



**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

Cover Sheet

Date: 5/6/2021 **VisitType:** Monitoring Visit **Arrival:** 9:15 AM **Departure:** 2:00 PM

CCLC-3233

Learning Tree Child Care And Learning Center, The

302 Smith Street Vidalia, GA 30474 Toombs County
(912) 537-1119 rachael85@bellsouth.net

Regional Consultant

Connie Boatright

Phone: (912) 544-9701

Fax: (912) 544-9700

connie.boatright@decal.ga.gov

Mailing Address

P.O. Box 1865
Vidalia, GA 30475

Quality Rated: ★

Compliance Zone Designation		
05/06/2021	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing
12/21/2020	Licensing Study	Good Standing
11/06/2019	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 - Left	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	1	11	C	22	C	NA	NA	Outside, Transitioning, Nap, Lunch
Main	B-Middle Right	One Year Olds and Two Year Olds	1	8	C	22	C	NA	NA	Transitioning, Lunch, Outside, Nap
Main	C - Far Right	Infants and One Year Olds	1	5	C	8	C	NA	NA	Feeding, Lunch, Nap, Free Play, Floor Play
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 52						Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0				
Total # Children this Date: 24			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 52			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0				

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	Playground - 1	39	C
Main	Playground - 2	73	C

Comments

This Monitoring Visit was completed on site. The center director stated no medication is administered, no field trips or routine transportation is provided. No new staff has been hired since the consultant's last visit. The consultant reviewed the current Executive Order effective 05-01-2021 with the center director. One person was present at the center while children were present with no satisfactory comprehensive criminal records check. A one-day letter, script and affidavit was left with the center director. A plan of improvement was left with the center director.

Plan of Improvement: To Be Submitted 05/17/2021

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



Important New Deadlines:

Due to the ongoing COVID restrictions, the deadline to become Quality Rated for programs who want to continue to receive Childcare and Parent Services (CAPS), has been extended to at least December 31, 2021.

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

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)

Sheron Bailey, Program Official

Date

Connie Boatright, Consultant

Date



Bright from the Start Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning
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 Atlanta, GA 30334
 Phone: (404) 657-5562 WWW.DECAL.GA.GOV

Findings Report

Date: 5/6/2021 **VisitType:** Monitoring Visit **Arrival:** 9:15 AM **Departure:** 2:00 PM

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The following information is associated with a Monitoring Visit:

Activities and Equipment

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

Not Met

Finding

591-1-1-.12(8) requires toys for children under three years of age to be age-appropriate; non- toxic and lead-free; too large to be swallowed by a child and not capable of causing asphyxiation or strangulation; free of sharp pieces, edges or points; free of small parts which may be pried off by a child, free of rust; and easily cleaned with a disinfectant daily. It was determined based on observation that the one and two-year-old classroom had stuffed animals in a corner accessible to the children which can't be easily disinfected daily.

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Correction Deadline: 5/17/2021

Recited on 5/6/2021

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

Records Reviewed: 5

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 0

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

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

Met

Correction Deadline: 12/21/2020

Corrected on 5/6/2021

.08(1) - The previous citation was observed to be corrected on this date.

Correction Deadline: 12/21/2020

Corrected on 5/6/2021

.08(6) - The previous citation was observed to be corrected on this date.

Facility

591-1-1-.06 Bathrooms

Met

Comment

Bathrooms observed to be clean and well maintained.

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)

Technical Assistance

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.25(3) - The center director will ensure that 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. Beige rug located in the one and two-year-old classroom has frayed edges. One of three black rugs located in the one and two-year-old classroom has frayed edges.

Correction Deadline: 5/6/2021

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.25(9) - The center director and staff will not allow a person to remain on the premises if the person does not have a legitimate reason for being on the premises

Correction Deadline: 5/6/2021

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

Not Met

Finding

591-1-1-.26(6) requires that playground equipment provide an opportunity for the children to engage in a variety of experiences and shall be age-appropriate. For example, toddlers shall not be permitted to swing in swings designed for School-age Children. The outdoor equipment shall be free of lead-based paint, sharp corners and shall be regularly maintained in such a way as to be free of rust and splinters that could pose significant safety hazard to the children. All equipment shall be arranged so as not to obstruct supervision of children. It was determined based on observation that the following hazards was presnt:

Toddler Playground (right playground):

***The red merry-go-round, lemonade stand, red and yellow ladder climber, silver swing frame was chipping paint and rusting.

***One pink Step Two car was missing the sterling wheel leaving a hole the size of a quarter causing a pinching and entrapment hazard.

***One pink Little Tykes rocky horse was missing the right handle leaving a 2x2 crack causing a pinching and entrapment hazard.

