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: 3/25/2022 **VisitType:** Licensing Study **Arrival:** 10:15 AM **Departure:** 12:15 PM

CCLC-39883

Small Smiles Learning & Childcare Center

1169 Third Street Folkston, GA 31537 Charlton County
(912) 496-3654 kristiesmith30@yahoo.com

Regional Consultant

Jerica Davis

Phone: (478) 314-9452
Fax: (478) 314-9443
jerica.davis@decal.ga.gov

Mailing Address
Same

Quality Rated:

Compliance Zone Designation		
03/25/2022	Licensing Study	Support
11/18/2021	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing
02/10/2021	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	Infants and One Year Olds	1	6	C	8	C	NA	NA	Diapering,Nap,Floor Play
Main	B	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	1	8	C	8	C	11	C	Circle Time,Transitioning,Story
Main	C	Two Year Olds and Three Year Olds	1	8	C	9	C	NA	NA	Transitioning,Circle Time
		Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 25			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 28					
Total # Children this Date: 22		Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 25			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 28					

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	Playground A	39	C

Comments
An in-person Licensing Study was conducted on March 25, 2022. Information for the Virtual Administrative Review was left with the director. All Administrative Review documents must be uploaded to DECAL KOALA by April 1, 2022.

An administrative Review was completed on April 5, 2022. The visit report was completed and emailed to the director on this date.

Plan of Improvement: To Be Submitted 03/25/2022

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.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

QUALITY RATED CHILD CARE

CAPS

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 a1 855-800-7747 or qualityrated@decal.ga.gov for more information. Free techincal 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.

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 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.'

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)

Kristie Blake, Program Official Date

Jerica Davis, Consultant Date

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

Findings Report

Date: 3/25/2022 **VisitType:** Licensing Study **Arrival:** 10:15 AM **Departure:** 12:15 PM

CCLC-39883

Small Smiles Learning & Childcare Center

1169 Third Street Folkston, GA 31537 Charlton County
(912) 496-3654 kristiesmith30@yahoo.com

Mailing Address
Same

Regional Consultant

Jerica Davis

Phone: (478) 314-9452
Fax: (478) 314-9443
jerica.davis@decal.ga.gov

The following information is associated with a Licensing Study:

Activities and Equipment

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

Correction Deadline: 11/18/2021

Corrected on 3/25/2022
.12(2) - This citation was observed to be corrected on this date. The soiled doll appeared to have been removed.

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: 2**

Child # 1 Met

Child # 2 Not Met
"Missing/Incomplete Components"
.08(1)-Allergies and Disabilities

Child # 3 Met

Child # 4 Not Met
"Missing/Incomplete Components"
.08(1)-Allergies and Disabilities

Child # 5 Met

591-1-1-.08 Children's Records **Not Met**

Finding
591-1-1-.08(1) requires the Center Staff to maintain a file for each child while such child is in care and for one year after that child is no longer enrolled. In order for the file to be complete, the file shall contain the following: child's name, birth date, sex, address, living arrangement, name of school if applicable; names of both Parents, home and work addresses, and home and work telephone numbers; name(s) and addresses of the person(s) to whom the child may be released including address, telephone numbers, relationship to child and to Parent(s), and other identifying information; name(s) and telephone number(s) of person(s) to contact in emergencies when the Parent cannot be reached; name and telephone number of the child's primary source of health care; and a statement regarding known allergies, physical problems, mental health disorders, mental retardation or developmental disabilities which limit the child's participation in the program. It was determined based on a review of records that two child files were missing information concerning special needs and special accommodations. Additionally, one child file was missing information as to whether the child is taking any medications.

Correction Deadline: 3/25/2022

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) **Not Met**

Finding
591-1-1-.25(12) requires heating and cooling equipment to be protected to prevent children from touching it. Fans, space heaters, etc. shall be positioned or installed so as to be inaccessible to the children. It was determined based on observation that a space heater was in use on the hand washing sink in classroom A and was not positioned or installed so as to be inaccessible to the children in care.

Correction Deadline: 3/25/2022

Finding
591-1-1-.25(13) requires that potentially hazardous equipment, materials and supplies be stored in a locked area inaccessible to children. It was determined based on observation that the following hazards were observed:
-In classroom B, a white plastic bag was observed hanging in the cubby shelf accessible to the children in care.
-In the bathroom of classroom C, a bottle of toilet bowl cleaner, a yellow plastic bag, and two toilet brushes were observed to be stored in an unlocked cabinet under the sink accessible to children in care.
-In classroom C, several yellow plastic bags and several bags containing diapers were observed to be stored in the bottom portion of the changing table that were accessible to the children in care.
-In classroom C, a white plastic bag was observed hanging in the cubby shelf accessible to the children in care.

