



**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

**Cover Sheet**

**Date:** 10/4/2022    **VisitType:** Monitoring Visit    **Arrival:** 9:30 AM    **Departure:** 12:00 PM

**CCLC-39883**

**Small Smiles Learning & Childcare Center**

1169 Third Street Folkston, GA 31537 Charlton County  
 (912) 496-3654 kristiesmith30@yahoo.com

**Regional Consultant**

Jerica Davis  
 Phone: (478) 314-9452  
 Fax: (478) 314-9443  
 jerica.davis@decal.ga.gov

**Mailing Address**  
 Same

**Quality Rated:** ★

<b>Compliance Zone Designation</b>			<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.  <b>Good Standing</b> - Program is demonstrating an acceptable level of performance in meeting the rules. <b>Support</b> - Program performance is demonstrating a need for improvement in meeting rules. <b>Deficient</b> - Program is not demonstrating an acceptable level of performance in meeting the rules.
10/04/2022	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
06/30/2022	POI Follow Up	Good Standing	
05/18/2022	POI Follow Up	Support	

**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	Infants and One Year Olds	1	6	C	8	C	NA	NA	Snack,Floor Play
Main	B	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	2	5	C	8	C	11	C	Story,Circle Time
Main	C	Two Year Olds	1	4	C	9	C	NA	NA	Story,Circle Time,Transitioning
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 25			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 28							
Total # Children this Date: 15			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 25			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 28				

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	Playground A	39	C

**Comments**

The purpose of today's visit is to conduct a Monitoring Visit. The center does not provide routine transportation, field trips, swimming activities, or administer medications. All Criminal Background Check records were reviewed on this date.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 10/04/2022

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/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



### 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!**

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)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Resa Smith, Program Official

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Jerica Davis, Consultant

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date



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**Findings Report**

**Date:** 10/4/2022 **VisitType:** Monitoring Visit

**Arrival:** 9:30 AM

**Departure:** 12:00 PM

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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**

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.

**Correction Deadline: 6/30/2022**

**Corrected on 10/4/2022**

**.19(1) - This citation was observed to be corrected on this date. Appropriate licensed capacity was observed in each classroom.**

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

**Met**

**Comment**

No hazards observed accessible to children on this date.

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

**Technical Assistance**

**Technical Assistance**

Discussed maintenance of resilient surface. Please fluff and redistribute. Please removed grass in the fall zones to maintain adequate resiliency.

**Health and Hygiene**

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

**Comment**

Staff state proper knowledge of diapering procedures.

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

**Comment**

Proper hand washing observed throughout the center.

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

**Comment**

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

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**Safety**

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

**Comment**

Age-appropriate discussion and/or redirection observed.

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

**Comment**

Center does not provide routine transportation.

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**Sleeping & Resting Equipment**

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**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.

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**Staff Records**

**Records Reviewed: 6**

**Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 0**

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Staff # 1 Met

Date of Hire: 07/11/2022 Reminder - Health & Safety training is required within 90 calendar days of hired

Staff # 2 Met

Date of Hire: 06/01/2017

Staff # 3 Met

Date of Hire: 06/01/2017

Staff # 4 Met

Date of Hire: 01/08/2019

Staff # 5 Met

Date of Hire: 06/01/2017

Staff # 6

Met

Date of Hire: 07/15/2021

**Staff Credentials Reviewed: 4**

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

**Met**

**Correction Deadline: 6/30/2022**

**Corrected on 10/4/2022**

**.09(1)(a) - This citation was observed to be corrected on this date. All staff had a current Comprehensive Criminal Background Check record on file.**

**Correction Deadline: 6/30/2022**

**Corrected on 10/4/2022**

**.09(1)(c) - This citation was observed to be corrected on this date. All staff had a current Comprehensive Criminal Background Check record on file.**

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

**Defer**

**Defer**

591-1-1-.33(5)- This citation will be evaluated at the next licensing study conducted after January 1, 2022.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center will plan and schedule the required 10 hours of annual training each year and follow up to ensure the training is completed.

**Correction Deadline: 1/1/2023**

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

**Not Met**

**Correction Deadline: 6/1/2022**

**Corrected on 10/4/2022**

**.31(1)(a) - This citation was observed to be corrected on this date. The director has been changed and is on site at least 80 percent of operating hours.**

**Finding**

591-1-1-.31(1)(b)2 requires the Director to possess at least one of the sets of minimum academic requirements and qualifying child care experience listed in Rule 591-1-1-.31(1)(b)2.(i-xiii). It was determined based on a review of records that the director, staff member # 5, did not possess at least one of the sets of minimum academic requirements as required.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center will ensure that the Director meets the minimum education and work requirements and secure the necessary documentation.

**Correction Deadline: 12/1/2022**

**Recited on 10/4/2022**

**Correction Deadline: 6/30/2022**

**Corrected on 10/4/2022**

**.31(2)(b)1 - This citation was observed to be corrected on this date. All lead care givers were at least 18 years of age or older.**

**Finding**

591-1-1-.31(2)(b)2. requires teachers and lead caregivers to meet minimum academic requirements and qualifying experience at the time of employment. It was determined based on a review of records that the lead caregivers in classrooms A, staff member # 4, did not meet the minimum academic requirements as required.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

A teacher/lead caregiver will be hired that meets the minimum academic requirements and qualifying work experience.

**Correction Deadline: 12/1/2022**

**Recited on 10/4/2022**

**Staffing and Supervision**

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

**Comment**

Center observed to maintain appropriate staff:child ratios.

**Correction Deadline: 6/30/2022**

**Corrected on 10/4/2022**

**.32(2) - This citation was observed to be corrected on this date. Appropriate ratios were observed throughout the center.**

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

**Comment**

Adequate supervision observed on this date.