



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: 8/1/2023 **VisitType:** Licensing Study **Arrival:** 9:15 AM **Departure:** 1:15 PM

CCLC-53079

First Step Learning Academy

1213 North Liberty Street Waynesboro, GA 30830 Burke County
 CCLC-53079 kpressley@augustaga.gov

Process & QI Unit Consultant

Melyn Smith

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Mailing Address

2612 FARMERSBRIDGE RD
 Waynesboro, GA 30830

Quality Rated: ★

<u>Compliance Zone Designation</u>			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.
08/01/2023	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
07/12/2023	TA Follow Up	Good Standing	
06/16/2023	TA Follow Up	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- (1L) 1's & 2's	One Year Olds and Two Year Olds	2	7	C	12	C	NA	NA	Music
Main	B- (2L) 4wks- 18 mths	Infants and One Year Olds	2	4	C	6	C	NA	NA	Feeding,Nap,Flo or Play
Main	C-(2R) 3 yrs		0	0	C	14	C	NA	NA	
Main	D- (1R) 4 yr-12yrs	Three Year Olds	1	3	C	19	C	NA	NA	Outside,Transiti oning
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 50			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0			Building @35 capacity limited by Insufficient Toilets/Sinks				
Total # Children this Date: 14			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 50			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0				

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	Playground A - 4 wks - 12 years	44	C

Comments

The purpose of this visit was to conduct a Licensing Study and to follow up on the previous visit.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 08/01/2023

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/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 with the user id 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!

Kenneth Pressley, Program Official

Date

Melyn Smith, Process & QI Unit Consultant

Date



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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)

N/A

Comment

Center does not provide swimming activities.

Children's Records

591-1-1.08 Children's Records

Technical Assistance

Technical Assistance

591-1-1.08(1) - The Consultant discussed with the Director to please ensure that all required information was contained in children's files, which includes the addresses and phone numbers for the parents' employers.

Correction Deadline: 8/1/2023

Evening Care

591-1-1.32 Staffing/Supervision(CR)

Met

Comment

The Center had evidence of appropriate staff:child ratios during evening and nighttime care.

Facility

591-1-1-.19 License Capacity(CR)	Met
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Comment

Licensed capacity observed to be routinely met by center.

591-1-1-.25 Physical Plant - Safe Environment(CR)	Technical Assistance
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Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.25(3) - The Consultant discussed with the Director to please ensure the ventilation/exhaust fans were free of dust in all bathrooms and above diapering areas on this date.

Correction Deadline: 8/1/2023

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.25(8) - The Consultant discussed with the Director to please ensure the electrical outlets within reach of children were covered.

Correction Deadline: 8/1/2023

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

Playground observed to be clean and in good repair.

Correction Deadline: 5/12/2023

Corrected on 8/1/2023

.26(9) - Previous citation corrected, based on observation, in that the playground was observed to be clean, free of litter, and free of hazards on this date.

Food Service

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

Center menu meets USDA guidelines.

Correction Deadline: 5/1/2023

Corrected on 8/1/2023

.15(3) - Previous citation corrected, based on observation, in that center staff did not mix cereal, applesauce, or any other solid food in bottles with formula on this date.

Health and Hygiene

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

Staff state proper knowledge of diapering procedures.

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

Staff were observed to remind children to wash hands.

591-1-1-.20 Medications(CR)	N/A
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Comment

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

Policies and Procedures

Finding

591-1-1-.21(3) requires that the Center conduct drills for fire, tornado and other emergency situations. The fire drills will be conducted monthly and tornado and other emergency situation drills will be conducted every six months. The Center shall maintain documentation of the dates and times of these drills for two years. It was determined, based on review of records, that the Center was lacking documentation for conducting lockdown drills from October 2022 to July 2023, when it was required for lockdown drills be conducted every six months.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will hold the drills as required and keep the documentation of the drills on file for two years.

Correction Deadline: 8/6/2023

Safety**591-1-1-.05 Animals**

N/A

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)

N/A

Comment

Center does not participate in field trips at this time.

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

N/A

Comment

Center does not provide routine transportation.

Sleeping & Resting Equipment**591-1-1-.30 Safe Sleeping and Resting Requirements(CR)**

Technical Assistance

Comment

Pleasant naptime environment observed.

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.30(4) - The Consultant discussed with the Director to please ensure that cots stored in children's classrooms were covered to prevent children's access to them on this date.

Correction Deadline: 8/1/2023

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

Met

Comment

Criminal record checks were observed to be complete.

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

Met

Comment

Complete first aid kit observed in center.

Comment

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

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

Documentation observed of required staff training.

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

Staff observed to provide direct supervision and be attentive to children's needs.