***Purple, yellow and green pic"nic table was missing one seating bench.

***The yellow, blue and red big wheel trike was missing the seat.

Three and four-year-old playground (Left playground):

***The red merry-go-round, blue and yellow slide with a climb through barrel, the silver slides and climber and the white dome climber was chipping paint and rusting.

***One bolt was observed to be 16 threads long and eye height to the three and four-year-old children located on the yellow and blue slide with the crawl through barrell. Additionally, a seond bolt was observed to be four threads long and eye height to the three and four-year-old children located on the yellow and blue slide with the crawl through barrell.

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Correction Deadline: 5/17/2021

Finding

591-1-1-.26(8) requires climbing and swinging equipment to have a resilient surface beneath the equipment and the fall zone from such equipment must be adequately maintained by the Center to assure continuing resiliency. It was determined based on observation and measurement that there was no resilient surface under the red merry-go-round, and the red and yellow ladder limber located on the playground on the right where six inches are required. Additionally, there was no resilient surface under the red merry-go-round, the silver climber and slides and the white dome climber located on the three and four-year-old playground where six inches are required.

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Correction Deadline: 5/17/2021

Recited on 5/6/2021

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.26(9) - The center director will ensure that the two small tree limbs are removed from the fence inside of the toddler playground.

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Correction Deadline: 5/6/2021

Food Service

591-1-1-.15 Food Service & Nutrition **Met**

Comment

CACFP Meal Pattern Requirements effective October 1, 2017 will be implemented October 1, 2018: 3 Components for breakfast: Grains, Vegetables, Fruits or both, Milk
5 Components for lunch – Grains, Meat/Meat alternates, Fruits, Vegetable, and Milk OR Grains, Meat/Meat alternates, 2 different types of vegetables, and Milk
2 of 5 Components for snack

Provided Updated CACFP Infant Meal pattern and Child/Adult Meal pattern flyers.

The Crediting Handbook for the CACFP can be located on DECAL and USDA's website:
DECAL
<http://decalf.ga.gov/CACFP/Handbook.aspx>
USDA
<http://www.fns.usda.gov/cacfp/cacfp-handbooks>

591-1-1-.18 Kitchen Operations **Met**

Comment

Kitchen appears clean and well organized.

Health and Hygiene

591-1-1-.10 Diapering Areas & Practices(CR) **Not Met**

Comment

Hand washing requirements for diapering were discussed with the director on this date.

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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 and measurements that the diaper changing pad located in the two-year-old room had a 8 inch x 4 inch tear with the foam exposed causing a potential choking hazard. Additionally, the changing pad was not able to be disinfected as required.

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Correction Deadline: 5/17/2021

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

Comment
Proper hand washing observed throughout the center.

Comment
Staff were observed to remind children to wash hands.

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

Comment
The center director stated no medication is administered.

Safety

591-1-1-.05 Animals **Met**

Comment
Center does not keep animals on premises.

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

Comment
Age-appropriate discussion and/or redirection observed.

Comment
Please be mindful of voice tone in redirecting children.

591-1-1-.13 Field Trips(CR) **Met**

Comment
Center does not participate in field trips at this time.

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) **Not Met**

Comment
Discussed SIDS and infant sleeping position.

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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.
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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 observation and touch of the sheets that five of five crib sheets was not tight fitting.
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Correction Deadline: 5/17/2021

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.30(2) - The center director and classroom staff will ensure that no items are attached to a crib with a sleeping infant,
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Correction Deadline: 5/6/2021

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.30(4) - The center director and classroom staff will ensure that cots and mats are cover entirely when stored in the classroom setting and accessible to the children.
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Correction Deadline: 5/6/2021

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Staff Records

Staff # 1	Not Met
Date of Hire: 05/20/2002	
<u>"Missing/Incomplete Components"</u>	
.33(5)-10 Hrs. Annual Training	
Staff # 2	Not Met
Date of Hire: 11/04/2003	
<u>"Missing/Incomplete Components"</u>	
.33(5)-10 Hrs. Annual Training	
Staff # 3	Not Met
Date of Hire: 01/16/2006	
<u>"Missing/Incomplete Components"</u>	
.33(5)-10 Hrs. Annual Training	
Staff # 4	Not Met
Date of Hire: 08/24/2020	
<u>"Missing/Incomplete Components"</u>	
.33(4)-Food Prep Training Missing 4 hrs.,.33(3)-Health & Safety Certificate,.33(5)-10 Hrs. Annual Training	
Staff # 5	Not Met
Date of Hire: 07/13/2014	
<u>"Missing/Incomplete Components"</u>	
.33(5)-10 Hrs. Annual Training,.14(2)-CPR missing,.14(2)-First Aid Missing	
Staff # 6	Not Met
Date of Hire: 04/15/2021	
<u>Reminder - Health & Safety training is required within 90 calendar days of hired</u>	
<u>"Missing/Incomplete Components"</u>	
.09-Criminal Records Check Missing	

