



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: 11/18/2024 **VisitType:** Incident Investigation & Follow Up **Arrival:** 2:00 PM **Departure:** 3:15 PM

CCLC-1583

The Learning Tree Academy

1661 Fernside Dr. Toccoa, GA 30577 Stephens County
(706) 886-9900 thelearningtreeacademy@gmail.com

Special Investigations Unit Sr. Specialist

Beverly Pollard

Phone: (770) 357-7002

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beverly.pollard@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.
11/18/2024	Incident Investigation & Follow Up	Good Standing	
05/07/2024	Incident Investigation Closure	Good Standing	
03/27/2024	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
Building 1	1L	Two Year Olds	2	10	C	22	C	NA	NA	Transitioning
Building 1	1R	Four Year Olds	2	14	C	22	C	NA	NA	Snack
Building 1	2L	Two Year Olds and Three Year Olds	2	12	C	22	C	NA	NA	Transitioning
Building 1	2R	Three Year Olds	2	12	C	23	C	NA	NA	Snack
Building 1	Cafeteria		0	0	C	32	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 121			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0				
Building 2	1L back	One Year Olds	2	5	C	10	C	NA	NA	Snack
Building 2	1L front	One Year Olds and Two Year Olds	2	10	C	18	C	NA	NA	Centers
Building 2	1R	Infants	1	5	C	14	C	NA	NA	Snack
			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 42			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0				
Building 3	Downstairs-1L		0	0	C	20	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Building 3	Downstairs-2L	Four Year Olds and Five Year Olds	1	10	C	18	C	NA	NA	Transitioning,Snack
Building 3	Gym		0	0	C	62	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Building 3	Media Center		0	0	C	13	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Building 3	Upstairs 1L		0	0	C	19	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Building 3	Upstairs- 1R	Five Year Olds and Six Year Olds and Over	1	9	C	39	C	NA	NA	Centers
			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 171			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0				

Building 4 Cabin 1701	Six Year Olds and Over	1	4	C	24	C	NA	NA	Outside
Building 4 Cabin 1703	Six Year Olds and Over	1	9	C	22	C	NA	NA	Outside
Building 4 Cabin 1705	Six Year Olds and Over	1	13	C	24	C	NA	NA	Outside
Building 4 Cabin 1707	Six Year Olds and Over	1	7	C	24	C	NA	NA	Transitioning
Building 4 Cabin 1709	Six Year Olds and Over	1	16	C	24	C	NA	NA	Story
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 118				Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					
Total # Children this Date: 136				Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Building 1	Playground A-Rt side	102	C
Building 1	Playground B-Middle	70	C
Building 1	Playground C-Left side	56	C
Building 2	Playground-Infant	32	C
Building 2	Screened Porch	6	C
Building 3	Playground	75	C

Comments

The purpose of this visit was to follow up to the previous visit conducted on March 27, 2024.

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.decgal.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 Incident Investigation & Follow Up:

Health and Hygiene

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

Met

Correction Deadline: 3/28/2024

Corrected on 11/18/2024

.17(7) - Correction - The pilot was lit again.

Policies and Procedures

591-1-1-.29 Required Reporting

Met

Correction Deadline: 5/7/2024

Corrected on 11/18/2024

.29(3) - Correction.

Safety

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

Met

Correction Deadline: 3/28/2024

Corrected on 11/18/2024

.36(4)(b) - Correction - The repairs were made to the vehicle seats.

Staff Records

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

Met

Correction Deadline: 4/26/2024

Corrected on 11/18/2024

.14(2) - Correction.

591-1-1-.31 Staff(CR)

Met

Correction Deadline: 6/27/2024

Corrected on 11/18/2024

.31(2)(b)2. - Correction - Evidence of lead teacher credentials were provided.