



**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:** 10/17/2019 **VisitType:** Initial Licensing Study **Arrival:** 9:45 AM **Departure:** 3:00 PM

**CCLC-51917**

**Smart Start Pre-School Learning Academy**

505 Bartow Street Thomasville, GA 31792 Thomas County  
(229) 225-1122 startsmart.leapintolearning@yahoo.com

**Regional Consultant**

Angela Byrd

Phone: (678) 920-3975

Fax:

angela.byrd@decals.ga.gov

**Mailing Address**

Same

**Quality Rated:** ★

<b>Compliance Zone Designation</b>		
10/17/2019	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	Room A - Infants	Infants	3	8	C	14	C	NA	NA	Feeding, Floor Play, Nap, Diapering
Main	Room B - 1 to 2 yr olds	One Year Olds and Two Year Olds	2	9	C	13	C	NA	NA	Free Play
Main	Room C - Older 2's	Two Year Olds	2	11	C	20	C	NA	NA	Free Play
Main	Room D - 5 to 12 yr olds		0	0	C	19	C	26	C	
Main	Room E - 3 to 4 yr olds	Four Year Olds	1	9	C	20	C	27	C	Circle Time, Transitioning
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 86						Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 100				
Total # Children this Date: 37			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 86			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 100				

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	Playground A	21	C
Main	Playground B	48	C

**Comments**

A license was not issued on this date due to the fire inspection report not obtained. This facility carries liability insurance.

Permission to operate granted on October 21, 2019. Fire Inspection received on this date.

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.al.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

You have received permission to operate and the form received with this report is intended to serve as a temporary license which is **valid for thirty(30) days**. Your actual license/ will be emailed to you upon receipt of the licensing fee. You may pay the licensing fee either online at <http://www.dec.al.ga.gov/> or by certified check or money order mailed to: Bright from the Start, 2 Martin Luther King Jr. Drive SE, Suite 670 East Tower, Atlanta, GA 30334

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

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Ursula Cone, Program Official

Date

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Angela Byrd, Consultant

Date



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### Findings Report

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The following information is associated with a Initial Licensing Study:

### Activities and Equipment

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

**Technical Assistance**

**Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.12(4) - Please ensure the computer monitors in Room D (school-age room) are secured to prevent a tipping hazard. On this date the room was not in use.

**Correction Deadline: 10/16/2019**

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

**Met**

**Comment**

On this date, the Owner stated that the program will not participate in Swimming/water activities, in water measuring two (2) feet in depth or greater. Consultant discussed Swimming/water requirements with Owner, prior to the visit and on this date. Consultant also stated to Owner that prior to participating in Swimming/water activities, in any type of equipment holding water two (2) feet in depth or greater, the Center is required to contact the assigned Bright from the Start: Regional Consultant, to discuss and review Swimming/water activity Rules.

### Facility

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

**Met**

**Comment**

Discussed 25 square feet rule on this date.

**Comment**

The facility has a capacity of 86 occupants for 35 square feet and 100 occupants for 25 square feet between the hours 3:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Licensed capacities were observed to be met during the visit.

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

**Met**

**Comment**

No hazards observed accessible to children on this date.

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**591-1-1-.25 Physical Plant-Structural/Mechanical****Technical Assistance****Technical Assistance**

Please ensure the center obtain the building certificate of occupancy and submit to the Bright from the Start regional consultant.

**Correction Deadline: 10/17/2019**

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

591-1-1-.26(4) A supervision plan was requested from the center due to the gaps between the rails on the black iron fence.

**Correction Deadline: 10/17/2019**

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**Health and Hygiene**

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

Proper diapering procedures observed on this date.

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

Proper hand washing observed throughout the center on this date.

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

Discussed proper medication documentation and procedures on this date and prior to the visit.

**Comment**

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

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**Policies and Procedures**

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

591-1-1-.21(3) - Please ensure the fire drill is conducted every month. September's drill was not documented on the form.

**Correction Deadline: 10/21/2019**

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**Safety**

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

Staff were observed to maintain a positive learning environment on this date.

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

A current/completed inspection was observed for the vehicle used in transporting children this date.

**Comment**

Complete documentation of transportation observed for October 14 -17.

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**Sleeping & Resting Equipment**

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

On this date, Consultant observed twelve (12) cribs used for sleeping and resting, to meet Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) and American Society for Testing and Materials International (ASTM) safety standards. Consultant also discussed all Infant Safe Sleeping and Resting requirements with Center Director, prior to the visit and on this date. Further, Consultant observed a pleasant nap time environment, and discussed cot and mat disinfecting requirements with Center Director and Owner on this date.

**Correction Deadline: 10/26/2019****Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.30(1)(d) - Please ensure in classroom A cribs are twelve inches (12") between each piece of sleeping or resting equipment.

**Correction Deadline: 10/16/2019**

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**Staff Records****Records Reviewed: 7****Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 0**

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Staff # 1	Met
Date of Hire: 01/21/2017	
Staff # 2	Met
Staff # 3	Met
Staff # 4	Met
Date of Hire: 03/23/2008	
Staff # 5	Met
Date of Hire: 04/26/2017	
Staff # 6	Met
Date of Hire: 06/21/2019	
Staff # 7	Met
Date of Hire: 11/12/2015	

**Staff Credentials Reviewed: 1**

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

On this date, Consultant observed a Satisfactory Gelmato COGENT Criminal Records Check Determination letter, regarding 13 Center Employees. Consultant also discussed all Gelmato COGENT Criminal Records Check requirements with Center Owner, prior to the visit and on this date.

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

Staff observed to be compliant with applicable laws and regulations.

The director meets the education credential requirement. She completed BFTS-approved 40 hour director's training on 12/17/08 and has more than 5 years experience as a center director.

## Staffing and Supervision

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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 on this date.

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

Met

#### Comment

A supervision plan was created on this date for Classroom A and B for diapering and Classroom C for cubbies located in the hallway.

#### Comment

Staff observed to provide direct supervision and be attentive to children's needs on this date.