



**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

**Date:** 7/19/2023    **VisitType:** Licensing Study    **Arrival:** 8:35 AM    **Departure:** 10:05 AM

**CCLC-11594**

**Harper Creative Learning Center**

142 Banks Road Barnesville, GA 30204 Lamar County  
 CCLC-11594 harperclc@yahoo.com

**Regional Consultant**

Brandi Mangino

Phone: (478) 314-9726

Fax: (478) 599-0169

brandi.mangino@dec.al.ga.gov

**Mailing Address**

142 Banks Rd.  
 Barnesville, GA 30204

**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.  <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.
07/19/2023	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
01/23/2023	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
08/03/2022	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	Front Left	Two Year Olds	1	4	C	7	C	NA	NA	Circle Time
Main	Large Back	One Year Olds	1	6	C	20	C	NA	NA	Free Play
Main	Right Main (Entrance)	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds and Five Year Olds	1	12	C	16	C	22	C	Centers
Main	Small Back	Six Year Olds and Over	1	8	C	11	C	NA	NA	Art
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 54					Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 60					
Total # Children this Date: 30			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 54			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 60				

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	Plgd-Main	70	C

**Comments**

Plan of Improvement developed on this date.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 07/19/2023

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

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)



#### 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!**

Yashanda Walker, Program Official

Date

Brandi Mangino, Regional Consultant

Date



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

(Findings Report)

Date: 7/19/2023 VisitType: Licensing Study Arrival: 8:35 AM Departure: 10:05 AM

**CCLC-11594**

**Harper Creative Learning Center**

142 Banks Road Barnesville, GA 30204 Lamar County  
CCLC-11594 harperclc@yahoo.com

**Regional Consultant**

Brandi Mangino

Phone: (478) 314-9726

Fax: (478) 599-0169

brandi.mangino@decal.ga.gov

**Mailing Address**

142 Banks Rd.  
Barnesville, GA 30204

The following information is associated with a Licensing Study:

**Activities and Equipment**

**591-1-1-.03 Activities**

**Technical Assistance**

**Technical Assistance**

Please ensure that each room has a posted daily schedule

**Correction Deadline: 7/19/2023**

**591-1-1-.12 Equipment & Toys(CR)**

**Not Met**

**Finding**

591-1-1-.12(5) requires Center Staff to provide table space for each child who is able to sit at a table unassisted and an appropriately sized chair or bench for each child who is not an infant and who is able to use a chair or bench. It was determined based on observation that in the Small Back Classroom eight children were present and the classroom only had six chairs available for the children, so chairs were being shared.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center will provide required equipment as noted.

**Correction Deadline: 8/18/2023**

**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)**

**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 upon arrival 18 children were in the Right Main Classroom when the room was licensed for 16 children. It was further determined that the Small Back room was housing storage of items such as a highchair that is not used for the age group, and other equipment in the corners that was not giving the children within the room the full 35 square feet that is required.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

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

**Correction Deadline: 7/19/2023**

---

**591-1-1-.25 Physical Plant - Safe Environment(CR)****Not Met****Technical Assistance**

Consultant discussed that the diapering station in the Front Left needs to be locked as a pack of baby wipes and plastic bag were accessible to children in care.

**Correction Deadline: 7/19/2023**

**Finding**

591-1-1-.25(3) requires the Center and surrounding premises to be kept clean, free of debris and in good repair. Hygienic measures such as, but not limited to, screened windows and proper waste disposal procedures shall be utilized to minimize the presence of rodents, flies, roaches and other vermin at the Center. It was determined based on observation that the following items are in need of being repaired:

- middle back porch due to exposed nails and middle and left side porch due to chipping wood
- door frame of the middle back door due to chipping wood
- wall around the toilet in the Right Main Classroom front restroom as it was chipping material

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center will have the Center and surrounding areas cleaned, make repairs where needed, and remove all debris is removed. The Center will implement a plan to keep areas clean and in good repair that includes regular monitoring.

**Correction Deadline: 8/2/2023**

---

**591-1-1-.26 Playgrounds(CR)****Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.26(6) requires that playground equipment provide an opportunity for the children to engage in a variety of experiences and shall be age-appropriate. For example, toddlers shall not be permitted to swing in swings designed for School-age Children. 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. All equipment shall be arranged so as not to obstruct supervision of children. It was determined based on observation that a small trampoline was observed on the Front Playground.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center will provide a variety of age-appropriate equipment that is arranged so as not to obstruct supervision of children. Staff will check the equipment daily to ensure that the equipment is free of hazards, rust and splinters.

