



**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:** 9/19/2023    **VisitType:** Monitoring Visit    **Arrival:** 8:45 AM    **Departure:** 11:35 AM

**CCLC-28747**

**"In His Arms" Educational Center**

7816 Hwy 80 East Savannah, GA 31410 Chatham County  
 (912) 897-6826 lipski@aol.com

**Regional Consultant**

Stacey Foston

Phone: (706) 806-0407

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stacey.foston@dec.al.ga.gov

**Mailing Address**

1511 Wathour Road  
 Savannah, GA 31410

**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.<br><br><b>Good Standing</b> - Program is demonstrating an acceptable level of performance in meeting the rules.<br><b>Support</b> - Program performance is demonstrating a need for improvement in meeting rules.<br><b>Deficient</b> - Program is not demonstrating an acceptable level of performance in meeting the rules. |
|------------------------------------|------------------|---------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 09/19/2023                         | Monitoring Visit | Good Standing |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| 03/29/2023                         | Licensing Study  | Good Standing |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| 08/31/2022                         | 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                            | PreK back      | GA PreK                            | 2     | 17       | C                               | 15         | NC           | 21         | C            | Story                               |
| Main                            | Pre-K front    | Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds | 1     | 7        | C                               | 21         | C            | 30         | C            | Circle Time                         |
| Main                            | RM 1:1st Left  | One Year Olds and Two Year Olds    | 1     | 8        | C                               | 15         | C            | NA         | NA           | Free Play, Transitioning            |
| Main                            | RM 2: 2nd Left | One Year Olds                      | 1     | 5        | C                               | 15         | C            | NA         | NA           | Transitioning                       |
| Main                            | RM 3           | Three Year Olds                    | 1     | 6        | C                               | 15         | C            | NA         | NA           | Circle Time                         |
| Main                            | RM 4: Infant   | Infants                            | 1     | 4        | C                               | 8          | C            | NA         | NA           | Feeding, Diapering, Nap, Floor Play |
| Main                            | Room 6         | Two Year Olds                      | 1     | 10       | C                               | 14         | C            | NA         | NA           | Circle Time                         |
| Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 103 |                |                                    |       |          | Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 118 |            |              |            |              |                                     |
| Total # Children this Date: 57  |                |                                    |       |          | Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 118 |            |              |            |              |                                     |

| Building | Playground   | Playground Occupancy | Playground Compliance |
|----------|--------------|----------------------|-----------------------|
| Main     | PGD 1-Right  | 97                   | C                     |
| Main     | PGD 2-Middle | 30                   | C                     |
| Main     | PGD 3-Left   | 133                  | C                     |

### Comments

A monitoring visit was completed on this date.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 09/19/2023

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.

#### 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.

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 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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Andrew Lipski, Program Official

Date

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Stacey Foston, Regional Consultant

Date



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(Findings Report)

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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) N/A

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.

591-1-1.25 Physical Plant - Safe Environment(CR) Not Met

Technical Assistance

591-1-1.25(11) - Discussed with the director about replacing several carpet squares that have curling edges in the right front and Pre-K classroom.

Correction Deadline: 10/19/2023

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 in the front right classroom a pair of adult scissors, three screws, and a staple remover were accessible on a low shelf under the television.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The items were removed during the visit. The Center will inform all Staff about hazardous items and the safe storage of those items.

Correction Deadline: 9/19/2023

**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 the front right classroom girl's bathroom a plate covering was missing and exposed wires were accessible in the wall.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

A new covering will be placed over the opening. The Center will implement a plan to keep areas clean and in good repair that includes regular monitoring.

**Correction Deadline: 9/19/2023**

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**591-1-1-.26 Playgrounds(CR)****Technical Assistance****Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.26(4) - Discussed with the director about securing the fence on the right side of the Pre-k classroom that is starting to lean.

**Correction Deadline: 9/19/2023**

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**Health and Hygiene**

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**591-1-1-.10 Diapering Areas & Practices(CR)****Met****Comment**

Proper diapering procedures observed.

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

Staff were observed to remind children to wash hands.

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

**Correction Deadline: 3/29/2023**

**Corrected on 9/19/2023**

.20(1) - The previous citation was observed to be corrected. The one medication form observed was observed to be complete.

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**Safety**

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

The Staff were observed to maintain a positive learning environment on this date.

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

The vehicle was clean and had proper restraints. Transportation checklist were complete.

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**Sleeping & Resting Equipment**

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

Please ensure that cribs are labeled for individual use.

**Comment**

The children mats and cribs were in good condition.

## Staff Records

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

**Met**

**Comment**

Criminal record checks were observed to be complete.

**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)**

**Met**

**Comment**

Center observed to maintain appropriate staff:child ratios.

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

**Met**

**Comment**

Adequate supervision observed on this date.