



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: 4/15/2025 **VisitType:** Licensing Study

Arrival: 10:40 AM **Departure:** 2:30 PM

CCLC-54059

First Steps Child Development Center II

3460 Hwy 20 Conyers, GA 30013 Rockdale County
(770) 679-0483 firststeps@gmx.us

Regional Consultant

Jessica Johnson

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Joint with: Carrie Spangler

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.
04/15/2025	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
06/20/2024	Incident Investigation Closure	Good Standing	
06/13/2024	Incident Investigation/Monitoring Visit	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 Building	Infants	Infants and One Year Olds	1	4	C	11	C	NA	NA	Floor Play,Nap
Main Building	Pre-K/Afterschool	Four Year Olds	1	6	C	32	C	NA	NA	Music
Main Building	Three-Year-Olds	Three Year Olds	1	7	C	18	C	NA	NA	Centers
Main Building	Toddlers	One Year Olds	1	3	C	14	C	NA	NA	Transitioning
Main Building	Two-Year-Olds	Two Year Olds	2	9	C	16	C	NA	NA	Transitioning
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 91			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0							
Total # Children this Date: 29			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 91							
			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0							

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
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Enrolled Children						
Under 1 years	1 years	2 years	3 years	4 years	5 years (Prekonly)	5 years and older
6	5	10	8	9	0	13

Comments

An on-site inspection was conducted on April 15, 2025 with the Director Ronya English. Staff files, children's files, training, and background checks were all reviewed.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date

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.decal.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:

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 CAPS/ QR Provisional Status, allowing for scholarships while working toward an initial star rating. Provisional Status eligibility will be determined at the time of CAPS enrollment as part of the CAPS application process.

Contact the Quality Rated help desk at 855-800-7747 or qualityrated@decal.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 Licensing Study:

Activities and Equipment

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

Met

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.12(2) - The Consultant discussed with the Director removing the broken easel in the Afterschool classroom. The Consultant further discussed removing the torn tent and torn table cloth from the Pre-K classroom. Th Consultant discussed cleaning the Toy Story chair in the Afterschool classroom.

Correction Deadline: 4/15/2025

Correction Deadline: 6/13/2024

Corrected on 4/15/2025

.12(4) - The previous citation was corrected. The Consultant did not observed a metal shelf in the Pre-K restroom.

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

Not Evaluated

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-.06 Bathrooms

Met

Comment

Bathrooms observed to be clean and well maintained.

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

Technical Assistance

Comment

Licensed capacity observed to be routinely met by center.

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.19(1) - The Consultant discussed with the Director completing an Amendment for the third playground area.

Correction Deadline: 4/15/2025

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 based on observation that the following hazards were observed:

Infants

- Diaper wipes stored in an unlocked cabinet under the diapering table.

Pre-K

- A hanging Alexa cord on the back right side.
- A hanging TV plug from the television.
- An adult sized pair of scissors on the table.

Afterschool

- A plastic blue grocery bag on top of the cubby area.
- A hanging intercom cord on the back right side.

Three-year-olds

- A plastic grocery bag in the cubby accessible to children in care.
- A sanitizer bottle on the top of the cubby.
- A plunger and diaper wipes in an unlocked cabinet under the sink accessible to children in care.
- Plastic grocery bags in the clear storage bins next to the restroom.

Toddlers

- Diaper wipes stored in an unlocked cabinet under the diapering area.

Two-year-old

- Diaper wipes, shaving cream, Desitin cream stored on top of the toilet accessible to children in care.
- Plastic bags stored in an unlocked cabinet under the sink.

- Brooms, dust pans, and plungers throughout the classrooms.

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: 4/15/2025

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.25(3) - The Consultant discussed with the Director replacing the damaged ceiling tiles in three-year-old classroom and the children's restroom in the hallway. The Consultant also discussed monitoring the pipes under the sink in the restroom of the three-year-old classroom.

Correction Deadline: 4/15/2025

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 there was a four inch gap on the bottom of the back white fence on the Preschool/Afterschool playground.

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: 4/29/2025

Recited on 4/15/2025

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.26(6) - The Consultant discussed with the Director removing all broken toys from the playground areas.

Correction Deadline: 4/25/2025

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.26(9) - The Consultant discussed with the Director covering the exposed pvc pipes located at the back of the Prechool/Afterschool playground. The Consultant discussed with the director monitoring the ant pile on the Pre-K classroom near the easel.

Correction Deadline: 4/15/2025

Food Service

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

Technical Assistance

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.15(3) - The Consultant discussed with the Director that baby bottles and formula must be labeled with the individual child's name. The Consultant discussed with the Director adding a thermometer in the infant and toddler classroom to monitor the milk.

Correction Deadline: 4/15/2025

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.15(5) - The Consultant discussed with the Director that substitutions must be recorded on the posted menu and menus shall be retained at the Center for six (6) months.

Correction Deadline: 4/15/2025

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)

Technical Assistance

Comment

Hand washing requirements for diapering were discussed with the director on this date.

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.10(4) - The Consultant discussed with the Director replacing the diapering pad in the toddler classroom.

Correction Deadline: 4/15/2025

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

Met

Comment

Proper hand washing of children and staff was discussed with the director on this date.

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

Met

Comment

Documentation for medication dispensing observed complete.

Policies and Procedures

591-1-1-.21 Operational Policies & Procedures

Met

Comment

Program observed complete emergency drills

Safety

591-1-1-.05 Animals	Met
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Comment

Center does not keep animals on premises.

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

Age-appropriate discussion and/or redirection observed.

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

Field trip documentation observed to be complete.

591-1-1-.36 Transportation(CR)	Technical Assistance
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Comment

A current/completed inspection was observed for all vehicles used in transporting children this date.

Comment

Complete documentation of transportation observed.

Comment

The vehicle had an approved fire extinguisher and first aid kit on this date.

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.36(4)(b) - The Consultant discussed with the Director covering the exposed foam on the third row seat in vehicle # GKT573.

Correction Deadline: 4/16/2025

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

591-1-1-.30 Safe Sleeping and Resting Requirements(CR)	Met
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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.

Staff Records

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

Criminal record checks were observed to be complete.

591-1-1-.14 First Aid & CPR	Met
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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-.31 Staff(CR)	Met
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Comment

Discussed that all lead staff must enroll in an approved education program within 6 months of hire and complete degree within 18 months.

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.

Finding

591-1-1-.32(7) requires that children be supervised at all times appropriate to the individual age, needs and capabilities of each child. Such supervision must include, but not be limited to, indoor and outdoor activities, mealtimes, naptime, transportation, field trips, and transitions between activities. "Supervision" means that the appropriate number of Staff members are physically present in the area where children are being cared for and are providing watchful oversight to the children, volunteers and Students-in-Training. The persons supervising in the child care area must be alert, positioned to maximize their ability to hear and see the children at all times, and able to respond promptly to the needs and actions of the children being supervised, as well as the actions of the volunteers and Students-in-Training, and provide timely attention to the children's actions and needs. Staff shall be attentive and participating with all children during mealtimes and shall be seated within an arm's length away from children thirty-six (36) months of age and younger. It was determined based on observation that seven three-year-old children were briefly unsupervised when a staff member was in the restroom.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will train Staff and monitor to ensure they are providing supervision and watchful oversight to the children at all times.

Correction Deadline: 4/15/2025

Recited on 4/15/2025