



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: 8/1/2024 **VisitType:** Complaint Investigation & Licensing Study **Arrival:** 10:00 AM **Departure:** 2:00 PM

CCLC-30199

First Step Learning Center

1060 Franklin Gateway Marietta, GA 30067 Cobb County
(678) 831-0669

Technical Assistance Unit Consultant

Evelyn McBurse

Phone: (770) 405-7958

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evelyn.mcburse@dec.al.ga.gov

Mailing Address

Same

Quality Rated: ★

Compliance Zone Designation			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.
08/01/2024	Complaint Closure	Good Standing	
08/01/2024	Complaint Investigation & Licensing Study	Good Standing	
05/17/2024	Complaint Closure	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	Room A - Infants - Right Side	Infants	1	4	C	17	C	NA	NA	Floor Play
Main	Room B - 1 & 2 yr olds - Left Side	One Year Olds	2	6	C	18	C	NA	NA	Floor Play
Main	Room C - 2 year - Middle Back	Two Year Olds	2	13	C	20	C	NA	NA	Free Play
Main	Room D - Pre-K Back Left	Three Year Olds	1	10	C	37	C	NA	NA	Free Play
Main	Room E - Front Right	GA PreK	2	13	C	37	C	NA	NA	Centers
Main	Room F - Front Left	GA PreK	2	11	C	37	C	NA	NA	Circle Time
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 166			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0							
Total # Children this Date: 57			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 166							
			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0							

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	Area B - Younger - Left Side	54	C
Main	Room A - Older - Right Side	115	C

Comments

The purpose of this visit was to conduct a licensing study.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 08/01/2024

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.decgal.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 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@decgal.ga.gov for more information. Free technical assistance is available!



Summary Report

Date: 8/1/2024 **VisitType:** Complaint Investigation & Licensing **Arrival:** 10:00 AM **Departure:** 2:00 PM
Study

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The following information is associated with a Licensing Study Visit:

Activities and Equipment

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

Technical Assistance

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.12(2) - Please ensure to repair or replace the two children's size black chairs that are faded and peeling located in Room B next to the door leading to the playground.

Correction Deadline: 8/1/2024

591-1-1-.35 Swimming Pools & Water-related Activities(CR)

Not Evaluated

Comment

Center does not provide swimming activities.

Children's Records

591-1-1-.08 Children's Records

Met

Comment

Records were observed to be complete and well organized.

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)

Technical Assistance

Comment

Please secure cleaning tools (broom, plunger, mops, and toilet bowl cleaners) out of reach of children.

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.25(3) - Please repair any ceiling tiles that present water spots in Classroom D and repair the one loose ceiling tile located in the bathroom of Classroom F.

Correction Deadline: 8/1/2024

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.25(3) - Please repair the light bulb in the bathroom located in Classroom E- Front Right.

Correction Deadline: 8/1/2024

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

Please remove the weeds that are growing on the top of the brown fence that is located on Playground A (right side).

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.26(9) - Please remove the tree limbs from the Playground A (right side) and remove or roll the red water hoses to keep out of reach of children.

Correction Deadline: 8/1/2024

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

Center menu meets USDA guidelines.

Comment

Please ensure that bottles are covered and fully labeled with child's full name.

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

Kitchen appears clean and well organized.

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

Staff stated proper knowledge of diapering procedures.

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

Staff were observed to remind children to wash hands.

591-1-1-.20 Medications(CR)**Not Evaluated****Comment**

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

Policies and Procedures**591-1-1-.21 Operational Policies & Procedures****Met****Comment**

Consultant observed complete emergency drills.

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

Observed all required posted notices.

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

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

591-1-1-.13 Field Trips(CR)**Not Evaluated****Comment**

Center does not participate in field trips at this time.

591-1-1-.36 Transportation(CR)**Not Evaluated****Comment**

Center does not provide routine transportation.

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

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 staff on this date.

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.30(1)(a)1 - Please monitor infant cribs' top railings to prevent any chipping.

Correction Deadline: 8/1/2024

Staff Records

Records Reviewed: 13

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 1

Staff # 2

Not Met

Date of Hire: 08/03/2018

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.09-Criminal Records Check Missing

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

Not Met

Comment

Director provided one file for employees hired since last visit on April 11, 2024.

Finding

591-1-1-.09(1)(c) requires the Center to ensure that every Employee has a valid and current satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination on file prior to being present at the Center while any child is present for care or before an individual age 17 or older resides in the Center. The Comprehensive Records Check Determination must have a Records Check Clearance Date that is no older than the preceding 12 months of the hire date; provided, however, if the Employee has had a lapse of employment from the child care industry that lasted for 180 days (6 months) or longer, a new satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination is required. It was determined based on review of documentation that staff member #2 was present with children and did not have a valid and current satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination on file on this date. A one-day letter was left on this date.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

IMMEDIATE CORRECTION - The Center will [] to ensure that every Employee has a valid and current satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination on file prior to being present at the Center while any child is present for care or before an individual age 17 or older resides in the Center. The Comprehensive Records Check Determination must have a Records Check Clearance Date that is no older than the preceding 12 months of the hire date; provided, however, if the Employee has had a lapse of employment from the child care industry that lasted for 180 days (6 months) or longer, a new satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination is required. 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 [] to ensure the CRC rules are maintained.

Correction Deadline: 8/1/2024

Finding

591-1-1-.09(1)(l)3. requires the Center to immediately require a new Comprehensive Records Check Determination for a Director, Employee or Provisional Employee at least once every five years. It was determined based on review of documentation that staff member #2 was present with children and had an expired Comprehensive Records Check Determination on file on this date. A one-day letter was left on this date.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

IMMEDIATE CORRECTION - The Center will [] to ensure that each Director, Employee and Provisional Employee has a Comprehensive Records Check Determination on file that has been issued within the past five years. 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 [] to ensure CRC rules are maintained.

Correction Deadline: 8/1/2024

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

Complete first aid kits observed in center and on vehicles.

Comment

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

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.

The following information is associated with a Complaint Investigation Visit:

Activities and Equipment**591-1-1-.03 Activities****Met**

Correction Deadline: 5/17/2024

Corrected on 8/1/2024

.03(9) - Correction of the previous citation in that center director stated that staff received training on preventing children from engaging in activities that could result in an injury.

Policies and Procedures**591-1-1-.29 Required Reporting****Met**

Correction Deadline: 5/17/2024

Corrected on 8/1/2024

.29(3) - Correction of the previous citation in that center director stated that the Department will be notified within the required 24 hours or the next work day of any child injury that requires professional medical attention.

Staffing and Supervision**591-1-1-.32 Supervision(CR)****Met**

Correction Deadline: 5/17/2024

Corrected on 8/1/2024

.32(7) - Correction of the previous citation in that consultant observed adequate supervision on this date. Center director stated staff has received training on supervision since the incident.