



**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: 2/10/2021 **VisitType:** Licensing Study **Arrival:** 9:00 AM **Departure:** 12:45 PM

CCLC-39883

Small Smiles Learning & Childcare Center

1169 Third Street Folkston, GA 31537 Charlton County
(912) 496-3654 kristiesmith30@yahoo.com

Regional Consultant

Jerica Davis

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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.
02/10/2021	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
09/29/2020	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
02/05/2020	POI Follow Up	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		0	0	C	8	C	NA	NA	
Main	B	Three Year Olds	1	7	C	8	C	11	C	Circle Time,Art
Main	C	Infants and One Year Olds and Two Year Olds	1	8	C	9	C	NA	NA	Circle Time,Centers,Dia pering
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 25						Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 28				
Total # Children this Date: 15			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 25			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 28				

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	Playground A	39	C

Comments

The purpose of today's visit is to conduct a licensing study.

The enter does not provide transportation, field trips, swimming activities, or administer medications.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 02/10/2021

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.decal.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@decal.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://decal.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.decal.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@decal.ga.gov

Kristie Blake, Program Official

Date

Jerica Davis, Consultant

Date



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Findings Report

Date: 2/10/2021 **VisitType:** Licensing Study **Arrival:** 9:00 AM **Departure:** 12:45 PM

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The following information is associated with a Licensing Study:

Activities and Equipment

591-1-1-.03 Activities

Not Met

Finding

591-1-1-.03(2) requires the Center to keep current lesson plans on site that reflect appropriate instruction practices and activities to support children's development The Center shall have sufficient and varied play and learning equipment and materials to support the above program of activities in all developmental areas. It was determined based on a review of records that classroom B, the three-year-old classroom, did not have a current lesson plan on file as required.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will keep current lesson plans on site that include appropriate instruction practices and activities and will have sufficient and varied play and learning equipment and materials to support the activities.

Correction Deadline: 2/10/2021

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.

Children's Records

Records Reviewed: 5

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 0

Child # 1	Met
Child # 2	Met
Child # 3	Met

Records Reviewed: 5

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 0

Child # 4

Met

Child # 5

Met

591-1-1-.08 Children's Records

Met

Comment

Records were observed to be complete and well organized.

Facility

591-1-1-.06 Bathrooms

Not Met

Finding

591-1-1-.06(6) requires Center Staff to equip bathrooms with soap, toilet tissue and single-use towels or cloth towels used only once between launderings. It was determined based on observation that the bathroom in the two-year-old classroom did not have hand soap or single-use towels for hand washing available as required.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will provide all required supplies and will train and monitor Staff to ensure that supplies are available in bathrooms. Cloth towels will be used only once between laundering.

Correction Deadline: 2/10/2021

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(11) requires that floor coverings be tight, smooth, free of odors and washable or cleanable. It was determined based on observation that the carpet in classroom C, the one-year-old classroom, appeared to be heavily soiled. Additionally, there were several seams in the carpet with fraying edges accessible to children.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

Floors will be maintained to be safe and sanitary.

Correction Deadline: 3/12/2021

Finding

591-1-1-.25(13) requires that potentially hazardous equipment, materials and supplies be stored in a locked area inaccessible to children. It was determined based on observation that the following hazards were observed:

-In classroom C, a bottle of cleaner with bleach spray was observed to be stored on the hand washing sink accessible to the children in care.

-In classroom C, a toilet brush was in the unlocked cabinet under the sink in the bathroom accessible to the children in care.

-In the hall bathroom utilized by the three-year-old classroom a bottle of Odoban, glass cleaner, two toilet brushes, disinfecting wipes, and a bottle of Microban was stored in an unlocked cabinet under the sink accessible to the children in care.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will identify all hazardous items and keep them in a locked area inaccessible to children. The Center will inform all Staff about hazardous items and the safe storage of those items.

