



**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:** 5/6/2021    **VisitType:** Licensing Study    **Arrival:** 10:15 AM    **Departure:** 11:15 AM

**CCLC-37783**

**Smart Start Learning Center, LLC**

942 Linton Road Sandersville, GA 31082 Washington County  
 (478) 552-8447 smartstartlearningcenter@yahoo.com

**Regional Consultant**

Laura Johnson

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**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.
05/06/2021	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
10/16/2020	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
09/26/2019	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 /B- 1R	Infants and One Year Olds	1	4	C	11	C	NA	NA	Feeding,Nap
Main	C - School Age		0	0	C	5	C	NA	NA	
Main	D - 4's 2nd R		0	0	C	7	C	NA	NA	
Main	E-3's - 3rd L	Three Year Olds	1	3	C	6	C	NA	NA	Nap
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 29						Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0				
Total # Children this Date: 7			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 29			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0				

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	Playground	34	C

**Comments**

An Administrative Review was conducted on May 6, 2021. Staff files, children's files, training, and background checks were all reviewed. A virtual inspection was conducted on May 13, 2021 with the Director. An in-person visit was not conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Compliance with the Executive Order issued on April 30, 2021 was reviewed during the virtual inspection.

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.decal.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



### 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.decal.ga.gov/>  
Request free technical assistance to help you earn your star rating by contacting the Quality Rated help desk at 855-800-7747 or [qualityrated@decal.ga.gov](mailto:qualityrated@decal.ga.gov)

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@decal.ga.gov](mailto:CCSRefutations@decal.ga.gov).

- 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://decal.ga.gov/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)

Nateshia Scott, Program Official

Date

Laura Johnson, Consultant

Date



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### Findings Report

**Date:** 5/6/2021 **VisitType:** Licensing Study **Arrival:** 10:15 AM **Departure:** 11:15 AM

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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.

**Comment**

Additional cleaning and sanitizing requirements due to the COVID-19 pandemic were also discussed and observed during a virtual walk through on May 13, 2021.

**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: 0**

Child # 1	Met
Child # 2	Met
Child # 3	Met
Child # 4	Met
Child # 5	Met

**591-1-1-.08 Children's Records**

**Met**

**Correction Deadline: 10/3/2019**

Corrected on 5/6/2021

.08(1) - This citation was corrected. The children's enrollment records were observed organized and complete.

## Facility

### 591-1-1-.06 Bathrooms

Met

#### Comment

During a virtual visit on May 14, 2021, the bathrooms were observed clean and had the necessary supplies available.

### 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 were observed accessible to the children in care during a virtual visit on May 13, 2021.

### 591-1-1-.26 Playgrounds(CR)

Met

#### Comment

A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The grass on the playground appeared to be well maintained. The consultant discussed daily monitoring of the playground and playground equipment to ensure that hazards are not present while children are present for care.

## Food Service

### 591-1-1-.15 Food Service & Nutrition

Technical Assistance

#### Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.15(2) - 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: 5/6/2021**

#### Technical Assistance

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: 5/6/2021**

### 591-1-1-.18 Kitchen Operations

Met

#### Comment

The kitchen appeared clean and well organized during a virtual walk through of the center on May 14, 2021.

## Health and Hygiene

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

A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic on May 13, 2021. Diapering was not directly observed during the virtual walk through. Procedures and sanitation regarding proper diapering were discussed with the Director on this date.

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

A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic on May 13, 2021. Hand washing was not directly observed during the virtual walk through. Hand washing supplies were observed, and hand washing practices were discussed with the Director on this date.

**591-1-1-.20 Medications(CR)****N/A****Comment**

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

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

591-1-1-.21(1)(p) - The consultant observed the Written Emergency Plan and spoke with the Director about reviewing and updating the plans annually.

**Correction Deadline: 5/11/2021**

**Comment**

Program observed complete emergency drills

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

A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Discipline was not directly observed during the virtual walk through. Regulations regarding proper discipline were discussed with the Director on May 13, 2021.

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

Center does not participate in field trips at this time.

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

Center does not provide routine transportation.

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

A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Tight fitting sheets, SIDS, and infant sleeping position were discussed with the Director on May 13, 2021.

**Staff Records****Records Reviewed: 6****Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 0**

Staff # 1

Met

**Records Reviewed: 6****Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 0**

Date of Hire: 09/08/2020

Staff # 2

Met

Date of Hire: 01/08/2016

Staff # 3

Met

Date of Hire: 04/21/2018

Staff # 4

Met

Date of Hire: 05/01/2016

Staff # 5

Met

Date of Hire: 06/06/2014

Staff # 6

Met

Date of Hire: 08/22/2014

**Staff Credentials Reviewed: 9****591-1-1-.09 Criminal Records and Comprehensive Background Checks(CR)****Met****Comment**

Consultant requested to view all Criminal Record checks for employees hired after last visit. Director stated that there have been no new hires since last visit

**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-.31 Staff(CR)****Met****Correction Deadline: 12/31/2019****Corrected on 5/6/2021**

.31(2)(b)2. - This citation was corrected. All lead teachers had documentation of educational requirements on file.

**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**

Staff observed to provide direct supervision and be attentive to children's needs.