



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: 12/21/2021 **VisitType:** Complaint Investigation **Arrival:** 11:45 AM **Departure:** 1:10 PM
 Follow Up

CCLC-28747

"In His Arms" Educational Center

7816 Hwy 80 East Savannah, GA 31410 Chatham County
 (912) 897-6826 lipski@aol.com

Regional Consultant

Chrissy Miller

Phone: (770) 408-5457

Fax: (770) 408-5461

chrissy.miller@decal.ga.gov

Mailing Address

1511 Wathour Road
 Savannah, GA 31410

Quality Rated: ★ ★

Compliance Zone Designation			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.
12/21/2021	Complaint Investigation Follow Up	Good Standing	
09/16/2021	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
02/23/2021	Licensing Study	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	PreK back	Six Year Olds and Over	1	9	C	15	C	21	C	Art
Main	Pre-K front	Four Year Olds and Five Year Olds	1	12	C	21	C	30	C	Nap
Main	RM 1:1st Left		0	0	C	15	C	NA	NA	
Main	RM 2: 2nd Left	One Year Olds	1	8	C	15	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main	RM 3	Two Year Olds and Three Year Olds	1	10	C	15	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main	RM 4: Infant	Infants and One Year Olds	1	6	C	8	C	NA	NA	Nap,Feeding
Main	Room 6	Two Year Olds and Three Year Olds and Six Year Olds and Over	1	13	C	14	C	NA	NA	Nap
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 103						Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 118				
Total # Children this Date: 58			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 103			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 118				

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	PGD 1-Right	97	C
Main	PGD 2-Middle	30	C
Main	PGD 3-Left	133	C

Comments

A complaint investigation follow-up was completed on this date at the center.

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)

Andrew Lipski, Program Official

Date

Chrissy Miller, Consultant

Date



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Findings Report

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The following information is associated with a Complaint Investigation Follow Up:

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

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

Technical Assistance

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.30(2) - Discussed SIDS and infant sleeping position with the Director and the staff in the infant classroom. Center Staff shall not place objects or allow objects to be placed in or on the crib with an infant such as but not limited to toys, pillows, quilts, comforters, bumper pads, sheepskins, stuffed toys, or other soft items and shall not attach objects or allow objects to be attached to a crib with a sleeping infant, such as, but not limited to, crib gyms, toys, mirrors and mobiles. During the visit, the consultant observed blankets in the crib but did not observe any sleeping infants in the crib with the blankets. Please be mindful to keep objects that pose a safe sleep hazard inaccessible to children.

Correction Deadline: 12/21/2021

Staff Records

591-1-1-.33 Staff Training

Defer

Defer

591-1-1-.33(5)- The staff must complete at least ten (10) annual training hours by December 31, 2021 to be in compliance with this rule. This rule will be evaluated at the first visit in 2022.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Director has implemented a new policy to ensure staff training is completed in a timely manner.

Correction Deadline: 12/31/2021

Staffing and Supervision

Finding

591-1-1-.32(1) requires the Center to maintain the required Staff:child ratios as follows: under 1 year or under 18 months if not walking = 1:6; 1 year and walking = 1:8; 2 years = 1:10; 3 years = 1:15; 4 years = 1:18; 5 years = 1:20; and 6 years and older = 1:25. A Center must establish groupings of children for care with maximum group sizes as follows: under 1 year = 12; under 18 months/not walking = 12; 1 year and walking = 16; 2 years = 20; 3 years = 30; 4 years = 36; 5 years = 40; and 6 years and older = 50. It was determined based on the consultant's observation that the ratio in room six was observed to be 1:13 where a ratio of 1:10 is required. There were eight (8) two-year-old children, three (3) three-year-old children, and two (2) school-age children present in the classroom during the visit.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will hire additional Staff or reschedule current Staff to meet required Staff:child ratios and will organize children into groups that meet requirements.

Correction Deadline: 12/21/2021**Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.32(4) - Discussed that children under three years old be housed in separate physical areas from older children and cannot be mixed with older children except at specified times and circumstances such as the first hour of the day and the last hour of the day.

Correction Deadline: 12/21/2021

591-1-1-.32 Supervision(CR)**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 the consultant's observation that the teacher assigned to the school-age children in the Pre-K back classroom was briefly observed to be responsible for two classrooms during nap time.

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: 12/21/2021