



**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:** 12/14/2021 **VisitType:** Monitoring Visit

**Arrival:** 1:30 PM

**Departure:** 2:30 PM

**CCLC-32989**

**The Word of Truth A+ Learning Academy**

1380 Snapfinger Road Decatur, GA 30032 DeKalb County  
(404) 288-4038 lhollins@bellsouth.net

**Regional Consultant**

Kesha McNeal

Phone: (866) 359-1672

Fax: (866) 359-7490

kesha.mcneal@decals.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.<br><br><b>Good Standing</b> - Program is demonstrating an acceptable level of performance in meeting the rules.<br><b>Support</b> - Program performance is demonstrating a need for improvement in meeting rules.<br><b>Deficient</b> - Program is not demonstrating an acceptable level of performance in meeting the rules. |
|------------------------------------|------------------|---------------|--|
| 12/14/2021                         | Monitoring Visit | Good Standing |  |
| 03/22/2021                         | Licensing Study  | Good Standing |  |
| 10/08/2020                         | 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                     |
|--------------------------------|-------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------|----------|------|-------------------------------|--------------|------------|--------------|---------------------------|
| 2nd Blg                        | infant room |                                   | 0                              | 0        | C    | 20                            | C            | NA         | NA           |                           |
| Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 20 |             |                                   |                                |          |      | Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0 |              |            |              |                           |
| BLG 1                          | 1 st left   |                                   | 0                              | 0        | C    | 30                            | C            | NA         | NA           |                           |
| BLG 1                          | 2 nd left   | Six Year Olds and Over            | 1                              | 2        | C    | 25                            | C            | NA         | NA           | Centers, Transitioning    |
| BLG 1                          | 2nd right   | Two Year Olds and Three Year Olds | 1                              | 3        | C    | 24                            | C            | NA         | NA           | Floor Play, Transitioning |
| Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 79 |             |                                   |                                |          |      | Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0 |              |            |              |                           |
| Total # Children this Date: 5  |             |                                   | Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 99 |          |      | Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0 |              |            |              |                           |

| Building | Playground | Playground Occupancy | Playground Compliance |
|----------|------------|----------------------|-----------------------|
| BLG 1    | Playground | 56                   | C                     |

**Comments**

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.

An in-person visit was not conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 12/14/2021

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)

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Margaret Hollinshed, Program Official

Date

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Kesha McNeal, 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)**

**N/A**

**Comment**

Center does not provide swimming activities.

### Children's Records

**Records Reviewed: 1**

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

Child # 1

Met

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

**Technical Assistance**

**Correction Deadline: 3/25/2021**

**Corrected on 12/14/2021**

**.08(1) - Previous citation observed corrected on this date.**

**Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.08(1) - Please ensure that Center Staff maintain a file for each child while such child is in care and for one year after that child is no longer enrolled. In order for the file to be complete, the file shall contain the following: child's name, birth date, sex, address, living arrangement, name of school if applicable; names of both Parents, home and work addresses, and home and work telephone numbers; name(s) and addresses of the person(s) to whom the child may be released including address, telephone numbers, relationship to child and to Parent(s), and other identifying information; name(s) and telephone number(s) of person(s) to contact in emergencies when the Parent cannot be reached; name and telephone number of the child's primary source of health care; and a statement regarding known allergies, physical problems, mental health disorders, mental retardation or developmental disabilities which limit the child's participation in the program.

|                 |
|-----------------|
| <b>Facility</b> |
|-----------------|

**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.

|                           |
|---------------------------|
| <b>Health and Hygiene</b> |
|---------------------------|

**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 of children and staff was discussed with the and staff on this date.

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

**Comment**

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

|               |
|---------------|
| <b>Safety</b> |
|---------------|

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

**Comment**

The center's discipline policy was reviewed on this date. Regulations regarding proper discipline were discussed with the director and staff on this date.

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

**Comment**

Center does not provide routine transportation.

|   |
|---|
| <b>Sleeping &amp; Resting Equipment</b> |
|---|

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

**Comment**

The correct number of cots, sheets and blankets were observed on this date. Cleaning and disinfecting of mats was discussed with the director on this date.

|                      |
|----------------------|
| <b>Staff Records</b> |
|----------------------|

Staff # 1 Not Met  
 Date of Hire: 09/10/2015  
"Missing/Incomplete Components"  
 .31(2)(b)2.-Staff Qualifications-Education Missing

Staff # 2 Met  
 Date of Hire: 05/27/2010

Staff # 3 Not Met  
 Date of Hire: 04/10/2019  
"Missing/Incomplete Components"  
 .31(2)(b)2.-Staff Qualifications-Education Missing

**Staff Credentials Reviewed: 5**

**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-.33 Staff Training** **Defer**

**Defer**

591-1-1-.33(5)- Annual training will be reviewed at the next licensing study conducted in 2022.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center will plan and schedule the required 10 hours of annual training each year and follow up to ensure the training is completed.

**Correction Deadline: 3/25/2021**

**591-1-1-.31 Staff(CR)** **Not Met**

**Finding**

591-1-1-.31(2)(b)2. requires teachers and lead caregivers to meet minimum academic requirements and qualifying experience at the time of employment. It was determined based on a review of records that two Lead Teachers, did not meet the academic requirements of having a credential or degree.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

A teacher/lead caregiver will be hired that meets the minimum academic requirements and qualifying work experience.

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

**Recited on 12/14/2021**

**Staffing and Supervision**

**591-1-1-.32 Staff:Child Ratios and Group Size(CR)** **Met**

**Comment**

Center observed to maintain appropriate staff:child ratios.

**Comment**

Adequate supervision observed on this date.