



**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:** 7/23/2019    **VisitType:** Monitoring Visit    **Arrival:** 9:00 AM    **Departure:** 11:45 AM

**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

Phone: (478) 314-9452  
Fax: (478) 314-9443  
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**Mailing Address**  
Same

**Quality Rated:** ★

<b>Compliance Zone Designation</b>		
07/23/2019	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing
03/26/2019	POI Follow Up	Good Standing
02/20/2019	POI Follow Up	Support

**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	Infants and One Year Olds	2	6	C	8	C	NA	NA	Floor Play, Nap, Feeding
Main	B	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds and Five Year Olds and Six Year Olds and Over	1	8	C	8	C	11	C	Circle Time
Main	C	One Year Olds and Two Year Olds	2	9	C	9	C	NA	NA	Music, Story
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 25						Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 28				
Total # Children this Date: 23			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 monitoring visit.

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

The center is currently participating in the Quality Rated program and has earned a rating of one star.

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.

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#### 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.

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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)

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Kristie Blake, Program Official

Date

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Jerica Davis, 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.

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

**Comment**

Center does not provide swimming activities.

### Facility

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

**Correction Deadline: 3/26/2019**

**Corrected on 7/23/2019**

**.19(1) - This citation was observed to be corrected on this date. The license capacity was met in each classroom.**

**591-1-1-.25 Physical Plant - Safe Environment(CR)** **Not Met**

**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 observation that the following hazards were observed:  
-An unlocked cabinet in classroom A contained a spray bottle of Odo-ban accessible to the children.  
-A box fan was located on the floor in the back left corner of classroom A accessible to the children in care and was in use.  
-A portable fan was located on top of a small cabinet in the back right corner of classroom A with a hanging cord accessible to the children.  
-A box fan was located on the floor in the back right corner of classroom B accessible to the children.  
-A staff purse was located in the cubbies in classroom B accessible to the children.

**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: 7/23/2019**

**Technical Assistance**

Please ensure the Center and surrounding premises to be kept clean, free of debris and in good repair. Please inspect the carpet in classroom C for fraying and repair or replace as needed.

**Correction Deadline: 7/23/2019**

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

**Not Met**

**Technical Assistance**

Please ensure each bicycle has two handle grips.

**Correction Deadline: 8/2/2019**

**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 measured one inch at the end of the slide where six inches is required.

**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.

**Correction Deadline: 8/2/2019**

**Technical Assistance**

Please ensure to keep the grass cut to ensure a safe play environment for the children.

**Correction Deadline: 7/23/2019**

**Health and Hygiene**

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

**Met**

**Comment**

Proper diapering procedures observed.

**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.

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

Center does not provide routine transportation.

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**Sleeping & Resting Equipment**

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

Please ensure 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. Please ensure each crib has a sheet on the mattress before a child is placed in the crib.

**Correction Deadline: 7/23/2019**

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**Staff Records**

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**Records Reviewed: 4****Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 1**

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Staff # 1

Met

Date of Hire: 05/27/2017

Staff # 2

Met

Date of Hire: 09/20/2017

Staff # 3

Not Met

Date of Hire: 01/08/2019

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(3)-Health &amp; Safety Certificate

Staff # 4

Met

Date of Hire: 06/01/2019

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**Staff Credentials Reviewed: 3**

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

Criminal record checks were observed to be complete.

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**591-1-1-.33 Staff Training****Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.33(3) requires each staff member with direct care responsibilities to complete health and safety training at the time of employment that will count toward required annual training: Staff employed prior to September 30, 2016 will complete the training by December 29, 2016 and Staff employed after September 30, 2016 will complete the health and safety training within the first 90 days of employment. It was determined based on a review of records that three staff members hired in December of 2018, January of 2019, and February of 2019 did not have evidence of completing health and safety orientation training within the first ninety days of employment as required.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center will develop and implement a plan to schedule and track this training for all employees based on their hire dates.

**Correction Deadline: 8/22/2019**

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

**Met**

**Comment**

Staff observed to be compliant with applicable laws and regulations.

<b>Staffing and Supervision</b>
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**591-1-1-.32 Staff:Child Ratios and Group Size(CR)**

**Met**

**Comment**

Center observed to maintain appropriate staff:child ratios.

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

**Not Met**

**Finding**

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 left eight children unattended briefly in classroom B while she stepped out of the classroom to help open the playground door for another staff member.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

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

**Correction Deadline: 7/23/2019**