Correction Deadline: 3/25/2022

Recited on 3/25/2022

Finding
591-1-1-.25(3) requires 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. It was determined based on observation that in classroom B, green peeling paint was observed near the entry door on the left side of the wall, above the cash register, and in the back left corner of the room accessible to the children.

Correction Deadline: 4/1/2022

Recited on 3/25/2022

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 a laptop was stored on a cubby shelf in classroom C and had the cords hanging accessible to the children in care posing a potential strangulation hazard.

Correction Deadline: 3/25/2022

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 following equipment hazards were observed:
-Two small red tricycles were missing the handle grips.
-Three red tricycles were missing one or both pedals.
-Four red tricycles had cracked plastic and holes in the top of the seats.
-A pink walker was observed to have torn fabric in the seat that posed a potential hazard.
-The laminate on the wooden play stove was peeling away posing a potential hazard.

Correction Deadline: 3/25/2022

Recited on 3/25/2022

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 that the resilient surfacing at the base of all three slides and at the base of the ladder measured three inches of resilient surfacing where six inches is required.

Correction Deadline: 4/8/2022

Recited on 3/25/2022

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 large ant hill measuring approximately three feet long was observed along the fence line in the front left corner of the playground.

Correction Deadline: 3/25/2022

Food Service

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

Technical Assistance
Please ensure that food be served according to manufacturer's instructions and recommendations. Foods that are associated with young children's choking incidents, such as, but not limited to, peanuts, hot dogs, raw carrots, popcorn, fish with bones, cheese cubes, grapes and any other food that is of similar shape and size of the trachea/windpipe shall not be served to the children less than four (4) years of age. Children older than four (4) years of age may be served these foods provided that the foods are cut in such a way as to minimize choking. Food shall not be accessible or served to children until it has been chopped, diced, cut or mashed and is appropriate for each child's age and individual eating, chewing and swallowing ability.

Correction Deadline: 3/25/2022

591-1-1-.18 Kitchen Operations **Not Met**

Finding
591-1-1-.18(7) requires each Center to have a designated space for storage of food and kitchen items and that the area be kept clean and free of accumulation of dust, dirt, food particles and grease deposits. It was determined based on observation that the kitchen floor, kitchen cabinets, and refrigerator appeared to be very soiled and was not kept clean and free of accumulation of dust, dirt, food particles, and grease deposits as required.

Correction Deadline: 3/25/2022

Health and Hygiene

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

Comment
Proper diapering procedures observed.

Finding
591-1-1-.10(9) requires Center Staff to not use the area used for diapering for food preparation and to keep the diapering area clear of formulas, food, food utensils and food preparation items. It was determined based on observation that two bottles were stored on the hand washing sink used for diapering and were not kept separate as required.

Correction Deadline: 3/25/2022

Recited on 3/25/2022

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

Comment
Please ensure lids remain on trash containing organic waste.

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
Center does not provide routine transportation.

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

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.

Staff Records

Records Reviewed: 5 **Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 5**

Staff # 1 Not Met

Date of Hire: 06/01/2017

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(5)-10 Hrs. Annual Training

Staff # 2 Not Met

Date of Hire: 06/01/2017

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(5)-10 Hrs. Annual Training

Staff # 3 Not Met

Date of Hire: 01/08/2019

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(5)-10 Hrs. Annual Training,.31(2)(b)2.-Staff Qualifications-Education Missing

Staff # 4 Not Met

Date of Hire: 06/01/2017

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(5)-10 Hrs. Annual Training,.31(2)(b)2.-Staff Qualifications-Education Missing

Staff # 5 Not Met

Date of Hire: 07/15/2021

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.31(2)(b)2.-Staff Qualifications-Education Missing

Staff Credentials Reviewed: 2

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.

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

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

591-1-1-.33 Staff Training **Not Met**

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 a review of records that four staff members did not have evidence of completing ten annual training hours for the 2021 calendar year as required.

Correction Deadline: 1/1/2023

Recited on 3/25/2022

591-1-1-.31 Staff(CR) **Not Met**

Finding
591-1-1-.31(1)(a) requires the Center to have a Director who is responsible for the supervision, operation and maintenance of the Center. The Director must be on the Center's premises. If the Director is absent from the Center at any time during the hours of the Center's operation, there shall be an officially designated person on the Center site to assume responsibility for the operation of the Center, and this person shall have full access to all records required to be maintained under these rules. It was determined based on observation and staff statements that the director works full time at another position and is not at the center at least 80 percent of operating hours as required.

Correction Deadline: 4/8/2022

Recited on 3/25/2022

Finding
591-1-1-.31(2)(b)2. requires teachers and lead caregivers to meet minimum academic requirements and qualifying experience at the time of employment. It was determined based on a review of records that the lead caregivers in classrooms A, B, and C did not meet the minimum academic requirements as required.

Correction Deadline: 5/2/2022

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.