Staff Credentials Reviewed: 5

591-1-1-.09 Criminal Records and Comprehensive Background Checks(CR) Not Met

Finding

591-1-1-.09(1)(c) requires the Center to ensure that every Employee has a valid and current satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination on file prior to being present at the Center while any child is present for care or before an individual age 17 or older resides in the Center. The Comprehensive Records Check Determination must have a Records Check Clearance Date that is no older than the preceding 12 months of the hire date; provided, however, if the Employee has had a lapse of employment from the child care industry that lasted for 180 days (6 months) or longer, a new satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination is required. It was determined based on review of staff files and Koala Outback that the owner of the center submitted an application to be fingerprinted however has not been printed and has no satisfactory comprehensive fingerprint criminal records clearance letter on file as required. The consultant observed the owner to come to the center three times during the consultant's visit.

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Correction Deadline: 5/6/2021

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

Not Met

Finding

591-1-1-.14(1) requires the Center Director and, at any given time, at least fifty percent (50%) of the caregiver Staff to successfully complete a biennial training program in cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and a triennial training program in first aid. The first aid training must be done by certified or licensed health care professionals or trainers and must deal with the provision of emergency care to infants and children. The Center shall maintain current evidence of the successful completion of such training which shall be available to the Department for inspection. It was determined based on review of staff files that one of six staff members CPR and First Aid expired March of 2020.

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Correction Deadline: 5/17/2021

Recited on 5/6/2021

591-1-1-.24 Personnel Records

Met

Correction Deadline: 12/26/2020

Corrected on 5/6/2021

.24(1) - The previous citation was observed to be corrected.

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 orientation training within the first 90 days of employment. The state-approved training hours obtained will count toward required first year training hours. The training must address the following health and safety topics: prevention and control of infectious diseases (including immunizations); prevention of sudden infant death syndrome and use of safe sleeping practices; administration of medication, consistent with standards for parental consent; prevention of and response to emergencies due to food and allergic reactions; building and physical premises safety, including identification of and protection from hazards that can cause bodily injury such as electrical hazards, bodies of water, and vehicular traffic; prevention of shaken baby syndrome, abusive head trauma and child maltreatment; emergency preparedness and response planning for emergencies resulting from a natural disaster or a human-caused event (such as violence at a child care facility); handling and storage of hazardous materials and the appropriate disposal of bio contaminants; precautions in transporting children; recognition and reporting of child abuse and neglect; and child development. It was determined based on review of staff files that one staff member hired August 24, 2020 has been employed more than 90 days and has not completed Health and Safety and Orientation Training as required.

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Correction Deadline: 5/17/2021

Recited on 5/6/2021

Finding

591-1-1-.33(4) requires within the first year of employment, the Director and person with primary responsibility for food preparation shall have four clock hours of training in food nutrition planning, preparation, serving, proper dish washing and food storage. It was determined based on review of staff files that one staff member hired August 24, 2020 and serves as the cook has not completed the required food nutrition planning, preparation, serving, proper dish washing and food storage as required.

Correction Deadline: 5/17/2021

Recited on 5/6/2021

Finding

91-1-1-.33(5) requires that every calendar year after the first year of employment, all supervisory and caregiver Personnel, except independent contractors, Students-in-Training and volunteers shall attend ten (10) clock hours of diverse training which is task-focused in on-going health, safety and early childhood or child development related topics and which is offered by an accredited college, university or vocational program or other Department-approved source. The annual ten (10) clock hours of training shall be chosen from the following fields: child development, including discipline, guidance, nutrition, injury control and safety; health, including sanitation, disease control, cleanliness, detection and disposition of illness; child abuse and neglect, including identification and reporting, and meeting the needs of abused and/or neglected children; and business related topics, including parental communication, recordkeeping, etc.; provided however that such business related training shall be limited to no more than two (2) of the required ten (10) clock hours of training. Records of completion of such training shall be maintained, as required by these rules. It was determined based on review of all staff files that one staff member hired May 20 2002 did not have any annual training for 2020 where 10 hours are required, One staff member hired November 4, 2003 did not have any annual training for 2020 where 10 hours are required. One staff member hired January 16, 2006 did not have any annual training for 2020 where 10 hours are required. One staff member hired August 24, 2020 did not have any annual training for 2020 where ten hours are required. One staff member hired July 13, 2014 did not have any training hours for 2020 where 10 hours are required.

Correction Deadline: 5/17/2021

Recited on 5/6/2021

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

Met

Correction Deadline: 12/22/2020

Corrected on 5/6/2021

.31(13) - The previous citation was observed to be corrected. The consultant left a copy of the current Executive Order effective 05-01-2021 with the center director.

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.