



**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:** 5/16/2022 **VisitType:** Monitoring Visit

**Arrival:** 10:00 AM **Departure:** 11:00 AM

**CCLC-30199**

**First Step Learning Center**

1060 Franklin Gateway Marietta, GA 30067 Cobb County  
 (678) 831-0669 firststepcenter@yahoo.com

**Regional Consultant**

Evelyn McBurse

Phone: (770) 405-7958

Fax: (404) 591-5186

evelyn.mcburse@dec.al.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.
05/16/2022	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
12/14/2021	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
05/11/2021	Complaint Closure	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	Room A - Infants - Right Side	Infants	1	5	C	17	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main	Room B - 1 & 2 yr olds - Left Side	One Year Olds and Two Year Olds	1	5	C	18	C	NA	NA	Outside
Main	Room C - 2 year - Middle Back	Two Year Olds	2	12	C	20	C	NA	NA	Free Play
Main	Room D - Pre-K Back Left	GA PreK	2	15	C	37	C	NA	NA	Outside
Main	Room E - Front Right	GA PreK	2	15	C	37	C	NA	NA	Centers
Main	Room F - Front Left	Three Year Olds	2	19	C	37	C	NA	NA	Centers
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 166					Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					
Total # Children this Date: 71			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 166			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0				

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	Area B - Younger - Left Side	54	C
Main	Room A - Older - Right Side	115	C

**Comments**

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

Roma Gambrel, Program Official

Date

Evelyn McBurse, 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)**

**Not Evaluated**

**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.

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

**Met**

**Comment**

Please ensure to monitor the playground areas for the following hazards: - Normal wear and tear of playground equipment and toys. Potential entrapment hazards in the fence surrounding the playground area. Biting and/or stinging insects (i.e. ants, bees, etc.). Loose and/or weak tree branches surrounding the playground area. Standing water in and around playground equipment after inclement weather. Fall zones and resilient surface.

**Health and Hygiene**

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

**Comment**

Staff stated proper knowledge of diapering procedures.

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

**Comment**

Staff stated proper hand washing and hygiene procedures.

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**591-1-1-.20 Medications(CR)** **Not Evaluated**

**Comment**

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

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**Safety**

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

**Comment**

Staff stated age-appropriate discussion and redirection as a form of discipline.

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**591-1-1-.36 Transportation(CR)** **Not Evaluated**

**Comment**

Center does not provide routine transportation.

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**Sleeping & Resting Equipment**

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

**Comment**

Discussed SIDS and infant sleeping position.

**Comment**

Pleasant naptime environment observed.

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**Staff Records**

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**Records Reviewed: 11**

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

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Staff # 1 Met

Date of Hire: 08/03/2018

Staff # 2 Met

Date of Hire: 04/13/2017

Staff # 3 Met

Date of Hire: 06/24/2013

Staff # 4 Met

Date of Hire: 11/16/2020

Staff # 5 Met

Date of Hire: 04/01/2022

Staff # 6 Met

**Records Reviewed: 11**

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

Date of Hire: 11/16/2016

Staff # 7 Met

Date of Hire: 06/27/2017

Staff # 8 Met

Date of Hire: 03/20/2019

Staff # 9 Met

Date of Hire: 08/27/2020

Staff # 10 Met

Date of Hire: 09/13/2016

Staff # 11 Met

Date of Hire: 07/31/2017

**Staff Credentials Reviewed: 8**

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

**Comment**

Director provided one file for employees hired since last visit on December 14, 2021.

**Comment**

Satisfactory comprehensive criminal record checks were observed to be complete for all staff on this date.

**591-1-1-.33 Staff Training Met**

**Correction Deadline: 1/13/2022**

**Corrected on 5/16/2022**

**.33(4) - Correction of the previous citation in that consultant observed director and cook to have completed four clock hours of training in food nutrition planning, preparation, serving, proper dish washing and food storage.**

**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.