



**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: 6/2/2021 **VisitType:** Licensing Study **Arrival:** 10:00 AM **Departure:** 11:30 AM

CCLC-35134

First Step Learning Center

406 Carver Drive Fort Valley, GA 31030 Peach County
(478) 825-0509 firststeplearningc@att.net

Regional Consultant

Yolanda Marable

Phone: (770) 357-9953

Fax: (678) 302-2432

yolanda.marable@decal.ga.gov

Mailing Address

Same

Quality Rated: ★ ★

Compliance Zone Designation		
06/02/2021	Licensing Study	Good Standing
11/03/2020	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing
11/13/2019	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing

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.

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- front right	Two Year Olds and Three Year Olds	1	6	C	10	C	NA	NA	Music
Main	B1 1 Left	One Year Olds and Two Year Olds	1	8	C	8	C	NA	NA	Music
Main	B2 - front left		0	0	C	8	C	NA	NA	
Main	C - back right	Infants	2	5	C	8	C	NA	NA	Floor Play
Main	D - back left		0	0	C	17	C	NA	NA	
Main	E1-far bck		0	0	C	13	C	NA	NA	
Main	E2 Far bck front		0	0	C	10	C	NA	NA	
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 74						Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0				
Total # Children this Date: 19			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 74			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0				

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	PlayGround A: Left	58	C
Main	PlayGround B: Back Middle	14	C
Main	PlayGround C: Back Left	8	C

Comments

No Plan Developed.

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/Regulations.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.dec.state.ga.us/>
Request free technical assistance to help you earn your star rating by contacting the Quality Rated help desk at 855-800-7747 or qualityrated@dec.state.ga.us

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@dec.state.ga.us.

- 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://dec.state.ga.us/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)

Linda Cooper, Program Official

Date

Yolanda Marable, Consultant

Date



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Findings Report

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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.

591-1-1-.35 Swimming Pools & Water-related Activities(CR) **Met**

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

No hazards observed accessible to children on this date.

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

Technical Assistance

The outdoor equipment shall be free of lead-based paint, sharp corners and shall be regularly maintained in such a way as to be free of rust and splinters that could pose significant safety hazard to the children.

Playground A:

- the third and fourth brown steps on the blue and white jungle gym has exposed rusted metal on the steps.

Playground C:

-exposed pipe and wire on the white wall of the building.

Correction Deadline: 6/12/2021

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 were observed to remind children to wash hands.

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

Comment

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

Safety

591-1-1-.05 Animals **Met**

Comment

Center does not keep animals on premises.

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

Comment

Age-appropriate discussion and/or redirection observed.

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) **Met**

Comment

Center does not provide routine transportation.

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

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

Comment

Discussed SIDS and infant sleeping position.

Staff Records

Records Reviewed: 13

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 0

Staff # 1 Met

Date of Hire: 04/12/2012

Staff # 2 Met

Date of Hire: 03/01/2012

Staff # 3 Met

Date of Hire: 12/12/2019

Staff # 4 Met

Date of Hire: 10/18/2019

Records Reviewed: 13

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 0

Staff # 5 Date of Hire: 06/28/2015	Met
Staff # 6 Date of Hire: 09/21/2015	Met
Staff # 7 Date of Hire: 02/22/2021	Met
Staff # 8 Date of Hire: 01/13/1998	Met
Staff # 9 Date of Hire: 01/17/2019	Met
Staff # 10 Date of Hire: 03/22/2021	Met <u>Reminder - Health & Safety training is required within 90 calendar days of hired</u>
Staff # 11 Date of Hire: 04/20/2021	Met <u>Reminder - Health & Safety training is required within 90 calendar days of hired</u>
Staff # 12 Date of Hire: 04/28/2021	Met <u>Reminder - Health & Safety training is required within 90 calendar days of hired</u>
Staff # 13 Date of Hire: 03/11/2021	Met <u>Reminder - Health & Safety training is required within 90 calendar days of hired</u>

Staff Credentials Reviewed: 9

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

Comment

Director provided four file(s) for employees hired since 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

Adequate supervision observed on this date.