



**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:** 1/23/2024 **VisitType:** Licensing Study

**Arrival:** 9:00 AM

**Departure:** 12:45 PM

**CCLC-37238**

**Life Springs Academy**

10608 Highway 109 Zebulon, GA 30295 Pike County  
(770) 567-3921 afterschool@lifespringspike.org

**Regional Consultant**

Brandi Mangino

Phone: (478) 314-9726

Fax: (478) 599-0169

brandi.mangino@decal.ga.gov

**Mailing Address**  
Same

**Quality Rated:** No

| Compliance Zone Designation |                  |               | <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. |
|-----------------------------|------------------|---------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 01/23/2024                  | Licensing Study  | Good Standing |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| 09/07/2023                  | Monitoring Visit | Good Standing |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| 01/17/2023                  | 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                            | Gym        |                                    | 0     | 0        | C                               | 203        | C            | NA                                                         | NA           |             |
| Main                            | Rm. A      |                                    | 0     | 0        | C                               | 23         | C            | NA                                                         | NA           |             |
| Main                            | Room 3 A/B | Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds | 2     | 15       | C                               | 22         | C            | NA                                                         | NA           | Centers     |
| Main                            | Room 4     | Three Year Olds                    | 2     | 10       | C                               | 11         | C            | NA                                                         | NA           | Circle Time |
| Main                            | Room 5     | Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds | 1     | 7        | C                               | 11         | C            | NA                                                         | NA           | Circle Time |
| Main                            | Room 6     | Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds | 2     | 10       | C                               | 11         | C            | NA                                                         | NA           | Circle Time |
| Main                            | Room 7     |                                    | 0     | 0        | C                               | 11         | C            | NA                                                         | NA           |             |
| Main                            | Room 8     | Two Year Olds                      | 2     | 6        | C                               | 10         | C            | NA                                                         | NA           | Centers     |
| Main                            | Room 9     | Two Year Olds                      | 2     | 8        | C                               | 11         | C            | NA                                                         | NA           | Circle Time |
| Main                            | Room A     |                                    | 0     | 0        | C                               | 23         | C            | NA                                                         | NA           |             |
| Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 255 |            |                                    |       |          | Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0   |            |              | Building @35 capacity limited by Fire Marshall Limitations |              |             |
| Total # Children this Date: 56  |            |                                    |       |          | Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 255 |            |              | Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0                              |              |             |

| Building | Playground | Playground Occupancy | Playground Compliance |
|----------|------------|----------------------|-----------------------|
| Main     | Back Left  | 58                   | C                     |
| Main     | Back Small | 31                   | C                     |
| Main     | Playground | 915                  | C                     |

## Comments

Plan of improvement developed on this date.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 01/23/2024

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.dec.state.ga.us/CCS/RuleAndRegulations.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 user id 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.state.ga.us](mailto:qualityrated@dec.state.ga.us) for more information. Free technical assistance is available!**

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Hollie Brazas, Program Official

Date

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Brandi Mangino, Regional Consultant

Date



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(Findings Report)

Date: 1/23/2024 VisitType: Licensing Study Arrival: 9:00 AM Departure: 12:45 PM

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The following information is associated with a Licensing Study:

Activities and Equipment

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

Met

Correction Deadline: 9/7/2023

Corrected on 1/23/2024

.12(4) - Citation observed to be corrected.

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

Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.08(1)-Parent Names, Work Numbers

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

Technical Assistance

Technical Assistance

Please ensure that parents work information is listed on enrollment applications.

Correction Deadline: 1/23/2024

Facility

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**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)****Not Met****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 accessible to children in care:

Room 3:  
vacuum by the door  
scissors, pizza slicer, and baby wipes in an unlocked drawer  
Clorox wipes within reach on the counter  
staff bag in an unlocked black cabinet

Room 4:  
staff purse and baby wipes in an unlocked cabinet

Room :5  
Clorox wipes and disinfectant wipes in an unlocked cabinet

Room 6:  
staff bag within reach

Room 6/7 restroom:  
hand soap that read "keep out of reach of children"

Room 8:  
rubber gloves, baby wipes and plastic bags in an unlocked drawer

Room 9:  
staff bag  
batteries in an unlocked drawer

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center will identify all hazardous items and keep them in a locked area inaccessible to children. The Center will inform all Staff about hazardous items and the safe storage of those items.

