



**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:** 7/16/2024 **VisitType:** Licensing Study

**Arrival:** 10:00 AM **Departure:** 2:45 PM

**CCLC-17857**

**Southeastern Tech Child Development Center**  
346 Kite Rd. Swainsboro, GA 30401 Emanuel County  
(478) 289-2241 ahill@southeasterntech.edu

Regional Consultant  
Kristy Turner  
Phone: (470) 373-3232  
Fax:  
kristy.turner@decal.ga.gov  
Joint with: Kesha McNeal

**Mailing Address**  
Same

**Quality Rated:** ★ ★ ★

| <u>Compliance Zone Designation</u> |                   |               | <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. |
|------------------------------------|-------------------|---------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 07/16/2024                         | Licensing Study   | Good Standing |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| 08/21/2023                         | Licensing Study   | Good Standing |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| 05/17/2023                         | 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                           | 4101              |                                    | 0     | 0        | C                             | 8          | C            | NA                                                         | NA           |                   |
| Main                           | 4102              | Two Year Olds                      | 2     | 7        | C                             | 16         | C            | NA                                                         | NA           | Free Play,Outside |
| Main                           | 4105              | Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds | 1     | 14       | C                             | 23         | C            | NA                                                         | NA           | Free Play         |
| Main                           | 4106              | One Year Olds                      | 2     | 7        | C                             | 15         | C            | NA                                                         | NA           | Supper,Free Play  |
| Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 56 |                   |                                    |       |          | Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0 |            |              | Building @35 capacity limited by Fire Marshall Limitations |              |                   |
| Two                            | Indoor Playground |                                    | 0     | 0        | C                             | 18         | C            | NA                                                         | NA           |                   |
| Two                            | Infants           | Infants                            | 1     | 3        | C                             | 20         | C            | NA                                                         | NA           | Outside           |
| Two                            | Older One's       |                                    | 0     | 0        | C                             | 18         | C            | NA                                                         | NA           |                   |
| Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 56 |                   |                                    |       |          | Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0 |            |              |                                                            |              |                   |
| Total # Children this Date: 31 |                   | Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 112    |       |          | Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0 |            |              |                                                            |              |                   |

| Building | Playground | Playground Occupancy | Playground Compliance |
|----------|------------|----------------------|-----------------------|
| Main     | Back       | 54                   | C                     |
| Main     | Front      | 23                   | C                     |

### Comments

The purpose of this visit was to conduct a Licensing Study. The Director Annie Hill, stated that the program does not provide routine transportation, administer medications or provide swimming activities.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 07/16/2024

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.state.ga.us/CCS/RuleAndRegulations.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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**(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.

**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)**

**Not Met**

**Finding**

591-1-1.25(13) requires that potentially hazardous equipment, materials and supplies be stored in a locked area inaccessible to children. It was determined that in the two year old classroom there was a plastic bag with clothing inside hanging underneath the cubby area accessible to children.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center will identify all hazardous items and keep them in a locked area inaccessible to children. The Center will inform all Staff about hazardous items and the safe storage of those items.

**Correction Deadline: 7/16/2024**

**591-1-1.26 Playgrounds(CR)**

**Not Met**

**Finding**

591-1-1.26(4) requires that playgrounds be protected from traffic or other hazards by a (4) four foot high fence or other barrier approved by this Department. Fencing material shall not present a hazard to children and shall be maintained so as to prevent children from leaving the playground area by any means other than through an approved access route. Fence gates shall be kept closed except when persons are entering or exiting the area. It was determined that the wooden gate located on the back side of playground had two protruding nails.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center will routinely check the fence to determine if it is in good repair and remains at least 4 feet high, and will repair any hazards. The Center will train Staff to identify and report any fence hazards and to keep the fence gates closed when not in use.

**Correction Deadline: 7/16/2024**

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

**Correction Deadline: 8/21/2023**

**Corrected on 7/16/2024**

**.15(1) -Observed all items were labeled within the expiration date.**

**591-1-1-.18 Kitchen Operations****Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.18(5) requires the refrigeration of all perishable and potentially hazardous foods at 40 degrees Fahrenheit or below and served promptly after cooking. Freezer temperature shall be maintained at zero (0) degrees Fahrenheit or below. It was determined 2 out of the 4 refrigerators did not meet the 40 degrees Fahrenheit temperature requirement.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center will refrigerate foods as required, will train Staff on proper refrigerator and freezer temperature settings and monitor the settings. Food will be served promptly after cooking.

**Correction Deadline: 7/16/2024**

**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)****Met****Comment**

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

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

Age-appropriate discussion and/or redirection observed.

**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**

**Correction Deadline: 8/21/2023**

|                      |
|----------------------|
| <b>Staff Records</b> |
|----------------------|

**591-1-1-.09 Criminal Records and Comprehensive Background Checks(CR)****Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.09(1)(c) requires the Center to ensure that every Employee has a valid and current satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination on file prior to being present at the Center while any child is present for care or before an individual age 17 or older resides in the Center. The Comprehensive Records Check Determination must have a Records Check Clearance Date that is no older than the preceding 12 months of the hire date; provided, however, if the Employee has had a lapse of employment from the child care industry that lasted for 180 days (6 months) or longer, a new satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination is required. It was determined that staff member #3 did not have a current satisfactory CRC in that the CRC expired on February 14, 2024.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

IMMEDIATE CORRECTION - The Center will review the rules and regulation to ensure that every Employee has a valid and current satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination on file prior to being present at the Center while any child is present for care or before an individual age 17 or older resides in the Center. The Comprehensive Records Check Determination must have a Records Check Clearance Date that is no older than the preceding 12 months of the hire date; provided, however, if the Employee has had a lapse of employment from the child care industry that lasted for 180 days (6 months) or longer, a new satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination is required. The program's owner or an officer/member of the corporation must view the A to Z Background Check video units pertaining to this records check rule and return the signed affidavit within one week from this visit date. The center will check all files to ensure the CRC rules are maintained.

**Correction Deadline: 7/16/2024****Finding**

591-1-1-.09(1)(l)3. requires the Center to immediately require a new Comprehensive Records Check Determination for a Director, Employee or Provisional Employee at least once every five years. It was determined that staff member #3 did not have a current satisfactory CRC in that the CRC expired on February 14, 2024.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

IMMEDIATE CORRECTION - The Center will review all CRC Rules to ensure that each Director, Employee and Provisional Employee has a Comprehensive Records Check Determination on file that has been issued within the past five years. The program's owner or an officer/member of the corporation must view the A to Z Background Check video units pertaining to this records check rule and return the signed affidavit within one week from this visit date. The Center will check files to ensure CRC rules are maintained.

**Correction Deadline: 7/16/2024****591-1-1-.09 Criminal Records Check(CR)****Met****Comment**

Director provided 2 out of 9 file(s) for employees hired since last visit.

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

Staff observed to be compliant with applicable laws and regulations.

|                                 |
|---------------------------------|
| <b>Staffing and Supervision</b> |
|---------------------------------|

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

Center observed to maintain appropriate staff:child ratios.

**591-1-1-.32 Supervision(CR)****Technical Assistance****Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.32(7) - A supervision plan during mealtime was created on this date.

**Correction Deadline: 7/16/2024**