



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: 11/14/2023 **VisitType:** Complaint Investigation
Follow Up

Arrival: 7:45 AM

Departure: 10:00 AM

CCLC-39560

Stepping Stones Early Development Center

125 Galan Drive Byron, GA 31008 Peach County
(478) 956-1438 stepstones956@hotmail.com

Regional Consultant

Brandi Mangino

Phone: (478) 314-9726

Fax: (478) 599-0169

brandi.mangino@decal.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.
11/14/2023	Complaint Investigation Follow Up	Good Standing	
10/03/2023	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
02/06/2023	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	A		0	0	C	16	C	NA	NA	
Main	B	Infants	1	2	C	9	C	NA	NA	Floor Play
Main	C	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	1	11	C	25	C	35	C	Free Play
Main	D	One Year Olds	1	2	C	9	C	NA	NA	Free Play
Main	E	Two Year Olds and Three Year Olds	1	8	C	10	C	NA	NA	Free Play
Main	F		0	0	C	11	C	NA	NA	
Main	G	Five Year Olds and Six Year Olds and Over	1	9	C	17	C	NA	NA	Free Play
Main	H	One Year Olds	1	5	C	11	C	NA	NA	Circle Time

Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 108

Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 118

Total # Children this Date: 37

Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 108

Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 118

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	Playground A	40	C
Main	Playground B	17	C
Main	Playground C	61	C
Main	Playground D	5	C
Main	Playground E	9	C

Comments

Plan of Improvement developed on this date.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 11/14/2023

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

SHEILA RUCKER, Program Official

Date

Brandi Mangino, Regional 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: 11/14/2023 **VisitType:** Complaint Investigation
Follow Up **Arrival:** 7:45 AM **Departure:** 10:00 AM

CCLC-39560

Stepping Stones Early Development Center

125 Galan Drive Byron, GA 31008 Peach County
(478) 956-1438 stepstones956@hotmail.com

Regional Consultant

Brandi Mangino

Phone: (478) 314-9726

Fax: (478) 599-0169

brandi.mangino@decal.ga.gov

Mailing Address
Same

The following information is associated with a Complaint Investigation Follow Up:

Facility

591-1-1-.25 Physical Plant - Safe Environment(CR)

Met

Correction Deadline: 10/3/2023

Corrected on 11/14/2023

.25(13) - Citation observed to be corrected.

Food Service

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

Not Met

Finding

591-1-1-.15(2) requires that a signed written feeding plan for children less than one (1) year of age shall be obtained from Parent(s) and that instructions from the Parent(s) shall be updated regularly as new foods are added or other dietary changes are made. The feeding plan shall be posted in the child's assigned room and must include the child's feeding schedule, the amount of formula or breast milk to be given, instructions for the introduction of solid foods, the amount of food to be given and notation of any type(s) of commercially premixed formula which may not be used in an emergency because of food allergies. It was determined based on review of records that infant feeding plans were incomplete in that: the following information was missing:
-three of six were not the new form that indicated if the child was on solid food and signed off by the parent
-one of six did not have information for introduction to solid foods or not with the parents initials

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center Director will develop and implement a plan to obtain and post the completed feeding plan as part of the enrollment process and to have parents update the plans on a regular basis that will include center staff involved with enrollment and those working in the infant classrooms.

Correction Deadline: 11/17/2023

Recited on 11/14/2023

Health and Hygiene

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

Correction Deadline: 10/3/2023

Corrected on 11/14/2023
.17(8) - Citation corrected.

Safety

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

Correction Deadline: 10/4/2023

Corrected on 11/14/2023
.36(7)(b) - Citation corrected.

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

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

Correction Deadline: 10/3/2023

Corrected on 11/14/2023
.30(2)(c) - Citation corrected.

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) Defer

Defer

591-1-1-.31(2)(c)-Citation will be deferred until the next regulatory visit. The center is in the process of getting the staff signed-up and have met with someone on this. Based on enrolled date the center will create a professional development plan and the citation will be followed up with on the next regulatory visit.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will review lead teacher records to ensure the required documentation is on file and will obtain and file it if not found.

Correction Deadline: 12/29/2023

Recited on 1/1/0001