



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: 6/8/2022 **VisitType:** Monitoring Visit **Arrival:** 1:00 PM **Departure:** 2:00 PM

CCLC-1583

The Learning Tree Academy

1661 Fernside Dr. Toccoa, GA 30577 Stephens County
 (706) 886-9900 thelearningtreeacademy@gmail.com

Regional Consultant

Beth Holland

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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.
06/08/2022	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
01/13/2022	Incident Investigation Closure	Good Standing	
12/08/2021	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
Building 1	1L	Two Year Olds	1	10	C	22	C	NA	NA	Nap
Building 1	1R	Three Year Olds	1	11	C	22	C	NA	NA	Nap
Building 1	2L	Two Year Olds and Three Year Olds	1	10	C	22	C	NA	NA	Nap
Building 1	2R	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	1	12	C	23	C	NA	NA	Nap
Building 1	Cafeteria		0	0	C	32	C	NA	NA	
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 121			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0							
Building 2	1L back	One Year Olds	1	6	C	10	C	NA	NA	Nap
Building 2	1L front		0	0	C	18	C	NA	NA	
Building 2	1R	Infants	3	9	C	14	C	NA	NA	Feeding, Floor Play, Nap
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 42			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0							
Building 3	Downstairs-1L	Four Year Olds and Five Year Olds	1	14	C	20	C	NA	NA	Lunch
Building 3	Downstairs-2L	Five Year Olds	1	17	C	18	C	NA	NA	Lunch
Building 3	Gym		0	0	C	62	C	NA	NA	

Building 3	Media Center		0	0	C	13	C	NA	NA	
Building 3	Upstairs 1L		0	0	C	19	C	NA	NA	
Building 3	Upstairs- 1R		0	0	C	39	C	NA	NA	
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 171						Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0				
Total # Children this Date: 89			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 334			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0				

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Building 1	Playground A-Rt side	102	C
Building 1	Playground B-Middle	70	C
Building 1	Playground C-Left side	56	C
Building 2	Playground-Infant	32	C
Building 2	Screened Porch	6	C
Building 3	Playground	75	C

Comments

a virtual monitoring visit was conducted on this date.

Plan of Improvement: No Plan Developed

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/RuleAndRegulations.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 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 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)

Logan Herring-Harris, Program Official

Date

Beth Holland, 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) **Met**

Comment

Swimming rules discussed.

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) **Met**

Comment

Discussed maintenance of resilient surface. Please fluff and redistribute.

Health and Hygiene

591-1-1.10 Diapering Areas & Practices(CR) **Met**

Comment

Staff state proper knowledge of diapering procedures.

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

Comment

Staff stated proper hand washing procedures.

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

Comment

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

Safety

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

Comment

Staff were observed to maintain a positive learning environment on this date.

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

Comment

Complete documentation of transportation observed.

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

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

Comment

Discussed SIDS and infant sleeping position.

Comment

Pleasant naptime environment observed.

Staff Records

Records Reviewed: 44

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 0

Staff # 1	Met
Date of Hire: 09/05/2019	
Staff # 2	Met
Date of Hire: 09/25/2019	
Staff # 3	Met
Date of Hire: 08/04/2016	
Staff # 4	Met
Date of Hire: 01/03/2022	
Staff # 5	Met
Date of Hire: 03/17/2018	
Staff # 6	Met
Date of Hire: 01/03/2022	
Staff # 7	Met
Date of Hire: 07/26/2018	

Staff # 8	Met
Date of Hire: 09/20/2021	
Staff # 9	Met
Date of Hire: 08/09/2021	
Staff # 10	Met
Date of Hire: 08/10/2009	
Staff # 11	Met
Date of Hire: 01/03/2022	
Staff # 12	Met
Date of Hire: 07/10/2010	
Staff # 13	Met
Date of Hire: 05/10/2021	
Staff # 14	Met
Date of Hire: 08/16/2010	
Staff # 15	Met
Date of Hire: 11/16/2016	
Staff # 16	Met
Date of Hire: 01/06/2020	
Staff # 17	Met
Date of Hire: 08/19/2008	
Staff # 18	Met
Date of Hire: 08/22/2015	
Staff # 19	Met
Date of Hire: 11/04/2021	
Staff # 20	Met
Date of Hire: 05/24/2021	
Staff # 21	Met
Date of Hire: 01/04/2022	
Staff # 22	Met
Date of Hire: 08/09/2021	

Staff # 23	Met
Date of Hire: 12/08/2021	
Staff # 24	Met
Date of Hire: 08/17/2021	
Staff # 25	Met
Date of Hire: 10/06/2020	
Staff # 26	Met
Date of Hire: 04/11/2022	<u>Reminder - Health & Safety training is required within 90 calendar days of hired</u>
Staff # 27	Met
Date of Hire: 05/13/2017	
Staff # 28	Met
Date of Hire: 02/11/2021	
Staff # 29	Met
Date of Hire: 05/13/2017	
Staff # 30	Met
Date of Hire: 03/16/2017	
Staff # 31	Met
Date of Hire: 08/15/2015	
Staff # 32	Met
Date of Hire: 07/22/2012	
Staff # 33	Met
Date of Hire: 05/23/2022	<u>Reminder - Health & Safety training is required within 90 calendar days of hired</u>
Staff # 34	Met
Date of Hire: 02/22/2016	
Staff # 35	Met
Date of Hire: 04/12/2017	
Staff # 36	Met
Date of Hire: 09/05/2019	
Staff # 37	Met

Records Reviewed: 44**Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 0**

Date of Hire: 04/14/2022

Reminder - Health & Safety training is required within 90 calendar days of hired

Staff # 38

Met

Date of Hire: 05/19/2016

Staff # 39

Met

Date of Hire: 11/11/2021

Staff # 40

Met

Date of Hire: 04/16/2017

Staff # 41

Met

Date of Hire: 10/27/2015

Staff # 42

Met

Date of Hire: 05/16/2019

Staff # 43

Met

Date of Hire: 02/01/2021

Staff # 44

Met

Date of Hire: 08/01/2018

Staff Credentials Reviewed: 6**591-1-1-.09 Criminal Records and Comprehensive Background Checks(CR)****Met****Comment**

Director provided six file(s) for employees hired since last visit on December 8, 2021.

Correction Deadline: 12/8/2021**Corrected on 6/8/2022****.09(1)(a) - Previous citation observed to be corrected in that 42 of 42 staff members had evidence of current satisfactory comprehensive background checks.****Correction Deadline: 12/8/2021****Corrected on 6/8/2022****.09(1)(c) - Previous citation observed to be corrected in that 42 of 42 staff members had satisfactory background checks prior to starting employment.****Correction Deadline: 12/8/2021****Corrected on 6/8/2022****.09(1)(l)2. - Previous citation observed to be corrected in that no employee had a lapse of employment greater than 180 days or longer.****591-1-1-.31 Staff(CR)****Met****Comment**

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

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.