



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: 9/20/2023 **VisitType:** Monitoring Visit **Arrival:** 10:10 AM **Departure:** 11:20 AM

CCLC-37783

Smart Start Learning Center, LLC

942 Linton Road Sandersville, GA 31082 Washington County
 (478) 552-8447 smartstartlearningcenter@yahoo.com

Regional Consultant

Laura Johnson

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laura.johnson@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.
09/20/2023	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
06/02/2023	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
09/07/2022	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	A /B- 1R	Infants and One Year Olds	2	8	C	11	C	NA	NA	Floor Play,Music,Nap, Feeding
Main	A /B- 1R	Infants and One Year Olds	2	8	C	11	C	NA	NA	Nap,Feeding,Floor Play
Main	C - School Age		0	0	C	5	C	NA	NA	
Main	C - School Age		0	0	C	5	C	NA	NA	
Main	D - 4's 2nd R		0	0	C	7	C	NA	NA	
Main	D - 4's 2nd R		0	0	C	7	C	NA	NA	
Main	E-3's - 3rd L	Two Year Olds	1	6	C	6	C	NA	NA	Centers,Music, Outside
Main	E-3's - 3rd L	Two Year Olds	1	7	C	6	NC	NA	NA	Centers
		Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 58			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					
Total # Children this Date: 29		Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 58			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	Infant Playground	13	C
Main	Playground	27	C
Main	Playground	34	C

Comments

The purpose of this visit was to complete a Monitoring Visit and measure the infant playground for an amendment. The program provides no transportation, swimming, or medications. Criminal Record Checks were observed complete.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 09/20/2023

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.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 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 for more information. Free technical assistance is available!

Nateshia Scott, Program Official

Date

Laura Johnson, 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

Correction Deadline: 6/2/2023

Corrected on 9/20/2023

.12(2) - This citation was corrected on this date. All equipment had been removed from the playground.

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

Not Evaluated

Comment

Center does not provide swimming activities.

Evening Care

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

Met

Comment

Evening care hours discussed.

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)

Met

Comment

Center appears clean and well maintained.

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

Discussed maintenance of resilient surface. Please fluff and redistribute.

Correction Deadline: 6/30/2023**Corrected on 9/20/2023****.26(8) - This citation was corrected on this date.**

Health and Hygiene

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

Staff state proper knowledge of diapering procedures.

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

Proper hand washing observed throughout the center.

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

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

Safety

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

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

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

Center does not provide routine transportation.

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

591-1-1-.30 Safe Sleeping and Resting Requirements(CR)**Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.30(1)(a)2 requires that a crib mattress is firm, tight-fitting without gaps, at least 2 inches thick and covered with a waterproof, washable material. Before a change of occupant, each mattress shall be cleaned with a disinfectant. It was determined based on observation that two out of four cribs in the infant classroom had mattresses with several holes and tears making them no longer waterproof and covered with a washable material as required.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The center will ensure that a crib mattress is firm, tight-fitting without gaps, at least 2 inches thick and covered with a waterproof, washable material.

Correction Deadline: 10/11/2023**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 that two out of four cribs in the infant classroom had sheets that were not tight-fitting as required. One crib observed had a loose fitting sheet and was occupied on this date.

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: 10/4/2023

Correction Deadline: 6/2/2023

Corrected on 9/20/2023

.30(2) - This citation was corrected on this date. Appropriate infant safe sleep was observed during the visit on this date.

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-.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**

Correction Deadline: 6/2/2023

Corrected on 9/20/2023

.32(1) - This citation was corrected on this date. Appropriate staff:child ratios were observed during the visit.

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

Correction Deadline: 6/2/2023

Corrected on 9/20/2023

.32(7) - This citation was corrected on this date. Appropriate supervision was observed during the visit.