



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: 9/26/2019 **VisitType:** Monitoring Visit **Arrival:** 9:45 AM **Departure:** 11:25 AM

CCLC-37783

Smart Start Learning Center, LLC

942 Linton Road Sandersville, GA 31082 Washington County
 (478) 552-8447 smartstartlearningcenter@yahoo.com

Regional Consultant

Laura Johnson

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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.
09/26/2019	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
04/17/2019	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
12/20/2018	Monitoring Visit	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 /B- 1R	One Year Olds	1	6	C	11	C	NA	NA	Transitioning, Out side
Main	C - School Age		0	0	C	5	C	NA	NA	
Main	D - 4's 2nd R		0	0	C	7	C	NA	NA	
Main	E-3's - 3rd L	Two Year Olds	1	4	C	6	C	NA	NA	Centers
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 29			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0							
Total # Children this Date: 10			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 29							
			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0							

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	Playground	34	C

Comments

The purpose of today's visit is to complete a Monitoring Visit. This is the first visit of the fiscal year.

The director stated that they do not provide routine transportation, medications, or swimming activities.

All criminal record checks were reviewed on this date.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 09/26/2019

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/RuleAndRegulations.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.

- 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

Nateshia Scott, Program Official

Date

Laura Johnson, 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)

Not Met

Finding

591-1-1-.12(2) requires that all equipment and furniture be free from hazardous conditions such as, but not limited to, sharp rough edges or toxic paint; and be kept clean. It was determined based on the consultant's observation that the green book shelf in the after school classroom had sharp edges with peeling paint and wood on the left hand side accessible to children.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will ensure that equipment and furniture are used by the age-appropriate group of children.

Correction Deadline: 10/3/2019

Recited on 9/26/2019

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: 2

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

Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.08(3)-Address of Release Person Missing

591-1-1-.08 Children's Records**Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.08(1) requires the Center Staff to maintain a file for each child while such child is in care and for one year after that child is no longer enrolled. In order for the file to be complete, the file shall contain the following: child's name, birth date, sex, address, living arrangement, name of school if applicable; names of both Parents, home and work addresses, and home and work telephone numbers; name(s) and addresses of the person(s) to whom the child may be released including address, telephone numbers, relationship to child and to Parent(s), and other identifying information; name(s) and telephone number(s) of person(s) to contact in emergencies when the Parent cannot be reached; name and telephone number of the child's primary source of health care; and a statement regarding known allergies, physical problems, mental health disorders, mental retardation or developmental disabilities which limit the child's participation in the program. It was determined based on a review of records that two out of five applications did not include the address of the person to whom the child may be released to.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

Center staff will develop a plan that includes how to obtain all required information for currently enrolled children and how to ensure this is done for future enrollees as well. The plan will also include how and where to maintain files for the required amount of time. The plan will be implemented and followed.

Correction Deadline: 10/3/2019**Recited on 9/26/2019****Correction Deadline: 4/17/2019****Corrected on 9/26/2019****.08(6) - This citation was corrected on this date. All children present were signed in on this date.****Facility****591-1-1-.06 Bathrooms****Technical Assistance****Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.06(7) - The consultant spoke with the center staff about ensuring that bathrooms are cleaned daily.

Correction Deadline: 9/26/2019**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)**Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.25(3) requires the Center and surrounding premises to be kept clean, free of debris and in good repair. Hygienic measures such as, but not limited to, screened windows and proper waste disposal procedures shall be utilized to minimize the presence of rodents, flies, roaches and other vermin at the Center. It was determined based on observation that one wall in the afterschool classroom had a large area of peeling wallpaper presenting a possible hazard to the children in care. Additionally, the red door in the infant classroom had peeling paint and splintering wood posing a potential hazard to the children in care.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will have the Center and surrounding areas cleaned, make repairs where needed, and remove all debris is removed. The Center will implement a plan to keep areas clean and in good repair that includes regular monitoring.

Correction Deadline: 10/3/2019

591-1-1-.26 Playgrounds(CR)**Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.26(4) requires that playgrounds be protected from traffic or other hazards by a (4) four foot high fence or other barrier approved by this Department. Fencing material shall not present a hazard to children and shall be maintained so as to prevent children from leaving the playground area by any means other than through an approved access route. Fence gates shall be kept closed except when persons are entering or exiting the area. It was determined based on the consultant's observation that two fence panels on the front left side were not secure at the bottom and one of them had a five-inch gap at the bottom.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will routinely check the fence to determine if it is in good repair and remains at least 4 feet high, and will repair any hazards. The Center will train Staff to identify and report any fence hazards and to keep the fence gates closed when not in use.

Correction Deadline: 10/3/2019

Recited on 9/26/2019

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

Correction Deadline: 4/17/2019

Corrected on 9/26/2019

.10(4) - This citation was corrected on this date. Proper diapering was observed during the visit.

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

Proper hand washing observed throughout the center.

591-1-1-.20 Medications(CR)**N/A****Comment**

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

Policies and Procedures**591-1-1-.21 Operational Policies & Procedures****Met**

Correction Deadline: 4/17/2019

Corrected on 9/26/2019

.21(3) - This citation was corrected on this date. The emergency drills documentation was observed complete on this date.

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

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

Comment

Center does not provide routine transportation.

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

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

Technical Assistance

Comment

Discussed SIDS and infant sleeping position.

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.30(4) - The consultant spoke with center staff about ensuring that cots remain inaccessible to the children in care during storage.

Correction Deadline: 9/26/2019

Staff Records

Records Reviewed: 5

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 0

Staff # 1	Met
Date of Hire: 01/08/2016	
Staff # 2	Met
Date of Hire: 04/21/2018	
Staff # 3	Met
Date of Hire: 05/01/2016	
Staff # 4	Met
Date of Hire: 06/06/2014	
Staff # 5	Met
Date of Hire: 08/22/2014	

Staff Credentials Reviewed: 7

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

Met

Comment

Consultant requested to view all Criminal Record checks for employees hired after last visit. Director stated that there have been no new hires since last visit

Comment

Criminal record checks were observed to be complete.

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

Met

Correction Deadline: 5/1/2019

Corrected on 9/26/2019

.14(1) - This citation was corrected on this date. The director had evidence of certification in CPR and First Aid training.

Correction Deadline: 5/1/2019

Corrected on 9/26/2019

.14(2) - This citation was corrected on this date. 100% of staff had certification in CPR and First Aid.

591-1-1-.33 Staff Training

Met

Correction Deadline: 5/17/2019

Corrected on 9/26/2019

.33(5) - This citation was corrected on this date. The cook had evidence of completing four clock hours of training in food nutrition planning, preparation, serving, proper dish washing and food storage.

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

Defer

Defer

591-1-1-.31(2)(b)2.- This citation was deferred due to the center still being within the correction deadline.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

A teacher/lead caregiver will be hired that meets the minimum academic requirements and qualifying work experience. The lead teacher is expected to graduate from Georgia Military College this year with an Associates Degree.

Correction Deadline: 12/31/2019

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.