**Correction Deadline: 7/29/2023**

**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 the fall zones around the swings was not adequate in that it did not cover five feet out from the swings.

**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: 7/19/2023**

**Recited on 7/19/2023**

**Finding**

591-1-1-.26(9) requires the playground to be kept clean, free from litter and free of hazards, such as but not limited to rocks, exposed tree roots and exposed sharp edges of concrete. It was determined based on observation that the large back playground had limbs throughout. It was further determined that the wood around the air conditioner unit was chipping wood.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center will remove any litter and fix or remove hazards from the playground and will routinely monitor the playground and remove litter and hazards.

**Correction Deadline: 8/2/2023**

**Recited on 7/19/2023**

**Food Service****591-1-1-.15 Food Service & Nutrition****Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.15(7) requires that food be served according to manufacturer's instructions and recommendations. 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. Food shall not be accessible or served to children until it has been chopped, diced, cut or mashed and is appropriate for each child's age and individual eating, chewing and swallowing ability. It was determined based on a review of the center menu that meatballs were served to the center on July 17, 2023 which pose a choking hazard to children in care.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center will train Staff and monitor food served and accessible to children to ensure that the food does not present a choking hazard.

**Correction Deadline: 7/19/2023**

**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**

Handwashing procedues discussed.

**Correction Deadline: 7/19/2023**

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

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

**Safety****591-1-1-.05 Animals****Not Evaluated****Comment**

Center does not keep animals on premises.

---

<b>591-1-1-.11 Discipline(CR)</b>	<b>Met</b>
-----------------------------------	------------

**Comment**

Age-appropriate discussion and/or redirection observed.

---

<b>591-1-1-.13 Field Trips(CR)</b>	<b>Not Evaluated</b>
------------------------------------	----------------------

**Comment**

Center does not participate in field trips at this time.

---

<b>591-1-1-.36 Transportation(CR)</b>	<b>Not Evaluated</b>
---------------------------------------	----------------------

**Comment**

Center does not provide routine transportation.

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

---

<b>591-1-1-.30 Safe Sleeping and Resting Requirements(CR)</b>	<b>Met</b>
---	------------

**Comment**

Discussed SIDS and infant sleeping position.

**Comment**

The correct number of mats, 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>
----------------------

---

<b>591-1-1-.09 Criminal Records and Comprehensive Background Checks(CR)</b>	<b>Met</b>
---	------------

**Comment**

Criminal record checks were observed to be complete.

---

<b>591-1-1-.31 Staff(CR)</b>	<b>Met</b>
------------------------------	------------

**Comment**

Discussed that all lead staff must enroll in an approved education program within 6 months of hire and complete degree within 18 months.

<b>Staffing and Supervision</b>
---------------------------------

---

<b>591-1-1-.32 Staff:Child Ratios and Group Size(CR)</b>	<b>Technical Assistance</b>
--	-----------------------------

**Comment**

Center observed to maintain appropriate staff:child ratios.

**Technical Assistance**

Consultant discussed that children over three and those under three should not cross over at any time. When the children are going to their classrooms they should not be permitted to come into an older/younger room and go to their rooms the doors for the rooms will need to be used to ensure they do not cross over at any time.

**Finding**

591-1-1-.32(7) requires that children be supervised at all times appropriate to the individual age, needs and capabilities of each child. Such supervision must include, but not be limited to, indoor and outdoor activities, mealtimes, naptime, transportation, field trips, and transitions between activities. "Supervision" means that the appropriate number of Staff members are physically present in the area where children are being cared for and are providing watchful oversight to the children, volunteers and Students-in-Training. The persons supervising in the child care area must be alert, positioned to maximize their ability to hear and see the children at all times, and able to respond promptly to the needs and actions of the children being supervised, as well as the actions of the volunteers and Students-in-Training, and provide timely attention to the children's actions and needs. Staff shall be attentive and participating with all children during mealtimes and shall be seated within an arm's length away from children thirty-six (36) months of age and younger. It was determined based on observation that two children entered in the the Right Main Class and were allowed to walk to the Small Back Classroom without a staff member or parent.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center will train Staff and monitor to ensure they are providing supervision and watchful oversight to the children at all times.

**Correction Deadline: 7/19/2023**