Correction Deadline: 2/10/2021

Recited on 2/10/2021

Finding

591-1-1-.26(6) requires that playground equipment provide an opportunity for the children to engage in a variety of experiences and shall be age-appropriate. For example, toddlers shall not be permitted to swing in swings designed for School-age Children. The outdoor equipment shall be free of lead-based paint, sharp corners and shall be regularly maintained in such a way as to be free of rust and splinters that could pose significant safety hazard to the children. All equipment shall be arranged so as not to obstruct supervision of children. It was determined based on observation that the following playground hazards were present:

-The PVC enclosure for the mulch was separated posing a potential trip hazard on the front side of the playground.

-The brown house on the left side of the playground had a missing door and shutters leaving three one-inch holes accessible posing a potential hazard.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

Staff will check the equipment daily to ensure that the equipment is free of hazards and in good repair.

Correction Deadline: 2/20/2021**Finding**

591-1-1-.26(8) requires climbing and swinging equipment to have a resilient surface beneath the equipment and the fall zone from such equipment must be adequately maintained by the Center to assure continuing resiliency. It was determined based on observation that the resilient surfacing at the base of all three slides and at the base of the ladder measured 3 inches of resilient surfacing where six inches is required. Additionally, most of the resilient surfacing has grass growing over it.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will add additional resilient surfacing to the fall zones where needed and check daily, adding resilient surfacing as needed to maintain adequate resiliency. Additionally, center will ensure that resilient surfacing is free from weed and grass coverage.

Correction Deadline: 2/24/2021**Recited on 2/10/2021****Finding**

591-1-1-.26(9) requires the playground to be kept clean, free from litter and free of hazards, such as but not limited to rocks, exposed tree roots and exposed sharp edges of concrete. It was determined based on observation that a large orange mushroom was present on the left front side of the playground next to the PVC mulch enclosure accessible to the children in care.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will remove any litter and fix or remove hazards from the playground and will routinely monitor the playground and remove litter and hazards.

Correction Deadline: 2/10/2021

Food Service

Finding

591-1-1-.15(3) requires baby bottles and formula to be labeled with the individual child's name; supplied by the Parent daily in bottles; and refrigerated at a temperature of forty (40) degrees Fahrenheit or less. Only the current day's formula or breast milk shall be served. If formula must be provided by the Center, only commercially prepared, ready-to-feed formula shall be used. Refrigerated or frozen breast milk shall only be heated or thawed under warm running water or in a container of warm water. It was determined based on observation that two infant bottles were stored in a diaper bag and were not labeled with the individual child's name and were not refrigerated at a temperature of 40 degrees Fahrenheit or less as required.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will train Staff to follow the required procedures, ensure that parents are fully informed, and will review and monitor regularly.

Correction Deadline: 2/10/2021

591-1-1-.18 Kitchen Operations

Technical Assistance

Technical Assistance

Please ensure the kitchen door access in classroom B, the three-year-old classroom, stays closed at all times to prevent access to the kitchen.

Correction Deadline: 2/10/2021

Health and Hygiene

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

Not Met

Comment

Proper diapering procedures observed.

Finding

)591-1-1-.10(5) requires that Center Staff shall not leave infants or children unattended while being diapered or having their clothes changed on the diaper changing surface. It was determined based on observation that a staff member in classroom C left a two-year-old child unattended on the changing table when she turned her back to the child and emptied the trash can.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will ensure Staff are trained, procedures are reviewed periodically and diaper changing is monitored periodically.

Correction Deadline: 2/10/2021

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

Met

Comment

Please ensure lids remain on trash containing organic waste.

Comment

Proper hand washing observed throughout the center.

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

Met

Comment

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

Safety

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

Met

Comment

Age-appropriate discussion and/or redirection observed.

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

Met

Comment

Center does not provide routine transportation.

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

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

Not Met

Finding

591-1-1-.30(1)(a)3 requires that each crib shall have only an individual, tight-fitting sheet which is changed daily or more often as needed and prior to a change of occupant. It was determined based on observation that one of one crib sheet appeared to be soiled. Additionally, a staff member stated that sheets are changed every other day and not changed daily as required.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The center will ensure that each crib has an individual, tight-fitting sheet which is changed daily or more often as needed and prior to a change of occupant.

