



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: 7/17/2024 **VisitType:** Licensing Study

Arrival: 9:45 AM **Departure:** 1:00 PM

CCLC-448

Stepping Stones Child Care - Free Home

11930 Cumming Highway Canton, GA 30115 Cherokee County
(770) 844-7795 steppingstones@etcmil.com

Process & QI Unit Consultant

Shannon Curtis

Phone: (770) 342-7802

Fax: (678) 891-5904

shannon.curtis@decal.ga.gov

Joint with: Roseanne Hamrick

Mailing Address

201 Little River Farms Trail
Canton, GA 30115

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.
07/17/2024	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
01/04/2024	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
07/31/2023	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	A1- Left Hallway Left	Infants and One Year Olds	2	7	C	16	C	NA	NA	Diapering, Floor Play
Main	B- Left Hallway 3rd right room	One Year Olds	1	5	C	13	C	NA	NA	Free Play
Main	C- Left Hallway 2nd right	Two Year Olds	2	13	C	14	C	NA	NA	Free Play
Main	D-Left side 1st Rt. Pre-k		0	0	C	21	C	29	C	Not In Use
Main	E- 2 R Right Side Back Three's	Three Year Olds	2	20	C	32	C	NA	NA	Free Play, Art
Main	F- Front Right 1R Pre-k	Five Year Olds	2	21	C	26	C	37	C	Free Play, Art
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 122						Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 141				
Total # Children this Date: 66			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 122			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 141				

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	Playground A Infant	46	C
Main	Playground B Middle	64	C
Main	Playground C Right	83	C

Comments

The purpose of this visit was to conduct a Licensing Study visit and to follow up to the previous visit conducted on January 4, 2024.

Consultant provided contact information on this date.

Consultant provided a Staff Profile Form to the Director on this date.

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.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!



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: 7/17/2024 **VisitType:** Licensing Study

Arrival: 9:45 AM **Departure:** 1:00 PM

CCLC-448

Stepping Stones Child Care - Free Home

11930 Cumming Highway Canton, GA 30115 Cherokee County
(770) 844-7795 steppingstones@etcmail.com

Process & QI Unit Consultant

Shannon Curtis

Phone: (770) 342-7802

Fax: (678) 891-5904

shannon.curtis@decal.ga.gov

Joint with: Roseanne Hamrick

Mailing Address

201 Little River Farms Trail
Canton, GA 30115

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-.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

Please be mindful to keep items that pose a hazard inaccessible to children.

591-1-1-.26 Playgrounds(CR)

Met

Comment

Consultant discussed with Director to monitor fencing around the gate on the far left side of the playground on is date.

Food Service

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

Comment

Center menu meets USDA guidelines.

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)	Met
--	------------

Comment

Staff state proper knowledge of diapering procedures.

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

Comment

Staff were observed to remind children to wash hands.

591-1-1-.20 Medications(CR)	Met
------------------------------------	------------

Comment

Discussed proper medication documentation and procedures.

Policies and Procedures

591-1-1-.27 Posted Notices	Met
-----------------------------------	------------

Comment

Please make sure that all required signs are posted and up to date.

Safety

591-1-1-.05 Animals	Met
----------------------------	------------

Comment

Center does not keep animals on premises.

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

Comment

Age-appropriate discussion and/or redirection observed.

591-1-1-.13 Field Trips(CR)	Met
------------------------------------	------------

Comment

Field trip documentation observed to be complete for July 9, 2024 to Amicalola Falls Park on this date.

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.

Comment

The correct number of mats, sheets and blankets were observed on this date. Cleaning and disinfecting of mats was discussed with the director on this date.

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

Director provided two files for employees hired since last visit on January 4, 2024.

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

Complete first aid kits observed in center and on vehicles.

Comment

Evidence observed of 100% of center staff certified in First Aid and CPR.

591-1-1-.33 Staff Training **Met****Comment**

Documentation observed of required staff training for 2023 on this date.

Comment

Discussed: Health and Safety Training is required for each staff member with direct care responsibilities within 90 calendar days of their hire date.

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****Comment**

Center observed to maintain appropriate staff:child ratios.

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

Adequate supervision observed on this date.