



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: 10/8/2024 **VisitType:** Licensing Study

Arrival: 11:50 AM **Departure:** 4:10 PM

CCLC-33581

Smarties Childcare, LLC

465 Clairemont Avenue Decatur, GA 30030 DeKalb County
(770) 630-1921 anna.kelly@smartiesacademy.com

Regional Consultant

Cassandra Jakes-Beasley

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Mailing Address

Same

Quality Rated: No

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.
10/08/2024	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
06/20/2024	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
11/13/2023	Licensing Study	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	Dn 10 - 1st Lt-Toddler 2-1/2	Two Year Olds	2	14	C	15	C	NA	NA	Transitioning
Main	Dn 5 - 1st Rt	Four Year Olds	1	7	C	7	C	NA	NA	Transitioning
Main	Dn 6 - 2nd Rt	Two Year Olds	3	8	C	10	C	NA	NA	Transitioning
Main	Dn 7 - 3rd Rt	Two Year Olds and Three Year Olds	3	16	C	21	C	NA	NA	Transitioning
Main	Dn 8 - 4th Rt	Two Year Olds	2	8	C	11	C	NA	NA	Transitioning
Main	Dn 9 - 2nd Lt	Three Year Olds	2	7	C	12	C	NA	NA	Transitioning
Main	Multipurpose		0	0	C	27	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Main	Up 1 - 1st Lt	Infants	2	4	C	8	C	NA	NA	Floor Play
Main	Up 2 - 2nd Lt	Infants	3	11	C	15	C	NA	NA	Floor Play
Main	Up 3 - 2nd Rt	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	3	24	C	22	NC	NA	NA	Lunch
Main	Up 4 - 1st Rt After-School	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	3	24	C	25	C	NA	NA	Lunch
Main	UP Rm 11	One Year Olds and Two Year Olds	3	9	C	13	C	NA	NA	Lunch
Main	Up room 12		0	0	C	4	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 190					Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					
Total # Children this Date: 132					Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	PLAYGROUND	96	C

Enrolled Children						
Under 1 years	1 years	2 years	3 years	4 years	5 years (Prekonly)	5 years and older
28	23	38	28	29	0	0

Comments

A Licensing Study was conducted on October 8, 2024. Backgrounds checks were reviewed. The Consultant completed the exit conference, and a copy of the visit report was emailed to the Director.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 10/08/2024

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



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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

Comment

Records were observed to be complete and well organized.

Facility

591-1-1.06 Bathrooms

Met

Comment

Bathrooms observed to be clean and well maintained.

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)

Not Met

Comment

Please secure cleaning tools (i.e., broom, plunger) out of reach of children.

Finding

591-1-1-.25(17) requires that the Center premises be free of plants and shrubs which are poisonous or hazardous. It was determined based on observation there were two plants identified as poisonous and one hazardous accessible to children in classroom 10 downstairs.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The harmful item will be removed.

Correction Deadline: 10/8/2024

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

Playground observed to be clean and in good repair.

Food Service

591-1-1-.15 Food Service & Nutrition**Not Met****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 seven bottles were not labeled with the child full name in the infant UP1-st left classroom and six bottles in UP 2-2nd left classroom.

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: 10/8/2024

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)**Technical Assistance****Comment**

Staff state proper knowledge of diapering procedures.

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.10(1) requires Centers first licensed after March 1, 1991, and Centers that are renovated after March 1, 1991, to provide ventilation in the diapering areas with functioning exhaust fans and a duct system or by the required amount of window space provided by operable windows when open.

Correction Deadline: 10/8/2024

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

Proper hand washing observed throughout the center.

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

591-1-1-.20(4) requires the Center to keep medication in a cabinet or container that is locked or otherwise not accessible to the children and to be stored separate from cleaning chemicals, supplies or poisons. Medications requiring refrigeration shall be placed in a leak-proof container in a refrigerator that is not accessible to the children. It was determined based on observation a medication (Epipen) was stored in a classroom emergency bag, hanging on the wall in hallway near classroom 9.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will train Staff on the safe and proper storage of medication and monitor to ensure that the rule is met.

Correction Deadline: 10/8/2024

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.20(5) requires that medicines no which are no longer to be dispensed shall be returned to the child's Parent(s) immediately.

Correction Deadline: 10/8/2024

Safety

591-1-1-.05 Animals Met

Comment

Center does not keep animals on premises.

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) Met

Comment

Center does not participate in field trips at this time.

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

Comment

Center does not provide routine transportation.

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

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

Comment

Discussed SIDS and infant sleeping position.

Staff Records

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

Comment

Criminal record checks were observed to be complete.

Comment

Director provided (6) file(s) for employees hired since last visit.

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

Comment

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

Comment

Please replace/add missing/expired item(s) in first aid kit(s).

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

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

Center observed to maintain appropriate staff:child ratios.

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

Adequate supervision observed on this date.