



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: 9/7/2022 **VisitType:** Monitoring Visit

Arrival: 10:50 AM **Departure:** 1:25 PM

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

Phone: (470) 891-3520

Fax: (678) 913-0577

laura.johnson@dec.al.ga.gov

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.
09/07/2022	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
04/14/2022	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
10/13/2021	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	A /B- 1R	Infants and One Year Olds	2	11	C	11	C	NA	NA	Nap,Feeding,TV
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	Two Year Olds	2	7	C	6	NC	NA	NA	Circle Time
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 29					Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					
Total # Children this Date: 18					Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	Playground	34	C

Comments

The Director, Nateshia Scott, stated that the program does not provide routine transportation, administer medications, or provide swimming activities. The Director provided one file for an employee hired since the last visit. The center is a three star quality rated program.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 09/07/2022

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 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)

Nateshia Scott, Program Official

Date

Laura Johnson, Consultant

Date



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Findings Report

Date: 9/7/2022 **VisitType:** Monitoring Visit **Arrival:** 10:50 AM **Departure:** 1:25 PM

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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.

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: 4/29/2022

Corrected on 9/7/2022

.08(1) - This citation was corrected on this date. Five out of five child files reviewed were complete and well organized on this date.

Evening Care

591-1-1-.32 Staffing/Supervision(CR)**Met****Comment**

No evening care hours provided

Facility

591-1-1-.19 License Capacity(CR)**Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.19(1) requires a Center to provide 35 square feet of usable space per child, which will determine the Center's License capacity. It was determined based on observation that two staff members and seven two-year-old children were observed in Classroom E and the classroom is licensed for six children at 35 square feet.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will limit the number of children in this space to the licensed capacity.

Correction Deadline: 9/7/2022

591-1-1-.25 Physical Plant - Safe Environment(CR)**Met****Correction Deadline: 5/31/2022****Corrected on 9/7/2022**

.25(3) - This citation was corrected on this date. All wallpaper had been removed and the classroom was repainted.

591-1-1-.25 Physical Plant-Structural/Mechanical**Technical Assistance****Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.25(5) requires approval from the Department, local zoning authorities, fire safety agencies and local building authorities for any structural changes to an existing Center or for construction of a new Center. Construction and maintenance work shall take place only in areas that are not accessible to the children.

The consultant spoke with the Director about ensuring that classroom equipment needing repairs are removed from the classroom while maintenance is being performed. The consultant observed in classroom E a children's table that had been taken apart with the pieces left in the dramatic play area. Staff stated that the maintenance person had worked on the equipment this morning and was in the process of fixing the table.

Correction Deadline: 9/7/2022

591-1-1-.26 Playgrounds(CR)**Not Met****Correction Deadline: 4/24/2022****Corrected on 9/7/2022**

.26(6) - This citation was corrected on this date. The program repaired the playhouse and removed all hazards.

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.26(6) - The consultant spoke with the Director about approved playground equipment and asked the Director to remove the trampoline from the playground.

Correction Deadline: 9/17/2022**Finding**

591-1-1-.26(7) requires that climbing and swinging equipment be anchored. It was determined based on observation that the swing set on the playground included two swings and a slide that was not anchored as required on this date.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will remove or repair equipment that is not anchored and will regularly inspect the equipment to ensure it remains anchored.

Correction Deadline: 10/14/2022

Finding

591-1-1-.26(8) requires climbing and swinging equipment to have a resilient surface beneath the equipment and the fall zone from such equipment must be adequately maintained by the Center to assure continuing resiliency. It was determined based on observation that there was less than one-inch of resilient surfacing under the swings and not six-inches as required.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will add additional resilient surfacing to the fall zones where needed and check daily, adding resilient surfacing as needed to maintain adequate resiliency.

Correction Deadline: 9/17/2022

Correction Deadline: 4/14/2022

Corrected on 9/7/2022

.26(9) - This citation was corrected on this date. The playground was observed to be clean and free of hazards on this date.

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

Proper hand washing observed throughout the center.

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

Comment

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

Organization

591-1-1-.16 Governing Body & License **Technical Assistance**

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.16(f) - The consultant spoke with the Director about submitting an amendment request for the additional playground added at the center.

Correction Deadline: 9/7/2022

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) **N/A**

Comment

Center does not provide routine transportation.

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

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

Technical Assistance

Correction Deadline: 5/13/2022

Corrected on 9/7/2022

.30(1)(a)2 - This citation was corrected. All crib mattresses were observed to be firm, tight-fitting without gaps, at least 2 inches thick and covered with a waterproof, washable material on this date.

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.30(1)(a)3 - Please ensure that crib sheets are tight-fitting, in good repair, and should cover the entire mattress.

Correction Deadline: 9/7/2022

Staff Records

Records Reviewed: 7

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 0

Staff # 1	Met
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: 06/20/2022	
Staff # 5	Met
Date of Hire: 05/01/2016	
Staff # 6	Met
Date of Hire: 06/06/2014	
Staff # 7	Met
Date of Hire: 08/22/2014	

Staff Credentials Reviewed: 7

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

Met

Comment

Criminal record checks were observed to be complete.

Comment

Director provided one file for employees hired since the last visit.

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**

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