



**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:** 2/23/2024 **VisitType:** Licensing Study

**Arrival:** 1:15 PM

**Departure:** 3:45 PM

**CCLC-46802**

**Fun Steps Ahead**

4441 Covington Highway Decatur, GA 30035 DeKalb County  
(404) 254-1773 pearliesb@gmail.com

**Regional Consultant**

Cassandra Jakes-Beasley

Phone: (770) 357-7016

Fax: (770) 357-7015

cassandra.jakes-beasley@dec.al.ga.gov

**Mailing Address**  
Same

**Quality Rated:** ★ ★

| 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. |
|-----------------------------|-----------------|---------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 02/23/2024                  | Licensing Study | Good Standing |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| 02/08/2024                  | TA Follow Up    | Good Standing |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| 01/26/2024                  | TA Follow Up    | 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                           | 1L - Front - Room B - Preschool             | Two Year Olds                                         | 1                              | 6        | C                             | 6          | C            | NA         | NA           | Nap,Floor Play           |
| Main                           | 1R-Room A-Inf                               | Infants and One Year Olds                             | 1                              | 6        | C                             | 7          | C            | NA         | NA           | Nap,Floor Play,Diapering |
| Main                           | 2L - Front - Room C - Preschool             |                                                       | 0                              | 0        | C                             | 6          | C            | NA         | NA           | Not In Use               |
| Main                           | 3L - Front - Room D - Preschool             |                                                       | 0                              | 0        | C                             | 6          | C            | NA         | NA           | Not In Use               |
| Main                           | 4L - Rear - Room E - Preschool - School Age | Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds and Five Year Olds | 1                              | 12       | C                             | 25         | C            | NA         | NA           | Nap,Outside              |
| Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.:    |                                             |                                                       | 50                             |          | Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0 |            |              |            |              |                          |
| Total # Children this Date: 24 |                                             |                                                       | Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 50 |          | Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0 |            |              |            |              |                          |

| Building | Playground                          | Playground Occupancy | Playground Compliance |
|----------|-------------------------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|
| Main     | Playground - Preschool - School Age | 27                   | C                     |

### Comments

A Licensing Study was conducted on February 23, 2024. Backgrounds checks were reviewed. The Consultant completed the exit conference, and a copy of the visit report was given to the Director.

Plan of Improvement: No Plan Developed

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

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Pearlie Carter, Program Official

Date

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Cassandra Jakes-Beasley, Regional Consultant

Date



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(Findings Report)

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The following information is associated with a Licensing Study:

**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)

Met

**Comment**

Center does not provide swimming activities.

**Children's Records**

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

Met

Correction Deadline: 8/10/2023

**Corrected on 2/23/2024**

Previous citation corrected in that all children enrollment applications had the parent's complete work numbers and employers information.

**Evening Care**

591-1-1-.32 Staffing/Supervision(CR)

Met

**Comment**

No evening care hours provided

**Facility**

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|                              |            |
|------------------------------|------------|
| <b>591-1-1-.06 Bathrooms</b> | <b>Met</b> |
|------------------------------|------------|

**Comment**

Bathrooms observed to be clean and well maintained.

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|                                         |            |
|-----------------------------------------|------------|
| <b>591-1-1-.19 License Capacity(CR)</b> | <b>Met</b> |
|-----------------------------------------|------------|

**Comment**

Licensed capacity observed to be routinely met by center.

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|----------------------------------------------------------|------------|
| <b>591-1-1-.25 Physical Plant - Safe Environment(CR)</b> | <b>Met</b> |
|----------------------------------------------------------|------------|

**Comment**

Please be mindful to keep items that pose a hazard inaccessible to children.

**Technical Assistance**

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.

**Correction Deadline: 2/23/2024**

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|                                    |            |
|------------------------------------|------------|
| <b>591-1-1-.26 Playgrounds(CR)</b> | <b>Met</b> |
|------------------------------------|------------|

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

**Corrected on 2/23/2024**

Previous citation corrected in that based on observation additional fencing material added on the left front side of the newly licensed playground space.

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|---------------------|
| <b>Food Service</b> |
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|                                                 |                |
|-------------------------------------------------|----------------|
| <b>591-1-1-.15 Food Service &amp; Nutrition</b> | <b>Not Met</b> |
|-------------------------------------------------|----------------|

**Comment**

Please ensure that infant feeding forms are updated regularly.

**Finding**

591-1-1-.15(3) requires baby bottles and formula to be labeled with the individual child's name; supplied by the Parent daily in bottles; and refrigerated at a temperature of forty (40) degrees Fahrenheit or less. Only the current day's formula or breast milk shall be served. If formula must be provided by the Center, only commercially prepared, ready-to-feed formula shall be used. Refrigerated or frozen breast milk shall only be heated or thawed under warm running water or in a container of warm water. It was determined based on observation there were eight infant bottles not labeled with the child's full name. In addition, the refrigerator did not contain a thermometer to determine the required temperature of 40 degrees or less.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center will train Staff to follow the required procedures, ensure that parents are fully informed, and will review and monitor regularly.

**Correction Deadline: 2/23/2024**

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|                                       |            |
|---------------------------------------|------------|
| <b>591-1-1-.18 Kitchen Operations</b> | <b>Met</b> |
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**Comment**

Please ensure that all food items are stored in airtight containers.

