



**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:** 5/10/2022    **VisitType:** Licensing Study    **Arrival:** 3:10 PM    **Departure:** 4:05 PM

**CCLC-36259**

**The Ark**

9120 Whitefield Ave. Savannah, GA 31406 Chatham County  
 (912) 355-1505 francelerobertson@gmail.com

**Regional Consultant**

Stacey Foston

Phone: (706) 806-0407

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stacey.foston@dec.al.gov

**Mailing Address**

Same

**Quality Rated:** No

<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.
05/10/2022	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
11/30/2021	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
05/11/2021	Licensing Study	Good Standing	

**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.

**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	Five Year Olds and Six Year Olds and Over	4	39	C	75	C	NA	NA	Outside, Transitioning, Free Play, Snack
					Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 75	Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0				
Total # Children this Date: 39			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 75			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0				

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	Playground A	33	C
Main	Playground B	156	C
Main	Playground C	91	C

**Comments**

An in-person visit was conducted on May 10, 2022. The administrative review was completed June 2, 2022. The Consultant completed exit conference by phone and a copy of licensing study/monitoring visit report was electronically emailed to the Program on June 6, 2022.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 05/10/2022

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/Regulations.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)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Francel Robertson, Program Official

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Stacey Foston, Consultant

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date



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**Findings Report**

**Date:** 5/10/2022 **VisitType:** Licensing Study

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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**

**Records Reviewed: 5**

**Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 1**

Child # 1 Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.08(3)-Address of Release Person Missing

Child # 2 Met

Child # 3 Met

Child # 4 Met

Child # 5 Met

**Finding**

591-1-1-.08(1) requires the Center Staff to maintain a file for each child while such child is in care and for one year after that child is no longer enrolled. In order for the file to be complete, the file shall contain the following: child's name, birth date, sex, address, living arrangement, name of school if applicable; names of both Parents, home and work addresses, and home and work telephone numbers; name(s) and addresses of the person(s) to whom the child may be released including address, telephone numbers, relationship to child and to Parent(s), and other identifying information; name(s) and telephone number(s) of person(s) to contact in emergencies when the Parent cannot be reached; name and telephone number of the child's primary source of health care; and a statement regarding known allergies, physical problems, mental health disorders, mental retardation or developmental disabilities which limit the child's participation in the program. It was determined based on a review of records that authorized release person(s) information was incomplete for one of the five reviewed..

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The program is a school age only program and school ended in May. The Center staff will develop a plan that includes how to obtain all required information and ensure this is done for future enrollees.

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

**Facility**

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

**Met**

**Comment**

Licensed capacity observed to be routinely met by center.

**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**

**Comment**

Discussed maintenance of resilient surface. Please fluff and redistribute mulch around the rock climbing wall and slide.

**Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.26(4) - Discussed fence height requirements. Please monitor the height of the section of the playground fence that faces the Whitefield Ave to ensure it at least four feet high. The center will rake the dirt and grass that has accumulated at the bottom of the fence to ensure the fence is four feet high.

**Correction Deadline: 5/10/2022**

**Food Service**

**591-1-1-.18 Kitchen Operations**

**Met**

**Comment**

The center only provides snacks for the afternoon program. Kitchen appears clean and well organized.

**Health and Hygiene**

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

**N/A**

**Comment**

No children enrolled who require diapering. School age children attend only for after school hours.

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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)** **N/A**

**Comment**

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

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**Policies and Procedures**

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

**Comment**

Observed documentation of emergency drills and the Center's emergency preparedness plans.

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**Safety**

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

**Comment**

Age-appropriate discussion and redirection observed.

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

**Comment**

Center does not participate in field trips.

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**591-1-1-.36 Transportation(CR)** **N/A**

**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)** **N/A**

**Comment**

Sleeping/Naps are not required for this program. School age children attend only for after school hours.

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**Staff Records**

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**Records Reviewed: 7**

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

Staff # 1 Met

Date of Hire: 08/01/2013

Staff # 2 Met

Date of Hire: 06/26/2016

Staff # 3 Met

Date of Hire: 07/30/2013

Staff # 4 Met

Date of Hire: 09/29/2014

Staff # 5 Met

**Records Reviewed: 7**

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

Staff # 6

Met

Staff # 7

Met

Date of Hire: 07/31/2007

**Staff Credentials Reviewed: 1**

**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.

**Comment**

Please add adhesive tape to the kit.

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

**Met**

**Correction Deadline: 12/31/2021**

**Corrected on 5/10/2022**

**.33(5) - The previous citation was observed to be corrected. The Staff completed the required training hours for the year 2021.**

**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.