



**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:** 3/2/2022      **VisitType:** Licensing Study      **Arrival:** 1:30 PM      **Departure:** 3:15 PM

**CCLC-48971**

**A Brighter Choice Learning Academy**

140 Lowe Road Roberta, GA 31078 Crawford County  
 (478) 836-5243 abrighterchoice@bellsouth.net

**Regional Consultant**

Brandi Mangino  
 Phone: (478) 314-9726  
 Fax: (478) 599-0169  
 brandi.mangino@decal.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.
03/02/2022	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
07/06/2021	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
06/02/2021	Complaint Closure	Good Standing	

**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
Building Two	Classroom 1		0	0	C	35	C	NA	NA	
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 35					Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					
Main	A - 1L/ 6 weeks- 12 months	Two Year Olds	2	9	C	8	NC	NA	NA	Transitioning
Main	B - 2LM- 1's and 2's	One Year Olds	3	14	C	22	C	NA	NA	Lunch
Main	C - Back Right - 2's		0	0	C	8	C	NA	NA	
Main	D- Middle Right -potty trianed 2's		0	0	C	10	C	NA	NA	
Main	E -Left front-3's		0	0	C	8	C	NA	NA	
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 56					Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					
Total # Children this Date: 23			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 91			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0				

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	A - Left (6wekks - 2 years)	84	C
Main	B- Right - 2's	95	C

**Comments**

A virtual visit was conducted on March 2, 2022/. An Administrative review and exit were completed on March7, 2022.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 03/02/2022

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/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 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](mailto: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](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)

Ruby Drew, Program Official

Date

Brandi Mangino, 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:** 3/2/2022      **VisitType:** Licensing Study      **Arrival:** 1:30 PM      **Departure:** 3:15 PM

**CCLC-48971**

**A Brighter Choice Learning Academy**

140 Lowe Road Roberta, GA 31078 Crawford County  
(478) 836-5243 abrighterchoice@bellsouth.net

**Regional Consultant**

Brandi Mangino

Phone: (478) 314-9726  
Fax: (478) 599-0169  
brandi.mangino@decal.ga.gov

**Mailing Address**  
Same

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**

Please be mindful to keep items that pose a hazard inaccessible to children.

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

**Comment**

Playground observed to be clean and in good repair.

**Health and Hygiene**

**591-1-1-.10 Diapering Areas & Practices(CR)** **Not Met**

**Comment**

Staff state proper knowledge of diapering procedures.

**Finding**

591-1-1-.10(2) requires Centers first licensed after March 1, 1991, and Centers that renovate existing plumbing facilities, to have a hand washing sink with running heated water located adjacent to the diapering area. Flush sinks shall not be used for hand washing. Cleansing procedures in other facilities shall be approved by the Department. It was determined during the virtual walkthrough that the center had a diapering sick that was adjacent, but they were not used it.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center will ensure that a hand washing sink is located adjacent to each diapering area, that flush sinks are not used for handwashing, and that the department has approved cleansing procedures in other facilities, if applicable.

**Correction Deadline: 3/2/2022**

**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-.11 Discipline(CR)****Met****Comment**

Age-appropriate discussion and/or redirection observed.

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

**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.

**Staff Records****Records Reviewed: 8****Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 1**

Staff # 1

Not Met

Date of Hire: 04/03/2013

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(5)-10 Hrs. Annual Training

Staff # 2

Met

Date of Hire: 05/14/2015

Staff # 3

Met

**Records Reviewed: 8****Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 1**

Date of Hire: 01/28/2021

Staff # 4

Met

Date of Hire: 05/18/2021

Staff # 5

Met

Date of Hire: 02/10/2022

Reminder - Health & Safety training is required within 90 calendar days of hired

Staff # 6

Met

Date of Hire: 05/18/2021

Staff # 7

Met

Date of Hire: 10/25/2021

Staff # 8

Met

Date of Hire: 08/05/2021

**Staff Credentials Reviewed: 2****591-1-1-.09 Criminal Records and Comprehensive Background Checks(CR)****Technical Assistance****Technical Assistance**

Consultant discussed that anyone present working with children need a background check. The person in charge had a staff member from the other center location drive them due to a medical issue to the center for the virtual visit, and she was not employee or working with kids at the center. Consultant discussed that since they were a staff member of the other location they would need a background check before being present and working with children.

**Correction Deadline: 3/2/2022****591-1-1-.14 First Aid & CPR****Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.14(1) requires the Center Director and, at any given time, at least fifty percent (50%) of the caregiver Staff to successfully complete a biennial training program in cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and a triennial training program in first aid. The first aid training must be done by certified or licensed health care professionals or trainers and must deal with the provision of emergency care to infants and children. The Center shall maintain current evidence of the successful completion of such training which shall be available to the Department for inspection. It was determined based on a review of records that two staff members out of seven had first aid and CPR training.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center Director and at least 50% of the caregiver Staff will complete the needed training. The Director will send written verification to the consultant upon completion and will develop a plan to ensure that at least 50% of the caregiver Staff have completed this training at any given time and that evidence of successful completion of the training is on file available for inspection.

**Correction Deadline: 4/1/2022****Finding**

591-1-1-.14(2) requires a Staff member who is trained in CPR and first aid to be on the premises and on any field trip whenever any child is present. In addition, Staff who provide direct care to children must satisfactorily obtain certification in first aid and CPR by December 29, 2016 if employed prior to September 30, 2016 and within 90 days of their hire date if employed after September 30, 2016. It was determined based on a review of records that three staff members did not complete first aid and CPR within 90 days from their hire date.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center will develop a schedule to ensure there is always a staff person with current first aid and CPR training present and will develop and implement a plan to ensure all staff members have satisfactorily completed first aid and CPR training by the specified date.

**Correction Deadline: 4/1/2022**

---

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

**Not Met**

**Comment**

Discussed: Health and Safety Training is required for each staff member with direct care responsibilities within 90 calendar days of their hire date.

**Finding**

91-1-1-.33(5) requires that every calendar year after the first year of employment, all supervisory and caregiver Personnel, except independent contractors, Students-in-Training and volunteers shall attend ten (10) clock hours of diverse training which is task-focused in on-going health, safety and early childhood or child development related topics and which is offered by an accredited college, university or vocational program or other Department-approved source. The annual ten (10) clock hours of training shall be chosen from the following fields: child development, including discipline, guidance, nutrition, injury control and safety; health, including sanitation, disease control, cleanliness, detection and disposition of illness; child abuse and neglect, including identification and reporting, and meeting the needs of abused and/or neglected children; and business related topics, including parental communication, recordkeeping, etc.; provided however that such business related training shall be limited to no more than two (2) of the required ten (10) clock hours of training. Records of completion of such training shall be maintained, as required by these rules. It was determined based on a review of records that the center director had four of 10 hours of annual training for the 2021 year.

**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: 4/1/2022**

---

**591-1-1-.31 Staff(CR)**

**Met**

**Comment**

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

**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)**

**Not Met**

**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, mealtime, 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-year-old children were eating lunch and the staff member was not sitting within arms length away.

**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: 3/2/2022**