



**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: 9/14/2020 **VisitType:** Monitoring Visit **Arrival:** 11:50 AM **Departure:** 1:00 PM

CCLC-36694

1st Step Learning Academy L.L.C

3217 New MacLand Road Suite 120 & 130 Powder Springs, GA 30127
Cobb County
(678) 401-2379 1ststeplearningacademy1@gmail.com

Mailing Address
Same

Regional Consultant

Jennifer Bailey

Phone: (770) 357-7024
Fax: (770) 357-7023
jennifer.bailey@decal.ga.gov

Quality Rated: ★

| Compliance Zone Designation | | |
|------------------------------------|-------------------|---------------|
| 09/14/2020 | Monitoring Visit | Good Standing |
| 02/26/2020 | Monitoring Visit | Good Standing |
| 09/16/2019 | Complaint Closure | 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 |
|--------------------------------|-----------------|---|--------------------------------|----------|------|-------------------------------|--------------|------------|--------------|---------------------|
| Building 2 | One room | Five Year Olds and Six Year Olds and Over | 1 | 8 | C | 25 | C | NA | NA | Free Play, Homework |
| Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 25 | | | Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0 | | | | | | | |
| Main | B- 2nd Right | One Year Olds | 1 | 3 | C | 10 | C | NA | NA | Nap |
| Main | C-1st Left | Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds | 1 | 5 | C | 18 | C | NA | NA | Nap |
| Main | D- 2nd Left | Two Year Olds | 1 | 6 | C | 9 | C | NA | NA | Nap |
| Main | Rm. A-1st Right | | 0 | 0 | C | 6 | C | NA | NA | Not In Use |
| Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 43 | | | Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0 | | | | | | | |
| Total # Children this Date: 22 | | | Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 68 | | | Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0 | | | | |

| Building | Playground | Playground Occupancy | Playground Compliance |
|----------|---------------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|
| Main | Playground-Back of Center | 29 | C |

Comments

A virtual inspection was conducted on September 14, 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.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

Kai Kyser, Program Official

Date

Jennifer Bailey, 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

Equipment and furniture observed to be properly secured, as applicable.

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

Licensed capacity observed to be routinely met by center.

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

Comment

Please be mindful to keep items that pose a hazard inaccessible to children.

591-1-1-.26 Playgrounds(CR) **Not Evaluated**

Comment

A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. This rule was unable to be evaluated due to lack of reception on the playground/outside and will be reviewed during the next regulatory visit.

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**

Additional handwashing and sanitizing requirements due to the COVID-19 pandemic were discussed with the Director during a virtual walk through on this date.

591-1-1-.20 Medications(CR)**Technical Assistance****Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.20(3) - Consultant discussed the rule with the Director on this date. Consultant discussed "as needed" medications and ensuring that if a dose was not needed that it is documented on the record.

Correction Deadline: 9/14/2020

Safety

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

Observed positive learning environment in one classroom on this date. Due to nap, discipline was not observed in the other classrooms. Staff stated redirection is used.

591-1-1-.36 Transportation(CR)**Not Evaluated****Comment**

Center does not currently provide routine transportation due to school being out from COVID-19.

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

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

No infants/children in cribs on this date.

Comment

Pleasant naptime environment observed.

Staff Records

Records Reviewed: 28**Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 0**

| | |
|--------------------------|-----|
| Staff # 1 | Met |
| Date of Hire: 08/01/2019 | |
| Staff # 2 | Met |
| Date of Hire: 10/14/2019 | |
| Staff # 3 | Met |
| Date of Hire: 02/26/2020 | |
| Staff # 4 | Met |
| Date of Hire: 02/17/2019 | |
| Staff # 5 | Met |
| Staff # 6 | Met |

Date of Hire: 03/09/2020

Staff # 7 Met

Date of Hire: 02/15/2019

Staff # 8 Met

Date of Hire: 05/08/2018

Staff # 9 Met

Staff # 10 Met

Date of Hire: 01/27/2020

Staff # 11 Met

Date of Hire: 08/26/2019

Staff # 12 Met

Date of Hire: 03/29/2016

Staff # 13 Met

Date of Hire: 03/25/2019

Staff # 14 Met

Date of Hire: 02/18/2020

Staff # 15 Met

Date of Hire: 11/22/2019

Staff # 16 Met

Staff # 17 Met

Date of Hire: 09/12/2019

Staff # 18 Met

Date of Hire: 02/26/2019

Staff # 19 Met

Staff # 20 Met

Staff # 21 Met

Date of Hire: 08/12/2019

Staff # 22 Met

Date of Hire: 08/13/2019

Staff # 23 Met

Records Reviewed: 28

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 0

Date of Hire: 08/12/2019

Staff # 24 Met

Date of Hire: 03/08/2018

Staff # 25 Met

Date of Hire: 08/12/2019

Staff # 26 Met

Staff # 27 Met

Date of Hire: 11/14/2018

Staff # 28 Met

Date of Hire: 09/16/2019

Staff Credentials Reviewed: 3

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.

Correction Deadline: 9/14/2020

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.