



**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:** 9/11/2020    **VisitType:** Initial Licensing Study    **Arrival:** 10:00 AM    **Departure:** 12:45 PM

**CCLC-53000**

**Thrive Early Learning**

465 Harris Trail Road Richmond Hill, GA 31324 Bryan County  
(912) 445-4637 ksteinhoff@thrive-el.com

**Regional Consultant**

Brianne Walters

Phone: (912) 544-9775

Fax: (912) 544-9774

brianne.walters@decal.ga.gov

**Mailing Address**

Same

**Quality Rated:** No

<b>Compliance Zone Designation</b>		
09/11/2020	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		0	0	C	32	C	NA	NA	
Main	B		0	0	C	32	C	NA	NA	
Main	C		0	0	C	32	C	NA	NA	
Main	D		0	0	C	32	C	NA	NA	
Main	E		0	0	C	20	C	NA	NA	
Main	F		0	0	C	20	C	NA	NA	
Main	G		0	0	C	31	C	NA	NA	
Main	H		0	0	C	20	C	NA	NA	
Main	I		0	0	C	20	C	NA	NA	
Main	J		0	0	C	15	C	NA	NA	
Main	K		0	0	C	15	C	NA	NA	
Main	L		0	0	C	21	C	NA	NA	

Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 290

Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0

Total # Children this Date: 0

Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 290

Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	A	74	C
Main	B	73	C
Main	C	15	C

### Comments

Permission to operate was granted this date. The center did not have liability insurance and had the required posting. The following was discussed, and copies were emailed to the director: A copy of the Executive Order issued on June 15, 2020, the Covid-19 checklist and the Covid-19 Guidance for Georgia Child Care Facilities document published on August 12, 2020.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 09/11/2020

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

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.state.ga.us/> 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.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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Erika Steinhoff, Program Official

Date

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Brianne Walters, Consultant

Date



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### Findings Report

**Date:** 9/11/2020 **VisitType:** Initial Licensing Study **Arrival:** 10:00 AM **Departure:** 12:45 PM

#### CCLC-53000

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The following information is associated with a Initial 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.

##### Comment

Equipment and furniture observed to be properly secured, as applicable.

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

Met

##### Comment

Center does not provide swimming activities. No pool on site.

### Facility

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

Met

##### Comment

There were no capacity limitations at the time of the initial licensing visit.

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

Technical Assistance

##### Comment

Center appears clean and well maintained.

##### Technical Assistance

Please be mindful to keep items that pose a hazard inaccessible to children. Discussed the following: removing teacher desks in rooms or ensuring that hazardous items such as hand sanitizer and teacher supplies are kept out of reach of children or in locked cabinets/drawers. Also discussed the need to secure any refrigerators located in rooms.

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

Not Met

##### Technical Assistance

Discussed maintaining equipment free of dirt and buildup, fence free of chipping paint, low hanging limbs cut so they are not at eye level, maintain cement pads level with ground, and to remove any exposed sprinkler heads.

**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 observation that there were bolts protruding on the fence between Playground B and C at the corners and around the gate.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center will routinely check the fence to determine if it is in good repair and remains at least 4 feet high, and will repair any hazards. The Center will train Staff to identify and report any fence hazards and to keep the fence gates closed when not in use.

**Correction Deadline: 9/25/2020**

<b>Health and Hygiene</b>
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**591-1-1-.10 Diapering Areas & Practices(CR)****Not Met****Comment**

The building has an indoor air quality ventilation system that meets the rules/regulations for ventilation for diapering areas and restrooms.

**Finding**

591-1-1-.10(4) requires that if diapers are changed on a diaper changing surface, the surface shall be smooth, nonporous, and equipped with a guard or rails to prevent falls. Between each diaper change, the diaper changing surface shall be cleaned with a disinfectant and dried with a single-use disposable towel. It was determined based on observation that Room D that will house 18-24 month old children did not have a diaper changing surface as required.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center will ensure there is a smooth, nonporous changing surface that has a guard or rails for safety in each classroom that houses children wearing diapers. Center Staff will be trained and have adequate supplies to properly clean the diaper changing surface between each diaper change.

**Correction Deadline: 10/23/2020**

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

Proper hand washing of children and staff was discussed with the director. Hands shall be washed with liquid soap and warm running water upon arrival for care, when moving from one child care group to another, upon re-entering the child care area after outside play, before and after eating meals and snacks, handling or touching food, playing in water; after toileting and diapering, playing in sand, touching animals or pets, and contact with bodily fluids (sneezing, wiping nose, etc.), and after contamination by any other means.

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

Discussed proper medication documentation and procedures.

<b>Safety</b>
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**591-1-1-.11 Discipline(CR)****Met****Comment**

The center's discipline policy was reviewed and regulations regarding proper discipline were discussed with the director on this date.

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

Center will not provide routine transportation or field trips at this time. Consultant discussed with the director that prior to providing transportation and/or field trips, staff are required to complete and maintain documentation of current CPR and First - Aid Training, as well as two (2) clock hours of transportation training. In addition, prior to providing transportation, the regional consultant will be contacted to discuss and review all transportation requirements.

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**Sleeping & Resting Equipment**

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

Cribs observed in Rooms F, J, K and L were observed to be in compliance with Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) and American Society of Testing and Materials International (ASTM) safety standards.

**Correction Deadline: 9/21/2020**

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**Staff Records**

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**Records Reviewed: 3****Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 0**

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Staff # 1 Met  
Date of Hire: 02/24/2020

Staff # 2 Met  
Date of Hire: 09/11/2020

Staff # 3 Met

**Staff Credentials Reviewed: 1**

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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 for all current staff. Any staff member with only a preliminary national records check must be supervised by a staff with a satisfactory comprehensive check until a satisfactory comprehensive check is received.

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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.

**Comment**

Staff observed to be compliant with applicable laws and regulations.

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**Staffing and Supervision**

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

Proper ratios and classroom capacities were discussed with the director on this date.

**Comment**

Proper supervision of children, including being prompt to children's needs, was discussed with the director on this date.