



**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:** 4/15/2024 **VisitType:** Monitoring Visit

**Arrival:** 8:30 AM **Departure:** 10:15 AM

**CCLC-48298**

**First Beginning Day Care**

1411 Parker Street Americus, GA 31709 Sumter County  
(229) 443-9091 firstbeginningsdaycare@gmail.com

Regional Consultant

Charlene Story

Phone: (770) 405-7942

Fax: (770) 408-0759

charlene.story@decal.ga.gov

**Mailing Address**

Same

**Quality Rated:** ★ ★

| Compliance Zone Designation |                                   |               | <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. |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 04/15/2024                  | Monitoring Visit                  | Good Standing |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| 08/02/2023                  | Licensing Study                   | Good Standing |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| 06/30/2023                  | Complaint Investigation 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                           | Room A - Infants   | One Year Olds and Two Year Olds    | 1                             | 5        | C    | 6          | C            | NA         | NA           | Outside               |
| Main                           | Room B- Toddlers   | Infants                            | 1                             | 3        | C    | 15         | C            | NA         | NA           | Diapering, Floor Play |
| Main                           | Room C - 3 & Older | Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds | 1                             | 6        | C    | 16         | C            | NA         | NA           | Circle Time           |
| Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 37 |                    |                                    | Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0 |          |      |            |              |            |              |                       |
| Total # Children this Date: 14 |                    |                                    | Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0 |          |      |            |              |            |              |                       |

| Building | Playground   | Playground Occupancy | Playground Compliance |
|----------|--------------|----------------------|-----------------------|
| Main     | Playground A | 25                   | C                     |

**Comments**

The purpose of this visit was to conduct a monitoring visit.

Newly staff hires files were available for the consultant to review.

An exit conference discussing the monitoring visit report was conducted with the director on this date. Consultant emailed a signed copy of the monitoring report to the director on this date.

Consultant and director discussed submitting an amendment when building is completed for the school age children.

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.al.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](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.al.ga.gov](mailto:qualityrated@dec.al.ga.gov) for more information. Free technical assistance is available!**

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Debra Griffin, Program Official

Date

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Charlene Story, Regional Consultant

Date



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**(Findings Report)**

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The following information is associated with a Monitoring Visit:

**Activities and Equipment**

**591-1-1-.12 Equipment & Toys(CR)**

**Met**

**Comment**

Equipment and furniture observed to be properly secured on this date.

**591-1-1-.35 Swimming Pools & Water-related Activities(CR)**

**N/A**

**Comment**

Center does not provide swimming activities.

**Facility**

**591-1-1-.19 License Capacity(CR)**

**Met**

**Comment**

Licensed capacity observed to be met by center on this date.

**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)**

**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 based on observation that the fencing was unattached from the second post on the right side of the fencing.

**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: 4/15/2024**

**Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.26(7) - Consultant discussed with the director to ensure bolts that secure equipment is nailed into the ground.

**Correction Deadline: 4/25/2024**

**Finding**

591-1-1-.26(9) requires the playground to be kept clean, free from litter and free of hazards, such as but not limited to rocks, exposed tree roots and exposed sharp edges of concrete. It was determined based on observation, exposed roots to the right of the back door leading out to the playground. In addition, there are weeds and vines coming through the fencing and sticks laying throughout the playground.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center will remove any litter and fix or remove hazards from the playground and will routinely monitor the playground and remove litter and hazards.

**Correction Deadline: 4/15/2024**

**Food Service**

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

**Not Met**

**Correction Deadline: 8/2/2023**

**Corrected on 4/15/2024**

**.15(2) - This citation was observed to be corrected on this date. All infants enrolled had the correct infant feeding plan completed by the parents and posted.**

**Finding**

591-1-1-.15(2)(a) requires Center Personnel to hold and feed infants less than six months of age and older children who cannot hold their own bottles or sit alone. Baby bottles shall never be propped; the infant's head shall be elevated while feeding. It was determined based on observation that an infant was holding a bottle and feeding themselves while laying on the floor without head being elevated.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center will train Staff to hold infants less than six months old or who can not hold their own bottle, to never prop bottles and to elevate infant's heads during feeding. The director will monitor Staff to ensure appropriate feeding procedures are followed.

**Correction Deadline: 4/15/2024**

**Health and Hygiene**

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

**Met**

**Comment**

Proper diapering procedures observed.

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

**Met**

**Comment**

Staff were observed to help the children wash their hands in Classroom A when coming inside from outside.

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

**N/A**

**Comment**

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

**Safety**

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|                                   |            |
|-----------------------------------|------------|
| <b>591-1-1-.11 Discipline(CR)</b> | <b>Met</b> |
|-----------------------------------|------------|

**Comment**

Please be mindful of voice tone in redirecting children.

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|                                       |            |
|---------------------------------------|------------|
| <b>591-1-1-.36 Transportation(CR)</b> | <b>N/A</b> |
|---------------------------------------|------------|

**Comment**

Center does not provide routine transportation.

|                                         |
|-----------------------------------------|
| <b>Sleeping &amp; Resting Equipment</b> |
|-----------------------------------------|

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|---------------------------------------------------------------|------------|
| <b>591-1-1-.30 Safe Sleeping and Resting Requirements(CR)</b> | <b>Met</b> |
|---------------------------------------------------------------|------------|

**Comment**

Discussed SIDS and infant sleeping position.

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|----------------------|
| <b>Staff Records</b> |
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|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|
| <b>591-1-1-.09 Criminal Records and Comprehensive Background Checks(CR)</b> | <b>Met</b> |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|

**Comment**

Criminal record checks were observed to be complete.

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|                              |            |
|------------------------------|------------|
| <b>591-1-1-.31 Staff(CR)</b> | <b>Met</b> |
|------------------------------|------------|

**Comment**

Staff observed to be compliant with applicable laws and regulations.

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

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|----------------------------------------------------------|------------|
| <b>591-1-1-.32 Staff:Child Ratios and Group Size(CR)</b> | <b>Met</b> |
|----------------------------------------------------------|------------|

**Comment**

Center observed to maintain appropriate staff:child ratios.

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|                                    |            |
|------------------------------------|------------|
| <b>591-1-1-.32 Supervision(CR)</b> | <b>Met</b> |
|------------------------------------|------------|

**Comment**

Adequate supervision observed on this date.