



**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:** 11/1/2021    **VisitType:** Monitoring Visit    **Arrival:** 10:00 AM    **Departure:** 11:00 AM

**CCLC-35847**

**Bright Beginnings Learning Academy**

2982 Flat Shoals Rd. Decatur, GA 30034 DeKalb County  
 (404) 254-3475 bbla2982@yahoo.com

**Regional Consultant**

Verlyn Gant  
 Phone: (404) 591-6059  
 Fax: (404) 591-6060  
 verlyn.gant@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.
11/01/2021	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
08/20/2021	Complaint Investigation by Phone	Good Standing	
03/10/2021	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	

  

<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.

**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/Front	One Year Olds and Two Year Olds	3	18	C	26	C	NA	NA	Circle Time
Main	B/Left		0	0	C	11	C	NA	NA	
Main	C/Lower	Four Year Olds	2	12	C	31	C	43	C	Circle Time
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 68					Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 86					
Two	A		0	0	C	7	C	NA	NA	
Two	B		0	0	C	11	C	NA	NA	
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 18					Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 86					
Total # Children this Date: 30			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 86			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 86				

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	A/Concrete	49	C
Main	B	196	C

**Comments**

Background checks were all reviewed on November 01, 2021. A virtual inspection was conducted on November 01, 2021 with the Director.

An in-person visit was not conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

On this date the consultant discussed rule changes effective October 01, 2020.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 11/01/2021

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 New Deadlines:

Due to the ongoing COVID restrictions, the deadline to become Quality Rated for programs who want to continue to receive Childcare and Parent Services (CAPS), has been extended to at least December 31, 2021.

Get started today! Sign up by completing a short online application: <https://qualityrated.dec.state.ga.us/>  
Request free technical assistance to help you earn your star rating by contacting the Quality Rated help desk at 855-800-7747 or [qualityrated@dec.state.ga.us](mailto:qualityrated@dec.state.ga.us)

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), e-mail the following information to [CCSRefutations@dec.state.ga.us](mailto:CCSRefutations@dec.state.ga.us).

- 1) Facility name, license number and visit date
- 2) Your name, title/relationship to the facility, e-mail address & up to two phone number(s) where you can be reached
- 3) Specific rule number(s) that you are refuting, along with your concerns or questions regarding the rule citation

Refutations must be submitted to Child Care Services (CCS) within 10 business days of the completion date.

A sample form for submitting a refutation can be found at: <http://dec.state.ga.us/ChildCareServices/RefutationInformation.aspx>

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)

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Erika Brown, Program Official

Date

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Verlyn Gant, 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**

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.

### 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**

Center appears clean and well maintained.

**Comment**

Please be mindful to keep items that pose a hazard such as trailing television cables inaccessible to children.

**Comment**

Please secure cleaning tools (i.e., plunger, toilet brush) out of reach of children.

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

**Comment**

Discussed maintenance of resilient surface. Please fluff and redistribute.

**Comment**

Playground observed to be clean and in good repair.

**Comment**

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.

Please ensure that the concrete area outside of the Pre-K classroom is made smooth to prevent tripping hazards.

**Correction Deadline: 11/1/2021**

<b>Food Service</b>
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**591-1-1-.15 Food Service & Nutrition****Met****Comment**

591-1-1-.15(2)(c) - Please ensure the new updated infant feeding form is used. Discussed revision to the written feeding plans for children under the age of 1 years old. Age-appropriate solid foods (including cereal) shall not be given to infants or children less than one (1) year of age until recommended as developmentally appropriate by the child's primary care physician and indicated in writing by the Parent(s). As soon as the feeding plan indicates that a child is ready for solid foods, the child shall be fed from individual spoons and individual containers or dishes. A child shall not be fed directly from the original baby food container if the contents are to be fed to the child at more than one (1) meal or to more than one (1) child.

**Correction Deadline: 11/1/2021**

**Comment**

591-1-1-.15(7) - Discussed new revision to restricted food rule which states: Foods that are associated with young children's choking incidents, such as, but not limited to, peanuts, hot dogs, raw carrots, popcorn, fish with bones, cheese cubes, grapes and any other food that is of similar shape and size of the trachea/windpipe shall not be served to the children less than four (4) years of age. Children older than four (4) years of age may be served these foods provided that the foods are cut in such a way as to minimize choking.

**Correction Deadline: 11/1/2021**

<b>Health and Hygiene</b>
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**591-1-1-.10 Diapering Areas & Practices(CR)****Met****Comment**

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

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

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

<b>Safety</b>
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**591-1-1-.11 Discipline(CR)****Met****Comment**

Regulations regarding proper discipline were discussed with the director on this date.

**591-1-1-.36 Transportation(CR)****Not Met****Comment**

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

**Finding**

591-1-1-.36(7)(a) requires that each vehicle contains current information including: the full names of all children to be transported, each child's pick-up location, pick-up time, delivery location, alternate delivery location if a Parent is not at home and name of person authorized to receive each child. In addition, the vehicle shall contain current information identifying the Center's name, telephone number and the name of the driver of the vehicle. It was determined based on a review of documentation that five children's files were missing the telephone number of person to contact in emergencies when the Parent cannot be reached.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center will ensure that the Center's information and the children's information is included on each vehicle.

**Correction Deadline: 11/2/2021**

**Finding**

591-1-1-.36(7)(b) requires that an emergency medical information record be maintained in the vehicle for each child being transported. The emergency medical information record for each child shall include a listing of the child's full name, date of birth, allergies, special medical needs and conditions, current prescribed medications that the child is required to take on a daily basis for a chronic condition, the name and telephone number of the child's doctor, the local medical facility that the Center uses in the area where the Center is located and the telephone numbers where the Parents can be reached. It was determined based on a review of documentation that seven children files were missing the telephone number of the child's primary source of health care.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center will obtain a complete emergency medical information record for each child that is transported and maintain a copy on the vehicle.

**Correction Deadline: 11/2/2021**

**Sleeping & Resting Equipment**

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

**Met**

**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.

**Comment**

591-1-1-.30(4) - requires that if cots and mats are stored in the children's activity room or area, they shall be stored to prevent children's access to them and to allow maximum use of play space. When storage is available and used for the storage of cots and mats that allows the cots, mats and any bedding to be stored without touching any other cots, mats or bedding, the bedding may be left on the cot or mat. When such storage is not available for the cots and mats, each child's bedding shall be kept separate from other children's bedding and stored in containers marked for individual use, such as, but not limited to, bins, cubbies, or bags.

Please ensure that the cots that are stored in the children's activity room or area, are stored to prevent children's access to them.

**Correction Deadline: 11/1/2021**

**Staff Records**

**Records Reviewed: 6**

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

Staff # 1

Met

Date of Hire: 10/13/2016

Staff # 2

Met

Date of Hire: 06/06/2019

**Records Reviewed: 6**

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

Staff # 3	Met
Staff # 4	Met
Staff # 5	Met
Date of Hire: 05/14/2019	
Staff # 6	Met

**Staff Credentials Reviewed: 6**

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

**Comment**

Criminal record checks were observed to be complete.

**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.

**Comment**

591-1-1-.32(7) - Discussed new revision to the supervision rule which states: 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.

**Correction Deadline: 11/1/2021**