



**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:** 8/20/2019    **VisitType:** Licensing Study    **Arrival:** 10:20 AM    **Departure:** 1:30 PM

**CCLC-47908**

**The Preferred Choice**

214 N. 13th Street Griffin, GA 30223 Spalding County  
(770) 233-8984 z\_ali@bellsouth.net

**Regional Consultant**

Brandi Mangino

Phone: (478) 314-9726  
Fax: (478) 599-0169  
brandi.mangino@decal.ga.gov

**Mailing Address**  
Same

**Quality Rated:** ★ ★

<b>Compliance Zone Designation</b>			<b>Compliance Zone Designation</b> - 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.  <b>Good Standing</b> - Program is demonstrating an acceptable level of performance in meeting the rules. <b>Support</b> - Program performance is demonstrating a need for improvement in meeting rules. <b>Deficient</b> - Program is not demonstrating an acceptable level of performance in meeting the rules.
08/20/2019	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
04/11/2019	Complaint Investigation Follow Up	Good Standing	
04/11/2019	Complaint Closure	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- BL	Infants and One Year Olds	1	4	C	7	C	NA	NA	Nap, Floor Play
Main	B- BR	One Year Olds	1	5	C	6	C	NA	NA	Art
Main	C- 2R	Two Year Olds	1	6	C	7	C	NA	NA	Snack
Main	D- 1R	Four Year Olds	1	5	C	12	C	17	C	Transitioning, Snack, Story
Main	E- 1L	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	1	4	C	8	C	11	C	Transitioning, Snack
Main	F- Front Far Right		0	0	C	4	C	NA	NA	
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 44						Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 52				
Total # Children this Date: 24			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 44			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 52				

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	A	126	C

**Comments**

One-Day letter was left on this date.

Video link: <http://www.decal.ga.gov/CCS/CriminalRecordsCheck.aspx>  
Once on the page you will go to additional information and click videos.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 08/20/2019

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.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.

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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.ga.gov](mailto:CCSRefutations@dec.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.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.

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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.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.ga.gov](mailto:qualityrated@dec.ga.gov)

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Zakiyyah Ali, Program Official

Date

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Brandi Mangino, Consultant

Date



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### Findings Report

**Date:** 8/20/2019 **VisitType:** Licensing Study

**Arrival:** 10:20 AM

**Departure:** 1:30 PM

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The following information is associated with a Licensing Study:

### 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.

### Children's Records

**Records Reviewed: 5**

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

Child # 1	Met
Child # 2	Met
Child # 3	Met
Child # 4	Met
Child # 5	Met

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

**Met**

**Correction Deadline: 4/17/2019**

**Corrected on 8/20/2019**  
**.08(6) - Citation corrected.**

<b>Facility</b>
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**591-1-1-.19 License Capacity(CR)****Met****Correction Deadline: 4/11/2019****Corrected on 8/20/2019****.19(1) - Citation observed to be corrected.**

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**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 consultant observation that the following center items were in need of repair:

- window seals throughout the inside and outside were chipping paint and/or wood
- outside blue and white building paint was chipping in several areas on the back side of the building and sides of the building
- the white wooden post to the right of the front far right room exit door to the playground and the corner of the building was chipping paint
- orange door outside the 1L room was chipping paint.
- window seal in the kitchen needed cleaned due to oil.

**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: 9/20/2019****Recited on 8/20/2019**

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

Consultant discussed covering roots and cutting and removal of limbs within the playground.

**Correction Deadline: 8/20/2019****Correction Deadline: 4/18/2019****Corrected on 8/20/2019****.26(8) - Citation observed to be corrected.**

<b>Food Service</b>
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**591-1-1-.15 Food Service & Nutrition****Met****Comment**

Please ensure that infant feeding forms are updated regularly.

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**591-1-1-.18 Kitchen Operations****Technical Assistance****Technical Assistance**

Consultant discussed cleaning grease splitter on the walls of the kitchen.

**Correction Deadline: 8/20/2019**

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

**Comment**

Staff state proper knowledge of diapering procedures.

