



**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:** 3/29/2023    **VisitType:** Licensing Study    **Arrival:** 11:50 AM    **Departure:** 3:10 PM

**CCLC-28747**

**"In His Arms" Educational Center**

7816 Hwy 80 East Savannah, GA 31410 Chatham County  
 (912) 897-6826 lipski@aol.com

**Regional Consultant**

Stacey Foston

Phone: (706) 806-0407  
 Fax: (706) 806-0406  
 stacey.foston@decal.ga.gov

**Mailing Address**

1511 Wathour Road  
 Savannah, GA 31410

**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.
03/29/2023	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
08/31/2022	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
04/12/2022	Licensing Study	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	PreK back	GA PreK	2	20	C	15	NC	21	C	Lunch, Transitioning
Main	Pre-K front	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	1	10	C	21	C	30	C	Nap
Main	RM 1:1st Left	Two Year Olds	1	10	C	15	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main	RM 2: 2nd Left	One Year Olds	1	6	C	15	C	NA	NA	Diapering, Transitioning
Main	RM 3	Three Year Olds	1	12	C	15	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main	RM 4: Infant	Infants	1	6	C	8	C	NA	NA	Floor Play, Feeding
Main	Room 6	Two Year Olds	1	9	C	14	C	NA	NA	Nap

Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 103

Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 118

Total # Children this Date: 73

Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 103

Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 118

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	PGD 1-Right	97	C
Main	PGD 2-Middle	30	C
Main	PGD 3-Left	133	C

## Comments

A Licensing Study was conducted on this date.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 03/29/2023

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.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 1 855-800-7747 or [qualityrated@dec.ga.gov](mailto:qualityrated@dec.ga.gov) for more information. Free technical assistance is available!**

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Andrew Lipski, Program Official

Date

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Stacey Foston, 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-.03 Activities**

**Met**

**Correction Deadline: 10/7/2022**

**Corrected on 3/29/2023**

**.03(2) - The previous citation was observed to be corrected. Observed lesson plans posted in the classrooms.**

**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**

Parent authorizations obtained/completed.

**Facility**

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

**Met**

**Comment**

Licensed capacity observed to be routinely met by center.

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

**Comment**

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

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

**Comment**

Discussed maintenance of resilient surface. Please fluff and redistribute.

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**Food Service**

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

**Comment**

Please ensure that infant feeding forms are updated regularly. Please use the current infant feeding form from the Bright from the Start website.

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**Health and Hygiene**

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

**Comment**

Proper diapering procedures observed.

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

**Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.17 - Please ensure all trash cans with organic waste and food are covered with lids.

**Comment**

Observed the children in the Pre-k class wash their hands after lunch.

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**591-1-1-.20 Medications(CR)** **Not Met**

**Finding**

591-1-1-.20(1) requires Personnel to obtain specific written authorization from the child's physician or parent in order to dispense prescription or non-prescription medications, except for first aid. Such authorization will include when applicable, date; full name of the child; name of the medication; prescription number, if any; dosage; the dates to be given; the time of day to be dispensed; and signature of parent. It was determined based on a review of records that the center did not dispense medication to a child on March 23, 2023 and March 24, 2023 as authorized and indicated on the medication form.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center will train Staff to obtain and review parental authorizations to ensure the authorization contains complete information. The designated person(s) will monitor daily.

**Correction Deadline: 3/29/2023**

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**Policies and Procedures**

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

**Comment**

Program observed to complete emergency drills as required.

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

**Comment**

Observed all required posted notices.

## Safety

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

Met

#### Comment

The children were taking a nap during the visit. Discussed the center's discipline policy with the director.

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

Met

#### Comment

Complete documentation of transportation observed. The vehicle was checked for compliance.

## Sleeping & Resting Equipment

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

Met

#### Comment

Pleasant naptime environment observed.

#### Comment

Please ensure bedding is stored in individual cubbies or in a way to prevent them from touching other children bedding.

## 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

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 the year 2022.

### 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.