



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: 6/20/2023 **VisitType:** Licensing Study **Arrival:** 9:15 AM **Departure:** 1:30 PM

CCLC-3080

First United Methodist Church Early Childhood Academy

353 Main Street Thomson, GA 30824 McDuffie County
 (706) 595-0403 Kendyl@thomsonfumc.org

Regional Consultant

Rebekah Mullinax

Phone: (770) 357-7056

Fax: (770) 357-7055

rebekah.mullinax@decal.ga.gov

Joint with: Ashley Richards

Mailing Address

323 Church Street
 Thomson, GA 30824

Quality Rated: No

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.
06/20/2023	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
11/17/2022	Incident Investigation & Follow Up	Good Standing	
11/17/2022	Incident Investigation Closure	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	Room A 1st R Hall 1st R Room	One Year Olds and Two Year Olds	2	12	C	17	C	NA	NA	Free Play	
Main	Room B 1st R Hall 2nd R Room	Two Year Olds	2	12	C	17	C	NA	NA	Centers, Free Play	
Main	Room C 1st R Hall 3rd R Room	Infants and One Year Olds	3	9	C	16	C	NA	NA	Circle Time, Floor Play	
Main	Room D 1st R Hall 4th R Room	Four Year Olds and Five Year Olds	1	10	C	18	C	NA	NA	Outside	
Main	Room E Back Hall Right	Six Year Olds and Over	1	17	C	15	NC	NA	NA	Outside	
Main	Room F Back Hall Left	One Year Olds	1	6	C	15	C	NA	NA	Outside	
Main	Room G 2nd R Hall 4th L Room	One Year Olds	2	11	C	18	C	NA	NA	Outside	
Main	Room H 2nd R Hall 3rd L Room	Infants and One Year Olds	3	19	C	17	NC	NA	NA	Feeding, Transitioning, Outside	
Main	Room I 2nd R Hall 2nd L Room	Three Year Olds	1	9	C	17	C	NA	NA	Outside	
Main	Room J 2nd R Hall 1st L Room	Three Year Olds	1	6	C	17	C	NA	NA	Outside	
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.:			167			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.:		0		Building @35 capacity limited by Centers Request	
Total # Children this Date:			111			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.:		167		Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.:	0


Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	1 Preschool (left)	52	C
Main	2 Toddler (middle)	15	C
Main	3 Infants/Ones/Twos (Right)	12	C

Comments

Criminal record checks were observed to be complete. Director provided nine file(s) for employees hired since last visit.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 06/20/2023

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.dec.al.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 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)



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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)

Technical Assistance

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.12(2) - requires that all equipment and furniture be free from hazardous conditions such as, but not limited to, sharp rough edges or toxic paint; and be kept clean. On this date the consultant observed a torn window screen and chipped paint on the window sill of room D. Please ensure that all equipment and furniture be free from hazardous conditions as required.

Correction Deadline: 6/20/2023

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

N/A

Comment

Center does not provide swimming activities.

Children's Records

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

Met

Comment

Records were observed to be complete and well organized.

Facility

591-1-1-.06 Bathrooms

Met

Comment

Bathrooms observed to be clean and well maintained.

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

Discussed maintenance of resilient surface. Please fluff and redistribute.

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

Proper hand washing of children and staff was discussed with the director on this date.

Comment

Please ensure lids remain on trash containing organic waste.

Comment

Proper hand washing discussed throughout the center.

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

Comment

Documentation for medication dispensing observed complete.

Policies and Procedures

591-1-1-.21 Operational Policies & Procedures **Met**

Comment

Program observed complete emergency drills as of May 2023.

Safety

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

Comment

Center does not keep animals on premises.

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

Comment

Staff were observed to maintain a positive learning environment on this date.

591-1-1-.13 Field Trips(CR) **Met**

Comment

Field trip documentation observed to be complete.

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**

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

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

Criminal record checks were observed to be complete.

Comment

Director provided nine file(s) for employees hired since last visit.

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)**Met****Comment**

Staff observed to provide direct supervision and be attentive to children's needs.