



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: 8/27/2019 **VisitType:** Complaint Investigation & Licensing Study **Arrival:** 2:00 PM **Departure:** 5:00 PM

CCLC-49513

The Learning Treehouse Too

226 Goshen Road Rincon, GA 31326 Effingham County
 (912) 826-2893 jfox@thelearningtreehouse.net

Regional Consultant

Haley Carwile

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haley.carwile@decal.ga.gov

Mailing Address

250 Goshen Road
 Rincon, GA 31326

Quality Rated: No

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.
08/27/2019	Complaint Closure	Good Standing	
08/27/2019	Complaint Investigation & Licensing Study	Good Standing	
03/06/2019	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	

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
Building 2	201 (Left)		0	0	C	11	C	NA	NA	
Building 2	202 (Right)	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	1	9	C	11	C	NA	NA	Transitioning, Nap
Building 2	203 (left)	Three Year Olds	1	9	C	11	C	NA	NA	Transitioning
Building 2	204 (Left)	Four Year Olds	1	10	C	11	C	NA	NA	Transitioning
Building 2	205 (Right)	Three Year Olds	1	11	C	11	C	NA	NA	Transitioning
Building 2	206 (Right)		0	0	C	11	C	NA	NA	
Building 2	207 (Left)		0	0	C	11	C	NA	NA	
Building 2	210 (Right)		0	0	C	11	C	NA	NA	
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 88			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 203							
Main	B	Six Year Olds and Over	2	18	C	19	C	27	C	Snack, Free Play
Main	D	Four Year Olds and Five Year Olds	1	14	C	11	NC	15	C	Free Play
Main	E-Common Room	Six Year Olds and Over	1	20	C	71	C	99	C	Free Play
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 75			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 75			Building @35 capacity limited by Health Department Limitations				

Total # Children this Date: 91

Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 163

Total Capacity @25 sq.
ft.: 203

<u>Building</u>	<u>Playground</u>	<u>Playground Occupancy</u>	<u>Playground Compliance</u>
Building 2	Playground	84	C
Main	Playground A	30	C

Comments

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 08/27/2019

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/Regulations.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.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

Audrey Renfro, Program Official

Date

Haley Carwile, Consultant

Date



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Findings Report

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The following information is associated with a Licensing Study 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)

N/A

Comment

Center does not provide swimming activities.

Facility

591-1-1-.06 Bathrooms

Met

Correction Deadline: 3/20/2019

Corrected on 8/27/2019

.06(4) - Observed the exhaust fan in the boys restroom to be working on this date.

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)

Met

Comment

Center appears clean and well maintained.

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

Met

Comment

Playground observed to be clean and in good repair.

Health and Hygiene

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

Comment

No children enrolled who require diapering.

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

Comment

Proper hand washing observed throughout the center.

591-1-1-.20 Medications(CR) **Not Evaluated**

Comment

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

Safety

591-1-1-.05 Animals **N/A**

Comment

Center does not keep animals on premises.

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

Comment

Age-appropriate discussion and/or redirection observed.

591-1-1-.13 Field Trips(CR) **Not Evaluated**

Comment

Center does not participate in field trips at this time.

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

Comment

Complete documentation of transportation observed.

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

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

Comment

Pleasant naptime environment observed.

Staff Records

Records Reviewed: 9

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 0

Staff # 1 Met

Date of Hire: 08/09/2019

Staff # 2 Met

Date of Hire: 08/12/2019

Staff # 3 Met

Date of Hire: 09/05/2018

Staff # 4 Met

Records Reviewed: 9

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 0

Date of Hire: 07/29/2019

Staff # 5

Met

Date of Hire: 08/12/2019

Staff # 6

Met

Date of Hire: 07/02/2018

Staff # 7

Met

Date of Hire: 06/17/2019

Staff # 8

Met

Date of Hire: 08/01/2018

Staff # 9

Met

Date of Hire: 08/12/2014

Staff Credentials Reviewed: 7

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

Not Met

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 review of files that four staff members had not had their comprehensive background checks ported over as required.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

IMMEDIATE CORRECTION - The Center will 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 ensure CRC rules are maintained.

Correction Deadline: 8/27/2019

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

Met

Comment

Evidence observed of 50% of center staff certified in First Aid and CPR.

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

Met

Comment

Staff observed to be compliant with applicable laws and regulations.

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**

Adequate supervision observed on this date.