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

**Comment**

Staff were observed to remind children to wash hands.

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

**Comment**

Per the person in charge no medication has been dispensed since the last regulatory visit.

**Policies and Procedures**

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**591-1-1-.21 Operational Policies & Procedures** **Technical Assistance**

**Technical Assistance**

Please ensure that the safe sleep policy is signed by all enrolled infants.

**Correction Deadline: 8/25/2019**

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**591-1-1-.27 Posted Notices** **Met**

**Comment**

Please make sure that all required signs are posted and up to date.

**Safety**

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**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**

A current/completed inspection was observed for all vehicles used in transporting children this date.

**Technical Assistance**

Consultant discussed that the front left tire on an ending in tag 9525 looked to be low.

Consultant further discussed to ensure that all areas of the emergency forms are completed by the parents.

**Correction Deadline: 8/21/2019**

**Sleeping & Resting Equipment**

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**591-1-1-.30 Safe Sleeping and Resting Requirements(CR)** **Not Met**

**Comment**

Discussed SIDS and infant sleeping position.

**Comment**

The correct number of mats, sheets and blankets were observed on this date. Cleaning and disinfecting of mats was discussed with the director on this date.

**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 consultant observation that four of six cribs sheets were observed to not be tight-fitting.

**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: 8/20/2019**

**Correction Deadline: 4/11/2019**

**Corrected on 8/20/2019**

**.30(2)(c) - Citation observed to be corrected as sleeping infants were in safety approved cribs.**

<b>Staff Records</b>
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**Records Reviewed: 7**

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

Staff # 1	Met
Date of Hire: 06/04/2014	
Staff # 2	Met
Date of Hire: 05/01/2000	
Staff # 3	Met
Date of Hire: 03/05/2018	
Staff # 4	Met
Date of Hire: 03/30/2000	
Staff # 5	Met
Date of Hire: 05/02/2014	
Staff # 6	Met
Date of Hire: 02/07/2018	
Staff # 7	Met
Date of Hire: 08/03/2015	

**Staff Credentials Reviewed: 5**

<b>591-1-1-.09 Criminal Records and Comprehensive Background Checks(CR)</b>	<b>Not Met</b>
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**Finding**

591-1-1-.09(1)(j) requires that for portability for Directors, Employees and Provisional Employees, excluding Students-in-Training, only the most recently issued determination letter is eligible for portability and must be ported electronically. A Center may accept a satisfactory Fingerprint Records Check Determination letter or a satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination letter issued by the Department if the Records Check Clearance Date is within the preceding 12 months from the hire date, the individual has not had a lapse of employment from the child care industry that lasted for 180 days (6 months) or longer, and the Center does not know or reasonably should not know that the individual's satisfactory status has changed. It was determined based on a review of records that one staff member hired within their year portability time frame was not electronically ported through decal koala.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

IMMEDIATE CORRECTION - The Center will port the criminal record check to ensure that only the most recently issued determination letter is electronically ported for Directors, Employees and Provisional Employees, excluding Students-in-Training. A Center may accept a satisfactory Fingerprint Records Check Determination letter or a satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination letter issued by the Department if the Records Check Clearance Date is within the preceding 12 months from the hire date, the individual has not had a lapse of employment from the child care industry that lasted for 180 days (6 months) or longer, and the Center does not know or reasonably should not know that the individual's satisfactory status has changed. The program's owner or an officer/member of the corporation must view the A to Z Background Check video units pertaining to this records check rule and return the signed affidavit within one week from this visit date. The Center will review videos and rule changes to ensure CRC rules are maintained.

**Correction Deadline: 8/20/2019**

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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 one staff member hired in April 2019 did not have health and safety orientation.

**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: 9/19/2019**

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

**Met**

**Comment**

Discussed that all lead staff must enroll in an approved education program within 6 months of hire and complete degree within 18 months.

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**Staffing and Supervision**

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

**Met**

**Correction Deadline: 4/11/2019**

**Corrected on 8/20/2019**

**.32(1) - Citation observed to be corrected.**

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

**Met**

**Comment**

Adequate supervision observed on this date.