



**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:** 12/20/2022 **VisitType:** Monitoring Visit

**Arrival:** 10:15 AM

**Departure:** 12:15 PM

**CCLC-26917**

**Sweetwater Academy**

35 Florence Road Douglasville, GA 30134 Paulding County  
 (770) 942-7233 sweetwateracademy1@gmail.com

**Regional Consultant**

Brionne Higgins

Phone: (404) 232-1903

Fax: (770) 359-5819

brionne.higgins@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.
12/20/2022	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
06/22/2022	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
01/04/2022	Monitoring Visit	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	First Back	Four Year Olds and Five Year Olds	1	8	C	25	C	NA	NA	Free Play
Main	First Left		0	0	C	14	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Main	First Right	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	2	14	C	27	C	NA	NA	Centers
Main	Fourth Left(Right)	Six Year Olds and Over	2	13	C	26	C	NA	NA	Free Play
Main	Second Left	Infants and One Year Olds	2	8	C	23	C	NA	NA	Feeding,Free Play
Main	Second Right (Left)		0	0	C	26	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 141			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0							
Total # Children this Date: 43			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0							

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	Playground A	184	C
Main	Playground B	96	C

**Comments**

The purpose of this visit was to follow up to a visit conducted on June 22, 2022.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 12/20/2022

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/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](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)

Jennifer Hale, Program Official

Date

Brionne Higgins, 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**

Pool not in use at this time, gates observed locked.

#### Facility

**591-1-1.06 Bathrooms**

**Technical Assistance**

**Technical Assistance**

591-1-1.06(4) - Consultant discussed monitoring bathroom vents to ensure that they remain in working order.

**Correction Deadline: 1/19/2023**

**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**

Playground observed to be clean and in good repair.

#### Health and Hygiene

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<b>591-1-1-.10 Diapering Areas &amp; Practices(CR)</b>	<b>Met</b>
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**Comment**

Staff state proper knowledge of diapering procedures.

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<b>591-1-1-.17 Hygiene(CR)</b>	<b>Met</b>
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**Comment**

Proper hand washing observed throughout the center.

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<b>591-1-1-.20 Medications(CR)</b>	<b>Met</b>
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**Comment**

Documentation for medication dispensing observed complete.

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

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

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<b>591-1-1-.36 Transportation(CR)</b>	<b>Not Met</b>
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**Comment**

The vehicle had an approved fire extinguisher and first aid kit on this date.

**Finding**

591-1-1-.36(7)(c)2. requires that the driver or other designated person shall immediately document in writing, with a check or other mark/symbol to account for each child listed on the passenger transportation checklist each time a child enters and exits the vehicle. The driver or other designated staff person shall document in writing with a different mark/symbol to account for each child listed on the passenger transportation checklist who was not present on the vehicle for any reason. An explanation shall be documented in writing whenever a child is transported to a field trip site but is not present on the return trip to the Center. It was determined based on a review of records that center staff failed to document in writing with a check to account for seven children unloading the vehicle on the PM transportation route from Hal Hutchens Elementary to Sweetwater Academy on December 14, 2022.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The driver/other designated person will immediately document in writing with a check/mark/symbol each time a child gets on and off the vehicle.

**Correction Deadline: 12/21/2022**

**Finding**

591-1-1-.36(7)(c)3. requires that the driver or other designated person document in writing the time of arrival and departure each time the vehicle departs from the Center, is loaded or unloaded at each school and when the vehicle returns to the Center; each time the vehicle departs from the Center, arrives at the location where any child is picked up or dropped off and when the vehicle returns to the Center; each time the vehicle leaves the Center, arrives at a field trip destination, leaves a field trip destination, and returns to the Center. It was determined based on a review of records that center staff failed to document in writing the time the vehicle returned to Sweetwater Academy on the PM transportation route from Baggett Elementary.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center will ensure that each time of arrival and departure is documented by the driver or designated person with training, review and monitoring.

**Correction Deadline: 12/21/2022**

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	<b>Sleeping &amp; Resting Equipment</b>
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**Comment**

Discussed SIDS and infant sleeping position.

**Comment**

Pleasant naptime environment observed.

**Staff Records****Records Reviewed: 22****Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 0**

Staff # 1 Met

Date of Hire: 09/12/2022

Staff # 2 Met

Staff # 3 Met

Staff # 4 Met

Date of Hire: 01/19/2017

Staff # 5 Met

Staff # 6 Met

Staff # 7 Met

Staff # 8 Met

Date of Hire: 02/26/2021

Staff # 9 Met

Date of Hire: 12/12/2022

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

Staff # 10 Met

Staff # 11 Met

Staff # 12 Met

Date of Hire: 04/05/2017

Staff # 13 Met

Staff # 14 Met

Date of Hire: 07/25/2019

Staff # 15 Met

Staff # 16 Met

Date of Hire: 08/07/2022

Staff # 17 Met

**Records Reviewed: 22**

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

Date of Hire: 08/06/2019

Staff # 18 Met

Staff # 19 Met

Staff # 20 Met

Date of Hire: 11/14/2022 Reminder - Health & Safety training is required within 90 calendar days of hired

Staff # 21 Met

Date of Hire: 07/30/2000

Staff # 22 Met

Date of Hire: 08/16/2010

**Staff Credentials Reviewed: 8**

**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**

**Correction Deadline: 7/22/2022**

**Corrected on 12/20/2022**

**.14(1) - Previous citation corrected on this date. Consultant observed at least 50% of staff to be certified in First Aid and CPR.**

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

**Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.33(2) - Consultant discussed ensuring that all newly hired staff members has obtained initial Center orientation as required. Consultant discussed obtaining documentation of initial center orientation and placing it in staff files.

**Correction Deadline: 12/21/2022**

**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.