



**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:** 8/10/2022 **VisitType:** Monitoring Visit

**Arrival:** 1:15 PM

**Departure:** 5:45 PM

**CCLC-52682**

**Bright Beginnings Academy Childcare Center LLC**

1850 Timothy Road Athens, GA 30606 Clarke County  
 (706) 850-9141 brightbeginningsacademy1850@gmail.com

**Regional Consultant**

Dianne Clarke

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Fax: (770) 357-4922

dianne.clarke@decal.ga.gov

**Mailing Address**

Same

**Quality Rated:** ★

<b>Compliance Zone Designation</b>			<b>Compliance Zone Designation</b> - 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.  <b>Good Standing</b> - Program is demonstrating an acceptable level of performance in meeting the rules. <b>Support</b> - Program performance is demonstrating a need for improvement in meeting rules. <b>Deficient</b> - Program is not demonstrating an acceptable level of performance in meeting the rules.
08/10/2022	Complaint Investigation & Monitoring Visit	Support	
11/05/2021	Complaint Closure	Good Standing	
11/01/2021	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	

**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 A	Room A- Preschool	Two Year Olds	2	22	C	18	NC	NA	NA	Nap				
Building A	Room B- 4yrs-5yrs	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	1	14	C	20	C	NA	NA	Transitioning, Nap				
Building A	Room C- 6wks-18mths	Infants	1	5	C	19	C	NA	NA	Free Play				
Building A	Room D- 18mth-24mth	One Year Olds	1	8	C	17	C	NA	NA	Nap				
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.:			74			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.:			0					
Building B	Rm. A- AS		0	0	C	15	C	NA	NA					
Building B	Rm. B- AS		0	0	C	23	C	NA	NA					
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.:			38			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.:			0					
Building C	1L		0	0	C	28	C	NA	NA					
Building C	1R		0	0	C	16	C	NA	NA					
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.:			44			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.:			0					
Total # Children this Date: 49			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.:			156			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.:			0		

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Building A	Playground A	58	C
Building B	Playground School age	125	C

**Comments**

This was a complaint investigation and monitoring visit.

On this date, consultant followed up to previous visit and conducted an on-site monitoring visit. An admin review was completed, and a signature was obtained on the administrative review letter.

Reminders: Refer to the published communicable disease chart for guidance regarding communicable diseases. In most scenarios, only outbreaks/clusters should be reported to the local health districts.

Please be sure to contact the Clarke County Department of Health, if there are outbreaks/clusters of positive COVID-19 cases immediately, and get their guidance. Please be sure to also complete a Required Report in DECAL KOALA for all individual cases of communicable diseases within 24 hours. Be sure to select "Notifiable Communicable Diseases" to report closures for COVID cases.

Please be sure to enter all temporary closures in DECAL KOALA under the Required Report tab whenever your facility is closed temporarily for one day or more.

Incident Reports are to be submitted via DECAL KOALA with all signed staff statements for staff and the director.

All amendments are required to be electronically entered in DECAL KOALA effective August 2, 2021.

Please be sure to hide staff who are no longer employed in your DECAL KOALA account. Please reach out for help with this, if needed.

For centers conducting transportation, please remember that the transportation training certificates must be renewed every two years for everyone participating in transportation including the director.

Provided updated staff orientation checklist.

Plan of Improvement: Developed 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



**Important Quality Rated/CAPS Update:**

As January 1, 2022, child care providers must be Quality Rated to receive Childcare and Parent Services (CAPS). Newly licensed, or new to CAPS providers may be eligible for the new CAPS/QR Provisional Status, allowing for scholarships while working toward a star rating.

**Contact the Quality Rated help desk at 855-800-7747 or [qualityrated@dec.al.ga.gov](mailto:qualityrated@dec.al.ga.gov) for more information. Free technical assistance is available!**

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), do the following:

- 1) Log into DECAL KOALA [www.decalkoala.com](http://www.decalkoala.com) with the userid for your program
- 2) On the home page scroll down to the Inspection Reports and select 'Refute Citation' for the visit report in dispute
- 3) Select the specific rule number(s) that you are refuting, add the reason for disagreement regarding the rule citation, and upload supporting documentation
- 4) Submit the refutation in DECAL KOALA to Child Care Services (CCS) within 10 business days of the completion date.

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)

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Heather Brewer, Program Official

Date

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Dianne Clarke, Consultant

Date



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**Findings Report**

**Date:** 8/10/2022 **VisitType:** Monitoring Visit **Arrival:** 1:15 PM **Departure:** 5:45 PM

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The following information is associated with a Monitoring 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)** **Met**

**Comment**

Center does not provide swimming activities.

**Facility**

**591-1-1-.19 License Capacity(CR)** **Not Met**

**Finding**

591-1-1-.19(1) requires a Center to provide 35 square feet of usable space per child, which will determine the Center's License capacity. It was determined based on observation that the following classrooms did not follow the 35 square feet of usable space:

-Building A Room A-Preschool: There were 22 children in a space licensed for 18.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center will limit the number of children in this space to the licensed capacity.