**Correction Deadline: 1/23/2024****Recited on 1/23/2024**

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**591-1-1-.26 Playgrounds(CR)****Met****Comment**

Discussed maintenance of resilient surface. Please fluff and redistribute.

**Correction Deadline: 9/7/2023****Corrected on 1/23/2024****.26(4) - Citation corrected.****Correction Deadline: 9/17/2023****Corrected on 1/23/2024****i.26(8) -Citation corrected.****Correction Deadline: 9/8/2023****Corrected on 1/23/2024****.26(9) - Citation corrected.**

**591-1-1-.15 Food Service & Nutrition****Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.15(6)(d) requires that caregivers not use food to punish or reward children. It was determined based on observation that food was being used as a reward for children cleaning up the classroom.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The center will discontinue this use of food and will train staff accordingly.

**Correction Deadline: 1/23/2024**

**Health and Hygiene****591-1-1-.10 Diapering Areas & Practices(CR)****Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.10(6) requires cCenter sStaff to keep any items which might harm a child out of a child's reach. It was determined based on observation that in Room 8 rubber gloves and baby wipes were accessible to children in care on the diapering station. It was further determined that in Room 8 and Room 9 baby wipes were accessible on the diaper station.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center will remove any harmful item and provide instruction to staff. that includes identification and storage of hazardous items and procedures for keeping classrooms and other children's areas free of hazards.

**Correction Deadline: 1/23/2024**

**Recited on 1/23/2024**

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

591-1-1-.17(6) requires garbage and organic waste to be stored in containers that are lined with plastic liners and have tight-fitting covers. Trash and garbage shall be removed from the building daily or as often as necessary to maintain the premises in a clean condition. It was determined based on observation that trash cans in Room 3, Room 4 and Room 5 and Room 6 did not have trash can lids as required which had organic waste within.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center will provide the required containers and implement a plan to ensure that trash and garbage are taken out daily, or more often, if needed.

**Correction Deadline: 1/23/2024**

**591-1-1-.20 Medications(CR)****Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.20(1) requires Personnel to obtain specific written authorization from the child's physician or parent in order to dispense prescription or non-prescription medications, except for first aid. Such authorization will include when applicable, date; full name of the child; name of the medication; prescription number, if any; dosage; the dates to be given; the time of day to be dispensed; and signature of parent. It was determined based on a review of records that Ofloxacin was due to be given October 24, 2023 through October 26, 2023 and albuterol was due to be given "as needed" and no prescription numbers were listed.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center will train Staff to obtain and review parental authorizations to ensure the authorization contains complete information. The designated person(s) will monitor daily.

**Correction Deadline: 1/23/2024**

**Correction Deadline: 9/7/2023**

**Corrected on 1/23/2024**

**.20(4) - Citation observed to be corrected.**

## Policies and Procedures

### 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 a review of records that no tornado or lock down drill was conducted in December 2023 as required.

#### **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: 1/28/2024**

## Safety

### 591-1-1-.05 Animals

**Not Evaluated**

#### **Comment**

Center does not keep animals on premises.

### 591-1-1-.11 Discipline(CR)

**Met**

#### **Comment**

Age-appropriate discussion and/or redirection observed.

### 591-1-1-.13 Field Trips(CR)

**Met**

#### **Comment**

Field trip documentation observed to be complete.

### 591-1-1-.36 Transportation(CR)

**Technical Assistance**

**Correction Deadline: 9/8/2023**

**Corrected on 1/23/2024**

**.36(7)(c)3. - Citation corrected.**

#### **Technical Assistance**

Consultant discussed that daites are required to be listed daily at the bottom of the forms.

Consultant discussed that bus seats will need to be repaired or covered with a seat cover as tape is not longer accepted.

**Correction Deadline: 1/24/2024**

## Sleeping & Resting Equipment

### 591-1-1-.30 Safe Sleeping and Resting Requirements(CR)

**Met**

#### **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.

**Correction Deadline: 9/7/2023**

## 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**

Discussed that all lead staff must enroll in an approved education program within 6 months of hire and complete degree within 18 months.

## Staffing and Supervision

**591-1-1-.32 Staff:Child Ratios and Group Size(CR)** **Met**

**Comment**

Discussed combining children of mixed ages.

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

**Comment**

Adequate supervision observed on this date.