10 Diapering Areas & Practices(CR)****N/A****Comment**

No children enrolled who require diapering. This is a School age only program.

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

A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. During the virtual walk through on this date, handwashing supplies were observed at all sinks. Discussed hand washing requirements with the director.

**Correction Deadline: 11/13/2019****Corrected on 12/8/2020****.17(7) - The previous citation has been corrected.**

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

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

<b>Safety</b>
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**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. The center's discipline policy and practices were discussed with the director.

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

Center does not provide routine transportation.

<b>Sleeping &amp; Resting Equipment</b>
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**591-1-1-.30 Safe Sleeping and Resting Requirements(CR)****N/A****Comment**

Sleeping/Naps are not required for this program. School age only children attend.

<b>Staff Records</b>
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**Records Reviewed: 9****Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 0**

Staff # 1	Met
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Date of Hire: 08/01/2013

Staff # 2	Met
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Date of Hire: 06/29/2016

Staff # 3	Met
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Date of Hire: 06/26/2019

Staff # 4	Met
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Date of Hire: 02/06/2017

Staff # 5	Met
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**Records Reviewed: 9**

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

Date of Hire: 07/30/2013

Staff # 6 Met

Date of Hire: 09/29/2014

Staff # 7 Met

Staff # 8 Met

Staff # 9 Met

Date of Hire: 07/31/2017

**Staff Credentials Reviewed: 1**

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

**Comment**

Criminal record checks were observed to be complete.

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

**Comment**

Additional cleaning and sanitizing requirements due to the COVID-19 pandemic were discussed and observed during a virtual walk through on this date. The program was in compliance with the Executive Order issued on August 15, 2020.

**Staffing and Supervision**

**591-1-1-.32 Staff:Child Ratios and Group Size(CR) Met**

**Comment**

A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. During the virtual walk through on this date, the Center was observed to maintain appropriate staff:child ratios.

**591-1-1-.32 Supervision(CR) Met**

**Comment**

A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Adequate supervision was observed during the virtual walk through on this date.