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| <b>Health and Hygiene</b> |
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|--------------------------------------------------------|------------|
| <b>591-1-1-.10 Diapering Areas &amp; Practices(CR)</b> | <b>Met</b> |
|--------------------------------------------------------|------------|

**Comment**

Proper diapering procedures observed.

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|                                |            |
|--------------------------------|------------|
| <b>591-1-1-.17 Hygiene(CR)</b> | <b>Met</b> |
|--------------------------------|------------|

**Comment**

Staff were observed to remind children to wash hands.

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|                                    |            |
|------------------------------------|------------|
| <b>591-1-1-.20 Medications(CR)</b> | <b>Met</b> |
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**Comment**

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

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| <b>Policies and Procedures</b> |
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|----------------------------------------------------------|------------|
| <b>591-1-1-.21 Operational Policies &amp; Procedures</b> | <b>Met</b> |
|----------------------------------------------------------|------------|

**Comment**

Program observed complete emergency drills

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|------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| <b>591-1-1-.22 Parental Access</b> | <b>Technical Assistance</b> |
|------------------------------------|-----------------------------|

**Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.22 requires the Center to permit the custodial Parent(s) of the child access to all child care areas of the Center at any time the child is in attendance. The custodial Parent(s) shall make his or her presence known to Center Staff prior to removing the child from the Center. Please remove or update signs on entrance door about parental access.

**Correction Deadline: 2/23/2024**

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|                                   |            |
|-----------------------------------|------------|
| <b>591-1-1-.27 Posted Notices</b> | <b>Met</b> |
|-----------------------------------|------------|

**Comment**

Observed all required posted notices.

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

**Comment**

Center does not keep animals on premises.

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|                                   |            |
|-----------------------------------|------------|
| <b>591-1-1-.11 Discipline(CR)</b> | <b>Met</b> |
|-----------------------------------|------------|

**Comment**

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

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|------------------------------------|------------|
| <b>591-1-1-.13 Field Trips(CR)</b> | <b>Met</b> |
|------------------------------------|------------|

**Comment**

Center does not participate in field trips at this time.

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|                                       |            |
|---------------------------------------|------------|
| <b>591-1-1-.36 Transportation(CR)</b> | <b>Met</b> |
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**Comment**

Center does not provide routine transportation.

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|-----------------------------------------|
| <b>Sleeping &amp; Resting Equipment</b> |
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|---------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|
| <b>591-1-1-.30 Safe Sleeping and Resting Requirements(CR)</b> | <b>Not Met</b> |
|---------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|

**Finding**

591-1-1-.30(1)(a)3 requires that each crib shall have only an individual, tight-fitting sheet which is changed daily or more often as needed and prior to a change of occupant. It was determined based on observation one infant crib did not have a tight fitting sheet.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The center will ensure that each crib has an individual, tight-fitting sheet which is changed daily or more often as needed and prior to a change of occupant.

**Correction Deadline: 2/23/2024**

**Finding**

591-1-1-.30(2) requires the Center to provide a safe sleep environment in accordance with American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP), Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) and American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM) recommendations as listed in these rules for all infants. Center Staff shall place an infant to sleep on the infant's back in a crib unless the Center has been provided a physician's written statement authorizing another sleep position for that particular infant that includes how the infant shall be placed to sleep and a time frame that the instructions are to be followed. When an infant can easily turn over from back to front and back again, Staff shall continue to put the infant to sleep initially on the infant's back but allow the infant to roll over into his or her preferred position and not re-position the infant. Sleepers, sleep sacks and wearable blankets that fit according to the commercial manufacturer's guidelines and will not slide up around the infant's face may be used when necessary for the comfort of the sleeping infant. Swaddling shall not be used unless the Center has been provided a physician's written statement authorizing its use for a particular infant that includes instructions and a time frame for swaddling the infant. Center Staff shall not place objects or allow objects to be placed in or on the crib with an infant such as but not limited to toys, pillows, quilts, comforters, bumper pads, sheepskins, stuffed toys, or other soft items and shall not attach objects or allow objects to be attached to a crib with a sleeping infant, such as, but not limited to, crib gyms, toys, mirrors and mobiles. It was determined based on observation an infant was observed sleeping in a bouncer seat.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center will take all steps necessary to provide a safe sleep environment for infants as listed in these rules; will train Staff to follow these rules; and will monitor for compliance.

**Correction Deadline: 2/23/2024**

**Staff Records****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-.09 Criminal Records Check(CR) Met****Comment**

Criminal records checks were observed to be complete.

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

Complete first aid kits observed in center and on vehicles.

**591-1-1-.33 Staff Training Met****Comment**

Documentation observed of required staff training.

**591-1-1-.31 Staff(CR) Met****Comment**

Staff observed to be compliant with applicable laws and regulations.

**Staffing and Supervision**

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|                                                          |            |
|----------------------------------------------------------|------------|
| <b>591-1-1-.32 Staff:Child Ratios and Group Size(CR)</b> | <b>Met</b> |
|----------------------------------------------------------|------------|

**Comment**

Center observed to maintain appropriate staff:child ratios.

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|------------------------------------|------------|
| <b>591-1-1-.32 Supervision(CR)</b> | <b>Met</b> |
|------------------------------------|------------|

**Comment**

Adequate supervision observed on this date.