



**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:** 3/6/2019    **VisitType:** Licensing Study    **Arrival:** 9:35 AM    **Departure:** 1:35 PM

**CCLC-48971**

**A Brighter Choice Learning Academy**

140 Lowe Road Roberta, GA 31078 Crawford County  
 (478) 836-5243 abrighterchoice@bellsouth.net

**Regional Consultant**

Brandi Mangino

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

**Mailing Address**  
 Same

**Quality Rated:** ★ ★

<b>Compliance Zone Designation</b>		
03/06/2019	Licensing Study	Good Standing
09/18/2018	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing
05/03/2018	Initial Licensing Study	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
Main	A - 1L/ 6 weeks- 12 months	Infants and One Year Olds	2	5	C	8	C	NA	NA	Floor Play
Main	B - 2LM- 1's and 2's	One Year Olds and Two Year Olds	2	8	C	22	C	NA	NA	Music,Centers
Main	C - Back Right - 2's	Two Year Olds	2	6	C	8	C	NA	NA	Centers,Music
Main	D- Middle Right -potty trianed 2's	Two Year Olds and Three Year Olds	2	9	C	10	C	NA	NA	Circle Time
Main	E -Left front-3's	One Year Olds and Two Year Olds	2	7	C	8	C	NA	NA	Centers,Music
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 56						Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0				
Total # Children this Date: 35			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 56			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0				

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	A - Left (6weeks - 2 years)	84	C
Main	B- Right - 2's	95	C

**Comments**

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 03/06/2019

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/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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Ruby Drew, Program Official

Date

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Brandi Mangino, Consultant

Date



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### Findings Report

**Date:** 3/6/2019    **VisitType:** Licensing Study    **Arrival:** 9:35 AM    **Departure:** 1:35 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(7) requires the center to provide outdoor activities daily, weather permitting. It was determined based on statement that the children have not had outdoor play since August 2018 due to construction of an addition to the building.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The cCenter will follow a schedule that allows for all children to have the required amount of daily outside play time.

The center will add a temporary barrier to the outside playground, stager the outside times for classes and reflect that on their daily schedules so children can get the required time. The center will ensure that if the play equipment on that side is not age appropriate that age appropriate toys are taken out for the children temporarily until they can return to their intended playground.

**Correction Deadline: 3/6/2019**

**591-1-1-.12 Equipment & Toys(CR)**

**Technical Assistance**

**Technical Assistance**

Please ensure that the television in Room B is secured.

**Correction Deadline: 3/6/2019**

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

**Met**

**Comment**

Center does not provide swimming activities.

**Facility**

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

Licensed capacity observed to be routinely met by center.

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

Consultant discussed that hazards need to remain inaccessible as the diapering station in Room C was unlocked with cleaner accessible.

**Correction Deadline: 3/6/2019**

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**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 consultant's observation that the fencing dividing the two playgrounds was removed in areas for construction and poses hazards to children in care.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center will add a barrier to enclose the gaps.

**Correction Deadline: 3/20/2019****Recited on 3/6/2019****Technical Assistance**

Consultant discussed that all hazardous items need to be removed from the playground before children's outside time. Consultant discussed that construction tools and items need to be in an area inaccessible.

The center is undergoing construction to add another building. The center children at the current time have not had access to the items in that they have not had outside time. Consultant discussed that the children get the needed outside time, and to have a temporary barrier for the playground.

**Correction Deadline: 3/6/2019**

<b>Food Service</b>
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**591-1-1-.15 Food Service & Nutrition****Not Met****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 consultant observation that an infants bottles were not pre made as the parents brought bottles and power formula for the center staff to make for the child.

**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: 3/6/2019**

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**591-1-1-.18 Kitchen Operations****Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.18(5) requires the refrigeration of all perishable and potentially hazardous foods at 40 degrees Fahrenheit or below and served promptly after cooking. Freezer temperature shall be maintained at zero (0) degrees Fahrenheit or below. It was determined based on consultant observation that the refrigerator in the infant classroom was reading approximately 55 degree Fahrenheit on this date.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center will refrigerate foods as required, will train Staff on proper refrigerator and freezer temperature settings and monitor the settings. Food will be served promptly after cooking.

**Correction Deadline: 3/6/2019**

**Health and Hygiene**

**591-1-1-.07 Children's Health**

**Technical Assistance**

**Technical Assistance**

Consultant discussed the bibs should only be worn at feeding times.

**Correction Deadline: 3/6/2019**

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

**Met**

**Comment**

Staff state proper knowledge of diapering procedures.

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

**Met**

**Comment**

Staff were observed to remind children to wash hands.

**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)**

**Technical Assistance**

**Technical Assistance**

Consultant discussed crib spacing requirements on this date.

**Correction Deadline: 3/6/2019**

**Staff Records**

**Records Reviewed: 13**

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

Staff # 1

Met

Date of Hire: 05/03/2018

Staff # 2

Met

**Records Reviewed: 13****Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 0**

Date of Hire: 01/31/2018

Staff # 3 Met

Date of Hire: 06/06/2018

Staff # 4 Met

Date of Hire: 07/12/2018

Staff # 5 Met

Date of Hire: 05/03/2018

Staff # 6 Met

Date of Hire: 05/14/2018

Staff # 7 Met

Date of Hire: 02/19/2019

Staff # 8 Met

Date of Hire: 05/03/2018

Staff # 9 Met

Date of Hire: 01/30/2019

Staff # 10 Met

Date of Hire: 09/29/2017

Staff # 11 Met

Date of Hire: 05/03/2018

Staff # 12 Met

Date of Hire: 01/17/2019

Staff # 13 Met

Date of Hire: 02/04/2019

**Staff Credentials Reviewed: 13****591-1-1-.09 Criminal Records and Comprehensive Background Checks(CR) Met****Comment**

Criminal record checks were observed to be complete. All current staff were observed to have a comprehensive background check.

**591-1-1-.09 Criminal Records Check(CR) Met****Correction Deadline: 9/18/2018****Corrected on 3/6/2019****.09(1)(i) - Citation corrected.**

**Finding**

591-1-1-.14(3) requires the Center to have a first aid kit in each building of the Center and in any vehicle used by the Center for transportation of children, that contains scissors, tweezers, gauze pads, adhesive tape, thermometer, band-aids, assorted sizes, antibacterial ointment, insect-sting preparation, an antiseptic cleansing solution, triangular bandages, rubber gloves, protective eye wear, a protective face mask, and a cold pack. The first aid kit, together with a first aid instruction manual which must be kept with the kit at all times, shall be stored so that it is not accessible to children but is easily accessible to Staff. It was determined based on consultant observation that a first aid kit in Room B was accessible to children in care in that it was hanging on hooks by the classroom window within reach of enrolled children.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

Center Staff will provide any missing first aid kits, add any missing items to each first aid kit and will develop and use a plan for checking the kits and replacing missing items in each kit in the future. First aid kits and instruction manuals will be stored so that they kits are not accessible to children but are easily accessible to Center Staff.

**Correction Deadline: 3/16/2019**

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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.

<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.

**Comment**

Discussed combining children of mixed ages.

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

Adequate supervision observed on this date.