Correction Deadline: 2/10/2021

Recited on 2/10/2021

Finding

591-1-1-.30(4). requires that if cots and mats are stored in the children's activity room or area, they shall be stored to prevent children's access to them and to allow maximum use of play space. When storage is available and used for the storage of cots and mats that allows the cots, mats and any bedding to be stored without touching any other cots, mats or bedding, the bedding may be left on the cot or mat. When such storage is not available for the cots and mats, each child's bedding shall be kept separate from other children's bedding and stored in containers marked for individual use, such as, but not limited to, bins, cubbies, or bags. It was determined based on observation that the cots in classroom B, the three-year-old classroom, were stored in the classroom and were not covered to prevent access to the children as required.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will store cots and mats so children do not have access to them and they don't take up play space and will store them so each child's bedding is separate from the others.

Correction Deadline: 2/10/2021

Staff Records

Records Reviewed: 5

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 5

Staff # 1 Not Met

Date of Hire: 06/01/2017

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.14(2)-CPR missing,.14(2)-First Aid Missing

Staff # 2 Not Met

Date of Hire: 06/01/2017

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.14(2)-CPR missing,.14(2)-First Aid Missing,.33(5)-10 Hrs. Annual Training

Staff # 3 Not Met

Date of Hire: 10/05/2020

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(3)-Health & Safety Certificate

Staff # 4 Not Met

Date of Hire: 01/08/2019

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.14(2)-CPR missing,.14(2)-First Aid Missing,.33(5)-10 Hrs. Annual Training

Staff # 5 Not Met

Date of Hire: 06/01/2017

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.14(2)-CPR missing,.14(2)-First Aid Missing,.33(5)-10 Hrs. Annual Training

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

Met

Comment

Criminal record checks were observed to be complete.

Comment

Director provided one file for an employee hired since the last visit.

Correction Deadline: 9/29/2020

Corrected on 2/10/2021

.09(1)(a) - This citation was observed to be corrected on this date. All staff had a current and valid Criminal Records Check on file.

Correction Deadline: 9/29/2020

Corrected on 2/10/2021

.09(1)(c) - This citation was observed to be corrected on this date. All staff had a current and valid Criminal Records Check on file.

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

Not Met

Finding

591-1-1-.14(1) requires the Center Director and, at any given time, at least fifty percent (50%) of the caregiver Staff to successfully complete a biennial training program in cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and a triennial training program in first aid. The first aid training must be done by certified or licensed health care professionals or trainers and must deal with the provision of emergency care to infants and children. The Center shall maintain current evidence of the successful completion of such training which shall be available to the Department for inspection. It was determined based on a review of records that the director did not have evidence of current CPR and First Aid certification on file. Additionally, 50 percent of staff did not have evidence of a current CPR and First Aid certification on file. One staff member out of five total staff members had a current CPR and First Aid certificate.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center Director and at least 50% of the caregiver Staff will complete the needed training. The Director will send written verification to the consultant upon completion and will develop a plan to ensure that at least 50% of the caregiver Staff have completed this training at any given time and that evidence of successful completion of the training is on file available for inspection.

Correction Deadline: 3/12/2021

Finding

591-1-1-.14(2) requires a Staff member who is trained in CPR and first aid to be on the premises and on any field trip whenever any child is present. In addition, Staff who provide direct care to children must satisfactorily obtain certification in first aid and CPR by December 29, 2016 if employed prior to September 30, 2016 and within 90 days of their hire date if employed after September 30, 2016. It was determined based on a review of records that there were no staff members present at the facility with a current CPR and first aid certification on file.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will develop a schedule to ensure there is always a staff person with current first aid and CPR training present and will develop and implement a plan to ensure all staff members have satisfactorily completed first aid and CPR training by the specified date.

