



**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:** 9/29/2022    **VisitType:** Complaint Investigation & Licensing Study    **Arrival:** 9:30 AM    **Departure:** 12:45 PM

**CCLC-35740**

**The Learning Center**

1518 Huie Road Lake City, GA 30260 Clayton County  
(770) 960-1999 travis.barnes@att.net

**Regional Consultant**

Shannon Curtis

Phone: (770) 342-7802

Fax: (678) 891-5904

shannon.curtis@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.
09/29/2022	Complaint Closure	Good Standing	
09/29/2022	Complaint Investigation & Licensing Study	Good Standing	
06/09/2022	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
Main	Rm. A- Infants	Infants	2	7	C	19	C	NA	NA	Floor Play,Nap
Main	Rm. B- Afterschool		0	0	C	18	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Main	Rm. C: 18mth - 2yrs	Two Year Olds	1	7	C	19	C	NA	NA	Free Play
Main	Rm. D	Three Year Olds	1	7	C	20	C	NA	NA	Centers
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 76						Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0				
Total # Children this Date: 21						Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0				

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	A- Infants - 1yrs	6	C
Main	B-2 TO 3yrs	54	C

**Comments**

The purpose of this visit was to conduct a Complaint Investigation/Licensing Study visit and to follow-up to the previous visit conducted on June 9, 2022.

Consultant provided a No-Smoking sign and updated Infant Feeding Plan Form on this date.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 09/29/2022

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

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)



#### 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 1 855-800-7747 or [qualityrated@dec.al.ga.gov](mailto:qualityrated@dec.al.ga.gov) for more information. Free technical assistance is available!**

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Tabitha Johnson, Program Official

Date

Shannon Curtis, Consultant

Date



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**(Findings Report)**

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The following information is associated with a Licensing Study Visit:

**Activities and Equipment**

**591-1-1-.03 Activities**

**Not Met**

**Finding**

591-1-1-.03(2) requires the Center to keep current lesson plans on site that reflect appropriate instruction practices and activities to support children's development The Center shall have sufficient and varied play and learning equipment and materials to support the above program of activities in all developmental areas. It was determined based o observations that current lesson plans were not posted and available in classrooms C and D on this date.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center will keep current lesson plans on site that include appropriate instruction practices and activities and will have sufficient and varied play and learning equipment and materials to support the activities.

**Correction Deadline: 9/29/2022**

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

**Met**

**Comment**

Discussed rotating toys to support the procedures of daily disinfecting.

**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)**

**Met**

**Comment**

Licensed capacity observed to be routinely met by center.

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

Please secure cleaning tools (i.e., broom, plunger) out of reach of children.

**Correction Deadline: 6/9/2022****Corrected on 9/29/2022****Previous citation corrected. Consultant observed all hazardous equipment, materials and supplies inaccessible to children in care on this date.**

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

Consultant discussed maintenance of resilient surface. Please fluff and redistribute as required.

**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 observations that two wooden logs were observed broken and laying on the ground near the tire swing on this date.

**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: 9/29/2022**

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**Food Service**

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**591-1-1-.15 Food Service & Nutrition****Technical Assistance****Technical Assistance**

Consultant discussed with Staff to please ensure that infant feeding forms are updated regularly on this date.

**Technical Assistance**

Consultant discussed with the staff to please ensure that bottles are covered and fully labeled with child's full name on this date.

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

Please monitor and replace light bulb in the refrigerator as needed.

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**Health and Hygiene**

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

Staff state proper knowledge of diapering procedures.

**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 observations the diaper changing mat in the Infant classroom is not smooth with a visible tear with exposed foam on this date.

**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: 9/29/2022**

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**591-1-1-.17 Hygiene(CR)****Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-17(7) requires that children wash their hands 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 and after contamination by any other means. It was determined based on observations that children arrived to the child care facility and taken to their designated classrooms and observed not to wash their hands upon arrival on this date.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center will train Staff on required handwashing for children and Staff will ensure children's hands are washed when required. The Director will monitor for compliance.

**Correction Deadline: 9/29/2022**

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

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

<b>Policies and Procedures</b>
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**591-1-1-.21 Operational Policies & Procedures****Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.21(3) requires that the Center conduct drills for fire, tornado and other emergency situations. The fire drills will be conducted monthly and tornado and other emergency situation drills will be conducted every six months. The Center shall maintain documentation of the dates and times of these drills for two years. It was determined based on review of documents that monthly fire drills have not been conducted and documented since May 17, 2022 on this date.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center will hold the drills as required and keep the documentation of the drills on file for two years.

**Correction Deadline: 9/30/2022**

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**591-1-1-.27 Posted Notices****Met****Comment**

Please make sure that all required signs are posted and up to date.

<b>Safety</b>
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**591-1-1-.05 Animals****Met****Comment**

Center does not keep animals on premises.

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

Age-appropriate discussion and/or redirection observed.

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

Center does not participate in field trips at this time.

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

A current/completed inspection was observed for all vehicles used in transporting children this date as of January 8, 2022.

**Comment**

Paperwork, checklist, permission forms, annual inspection form and proper check of the vehicle after transportation were discussed with the director.

**Comment**

The vehicle was checked for compliance. Proper restraints were observed and discussed with the director.

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**Sleeping & Resting Equipment**

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

Discussed SIDS and infant sleeping position.

**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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**Staff Records**

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

Consultant requested to view all Criminal Record checks for employees hired after last visit. Director stated that there have been no new hires since last visit

**Comment**

Criminal record checks were observed to be complete.

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**591-1-1-.14 First Aid & CPR****Met****Comment**

Evidence observed of 50% of center staff certified in First Aid and CPR.

**Comment**

Please replace/add missing/expired items in first aid kits for facility and transportation vehicles.

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**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 records that four staff members did not have evidence of Health and Safety Orientation Training as required during the first 90 days of employment.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center will develop and implement a plan to schedule and track this training for all employees based on their hire dates and will ensure that the training includes all required components as required.

**Correction Deadline: 10/29/2022**

**Comment**

Discussed: Health and Safety Training is required for each staff member with direct care responsibilities within 90 calendar days of their hire date.

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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.

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**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.

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

**Met**

**Comment**

Adequate supervision observed on this date.