



**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:** 5/11/2022 **VisitType:** Licensing Study

**Arrival:** 12:40 PM

**Departure:** 2:20 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

Phone: (770) 357-4923

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.
05/11/2022	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
11/05/2021	Complaint Closure	Good Standing	
11/01/2021	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	

  

<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.

**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	1	19	NC	18	NC	NA	NA	Nap
Building A	Room B- 4yrs-5yrs	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	1	22	NC	20	NC	NA	NA	Nap
Building A	Room C- 6wks-18mths	Infants and One Year Olds	1	9	C	19	C	NA	NA	Free Play,Nap
Building A	Room D- 18mth-24mth	Two Year Olds	2	10	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					
Total # Children this Date: 60			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 112			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**

On this date, consultant followed up to previous visit and conducted an on-site Licensing study. Consultant requested provider submit required documents for the Administrative Review process.

Reminders: Please be sure to contact the Clarke County Department of Health if there are positive COVID-19 cases immediately and get their guidance. Please also complete a Required Report in DECAL KOALA for all 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 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.

As of August 2, 2021, all amendments are required to be entered in DECAL KOALA.

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.

If your center conducts transportation, please remember that the transportation training certificates must be renewed every two years for everyone participating in transportation including the director.

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.decal.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@decal.ga.gov](mailto:qualityrated@decal.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:** 5/11/2022 **VisitType:** Licensing Study

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The following information is associated with a 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.

**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: 1**

Child # 1	Met
Child # 2	Met
Child # 3	Not Met
<u>"Missing/Incomplete Components"</u>	
.08(1)-Parent Names, Work Numbers	
Child # 4	Met
Child # 5	Met

**Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.08(1) - Please ensure that families are recording their complete work address and ensuring all information is complete on their enrollment forms.

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

<b>Facility</b>
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**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 19 children in a space licensed for 18
- Building A Room B- 4 yrs-5yrs: There were 22 children in a space licensed for 20

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

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

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

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**591-1-1-.25 Physical Plant - Safe Environment(CR)****Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.25(8) requires protective caps on all unused electrical outlets within children's reach and requires that electrical outlets in use be made inaccessible to children. It was determined based on observation that Building B Rm A-AS had 3 outlets uncovered and Building B Rm B-AS had one outlet uncovered.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center will train Staff to check outlets and replace protective caps when needed and identify and monitor how outlets in use are inaccessible to children. The provider covered the outlet during the visit.

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

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**591-1-1-.26 Playgrounds(CR)****Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.26(9) requires the playground to be kept clean, free from litter and free of hazards, such as but not limited to rocks, exposed tree roots and exposed sharp edges of concrete. It was determined based on observation that a red grill was observed accessible on the Building B playground.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center will remove any litter and fix or remove hazards from the playground and will routinely monitor the playground and remove litter and hazards.

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

<b>Health and Hygiene</b>
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**591-1-1-.10 Diapering Areas & Practices(CR)****Met****Comment**

Staff state proper knowledge of diapering procedures.

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

Staff stated proper knowledge of when hand washing occurs throughout the day.

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

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

**Safety**

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

Staff stated that warnings are given to children to discipline.

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**591-1-1-.36 Transportation(CR)****Met****Correction Deadline: 11/1/2021****Corrected on 5/11/2022****.36(4)(c) - The previous citation was observed to be corrected in that the vehicle used for transportation RJM 4750 has a fire extinguisher. Please ensure that all vehicles used for transportation has a working fire extinguisher.****Correction Deadline: 11/2/2021****Corrected on 5/11/2022****.36(7)(c)3. - The previous citation was observed to be corrected in that the transportation forms for the week of May 2 and May 9, 2022 were observed to be completed with the load, unload and return times. Please ensure that the vehicle checklists are completed for each trip with the information required.****Sleeping & Resting Equipment**

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**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: 03/07/2022	
Staff # 2	Met
Date of Hire: 07/01/2020	
Staff # 3	Met
Date of Hire: 02/01/2021	
Staff # 4	Met
Date of Hire: 11/17/2020	
Staff # 5	Met
Date of Hire: 07/01/2020	
Staff # 6	Met
Date of Hire: 02/01/2021	

**Records Reviewed: 9**

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

Staff # 7 Met  
Date of Hire: 01/06/2021

Staff # 8 Met  
Date of Hire: 07/07/2021

Staff # 9 Met  
Date of Hire: 07/30/2009

**Staff Credentials Reviewed: 3**

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

**Comment**

Criminal record checks were observed to be complete.  
-Please ensure that applicants/staff are listing exact dates (including month/day/year) on 10 year work history form in order to determine any breaks in service from the child care industry.  
-Please ensure that records checks are redone if there is a six-month break in service.  
-Please also ensure that satisfactory records checks are updated before the expiration date.  
-Ensure that all therapists and other independent contractors have an updated records check on file, before being present at the center.  
-Please ensure that staff with a national background check is always present with a staff who has a comprehensive background check. Staff should never be by themselves.

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

**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, tweezers, antibiotic ointment, 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: 5/11/2022**

**Recited on 5/11/2022**

**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) Not Met**

**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 in Building A Room A- Preschool there was a ratio of 1:19 where 2:19 was needed. There were 19 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: 5/11/2022**

**Finding**

591-1-1-.32(2) requires the Center maintain Staff:child ratios in mixed-age groups based on the age of the youngest group of children that includes more than twenty percent of the total number of children in the mixed-age group. It was determined based on observation that there was a mixed ratio of 1:9 where a ratio of 2:9 was needed in the Building A Room-C 6 wks-18 months classroom. Staff exited the classroom for several minutes with a one-year-old child, leaving one teacher in the classroom with eight infants.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center will provide adequate staff when there is a mixed-age group.

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

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

**Met**

**Comment**

Adequate supervision observed on this date.