Correction Deadline: 3/12/2021

591-1-1-.33 Staff Training

Not Met

Correction Deadline: 10/6/2020

Corrected on 2/10/2021

.33(1) - This citation was observed to be corrected on this date.

Finding

91-1-1-.33(5) requires that every calendar year after the first year of employment, all supervisory and caregiver Personnel, except independent contractors, Students-in-Training and volunteers shall attend ten (10) clock hours of diverse training which is task-focused in on-going health, safety and early childhood or child development related topics and which is offered by an accredited college, university or vocational program or other Department-approved source. The annual ten (10) clock hours of training shall be chosen from the following fields: child development, including discipline, guidance, nutrition, injury control and safety; health, including sanitation, disease control, cleanliness, detection and disposition of illness; child abuse and neglect, including identification and reporting, and meeting the needs of abused and/or neglected children; and business related topics, including parental communication, recordkeeping, etc.; provided however that such business related training shall be limited to no more than two (2) of the required ten (10) clock hours of training. Records of completion of such training shall be maintained, as required by these rules. It was determined based on a review of records that three staff members did not have evidence of completing ten annual training hours for the 2020 calendar year as required.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will plan and schedule the required 10 hours of annual training each year and follow up to ensure the training is completed.

Correction Deadline: 1/1/2022

Recited on 2/10/2021

591-1-1-.31 Staff(CR) **Not Met**

Comment

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

Finding

591-1-1-.31(1)(a) requires the Center to have a Director who is responsible for the supervision, operation and maintenance of the Center. The Director must be on the Center's premises. If the Director is absent from the Center at any time during the hours of the Center's operation, there shall be an officially designated person on the Center site to assume responsibility for the operation of the Center, and this person shall have full access to all records required to be maintained under these rules. It was determined based on observation and staff statements that the director works full time at another position and is not at the center at least 80 percent of operating hours as required.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will ensure a director, responsible for the supervision, operation and maintenance of the Center is on the premises. during operating hours. The Center will officially designate a person to assume responsibility for the operation of the Center when the director is not present who has full access to all records.

Correction Deadline: 2/10/2021

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) **Not Met**

Technical Assistance

Please ensure that center staff shall be attentive and participating with all children during mealtimes and shall be seated within an arm's length away from children thirty-six (36) months of age and younger.

Correction Deadline: 2/10/2021

Finding

Previously Cited: 591-1-1-.32(7) requires that children be supervised at all times and that the persons supervising in the child care area be alert, able to respond promptly to the needs and actions of the children being supervised, as well as the actions of the chaperones and Students-in-Training, and provide timely attention to the children's actions and needs. It was determined based on observation that a staff member in classroom B left five three-year-old children unattended in the classroom briefly while she walked to the front door to unlock it.

591-1-1-.32(7) requires that children be supervised at all times appropriate to the individual age, needs and capabilities of each child. Such supervision must include, but not be limited to, indoor and outdoor activities, mealtimes, naptime, transportation, field trips, and transitions between activities. "Supervision" means that the appropriate number of Staff members are physically present in the area where children are being cared for and are providing watchful oversight to the children, volunteers and Students-in-Training. The persons supervising in the child care area must be alert, positioned to maximize their ability to hear and see the children at all times, and able to respond promptly to the needs and actions of the children being supervised, as well as the actions of the volunteers and Students-in-Training, and provide timely attention to the children's actions and needs. Staff shall be attentive and participating with all children during mealtimes and shall be seated within an arm's length away from children thirty-six (36) months of age and younger. It was determined based on observation that a staff member in classroom B left seven three-year-old children unattended in the classroom briefly while she walked to the front door to unlock it.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

Previously Cited: The Center will train Staff and monitor to ensure they are providing supervision and watchful oversight to the children at all times. The staff members will ensure that when children are using the hall bathroom, all children are with the staff member until all children are finished and then will return to the classroom at the same time.

The Center will train Staff and monitor to ensure they are providing supervision and watchful oversight to the children at all times.

Correction Deadline: 2/10/2021

Recited on 2/10/2021