**Correction Deadline: 8/10/2022**

**Recited on 8/10/2022**

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

**Correction Deadline: 5/11/2022**

**Corrected on 8/10/2022**

**.25(8) - The previous citation was observed to be corrected in that the outlets were observed to be covered. Please ensure that outlets are covered at all times.**

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

Met

Correction Deadline: 5/11/2022

Corrected on 8/10/2022

.26(9) - The previous citation was observed to be corrected in that the grill was observed to be removed. Please ensure that there are no hazards accessible on the playground. Please ensure that any branches from storms are removed.

**Health and Hygiene**

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**

Proper hand washing observed throughout the center.

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**

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: 14**

**Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 4**

Staff # 1 Met

Date of Hire: 03/07/2022

Staff # 2 Met

Date of Hire: 07/01/2020

Staff # 3 Met

Staff # 4 Met

Date of Hire: 02/01/2021

**Records Reviewed: 14****Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 4**

Staff # 5 Date of Hire: 11/17/2020	Met
Staff # 6 Date of Hire: 02/01/2021	Met
Staff # 7 Date of Hire: 07/07/2021	Met
Staff # 8 Date of Hire: 07/30/2009	Met
Staff # 9 Date of Hire: 03/07/2022	Met
Staff # 10 <u>"Missing/Incomplete Components"</u> .09-Criminal Records Check Missing	Not Met
Staff # 11 <u>"Missing/Incomplete Components"</u> .09-Criminal Records Check Missing	Not Met
Staff # 12 Date of Hire: 02/16/2022 <u>"Missing/Incomplete Components"</u> .14(2)-CPR missing,.14(2)-First Aid Missing	Not Met
Staff # 13 Date of Hire: 06/01/2022	Met
Staff # 14 Date of Hire: 07/01/2022 <u>"Missing/Incomplete Components"</u> .09-Criminal Records Check Missing	Not Met

**Staff Credentials Reviewed: 3**


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<b>591-1-1-.09 Criminal Records and Comprehensive Background Checks(CR)</b>	<b>Not Met</b>
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**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 a review of records that staff #10 did not have evidence of being electronically ported before being present at the facility.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

IMMEDIATE CORRECTION - The Center will be sure to complete portability request for all staff prior to them being present at the center to 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 review the CRC modules regarding criminal records to ensure CRC rules are maintained. The staff was observed to be ported on August 10, 2022.

**Correction Deadline: 8/10/2022**

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**591-1-1-.14 First Aid & CPR****Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.14(2) requires a Staff member who is trained in CPR and first aid to be on the premises and on any field trip whenever any child is present. In addition, Staff who provide direct care to children must satisfactorily obtain certification in first aid and CPR by December 29, 2016 if employed prior to September 30, 2016 and within 90 days of their hire date if employed after September 30, 2016. It was determined based on a review of records that staff #12 whose start date is listed as February 16, 2022, did not have evidence uploaded or submitted to the consultant of current CPR and First Aid.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center will develop a schedule to ensure there is always a staff person with current first aid and CPR training present and will develop and implement a plan to ensure all staff members have satisfactorily completed first aid and CPR training by the specified date.

**Correction Deadline: 10/6/2022**

**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 observation that vehicle tag number RJM 4750 used for transportation, had items missing from the first aid kit. The kit was missing a thermometer, scissors, triangular bandage, antibiotic ointment, first aid manual and face mask.

**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: 9/6/2022**

**Recited on 8/10/2022**

**Comment**

Staff observed to be compliant with applicable laws and regulations.

<b>Staffing and Supervision</b>
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**Finding**

591-1-1-.32(1) requires the Center to maintain the required Staff:child ratios as follows: under 1 year or under 18 months if not walking = 1:6; 1 year and walking = 1:8; 2 years = 1:10; 3 years = 1:15; 4 years = 1:18; 5 years = 1:20; and 6 years and older = 1:25. A Center must establish groupings of children for care with maximum group sizes as follows: under 1 year = 12; under 18 months/not walking = 12; 1 year and walking = 16; 2 years = 20; 3 years = 30; 4 years = 36; 5 years = 40; and 6 years and older = 50. It was determined based on observation that in Building A Room A- Preschool there was a ratio of 1:22 where 3:22 was needed. There were 22 two-year-olds present.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center will hire additional Staff or reschedule current Staff to meet required Staff:child ratios and will organize children into groups that meet requirements.

**Correction Deadline: 8/10/2022**

**Recited on 8/10/2022**

**Comment**

Adequate supervision observed on this date. Discussed new revision to the supervision rule which states: Staff shall be attentive and participating with all children during mealtimes and shall be seated within an arm's length away from children thirty-six (36) months of age and younger.