



**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:** Licensing Study

**Arrival:** 3:30 PM

**Departure:** 5:30 PM

**CCLC-30199**

**First Step Learning Center**

1060 Franklin Gateway Marietta, GA 30067 Cobb County  
(678) 831-0669 firststepcenter@yahoo.com

**Regional Consultant**

Courtney Reid

Phone: (800) 796-7861

Fax: (800) 798-6764

courtney.reid@dec.al.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.  <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.
12/14/2021	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
05/11/2021	Complaint Closure	Good Standing	
04/29/2021	Complaint Investigation & 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	Room A - Infants - Right Side	Infants and One Year Olds	12	6	C	17	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main	Room B - 1 & 2 yr olds - Left Side		0	0	C	18	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Main	Room C - 2 year - Middle Back	Two Year Olds	2	10	C	20	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main	Room D - Pre-K Back Left	GA PreK	2	17	C	37	C	NA	NA	Transitioning
Main	Room E - Front Right	GA PreK	2	18	C	37	C	NA	NA	Free Play
Main	Room F - Front Left	Three Year Olds	1	8	C	37	C	NA	NA	Nap
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 166						Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0				
Total # Children this Date: 59			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 166			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0				

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	Area B - Younger - Left Side	54	C
Main	Room A - Older - Right Side	115	C

**Comments**

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.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](mailto: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](mailto: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)

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Roma Gambrel, Program Official

Date

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Courtney Reid, Consultant

Date



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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)**

**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**

**Correction Deadline: 4/29/2021**

**Corrected on 12/14/2021**

**.25(3) - The bathroom was fully operable on this date and the classroom was not in use.**

**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)**

**Met**

**Comment**

Staff state proper knowledge of diapering procedures.

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**591-1-1-.17 Hygiene(CR)****Met****Comment**

Staff were observed to remind children to wash hands.

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

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

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**Safety**

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**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 on this date.

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**591-1-1-.36 Transportation(CR)****Met****Correction Deadline: 3/10/2020****Corrected on 12/14/2021****.36(4)(b) - The center is no longer providing transportation at this time.****Correction Deadline: 3/9/2020****Corrected on 12/14/2021****.36(4)(c) - The center is no longer providing transportation at this time.****Correction Deadline: 3/10/2020****Corrected on 12/14/2021****.36(7)(b) - The center is no longer providing transportation at this time.**

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**Sleeping & Resting Equipment**

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**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.

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**Staff Records****Records Reviewed: 11****Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 0**

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Staff # 1	Met
Staff # 2	Met
Staff # 3	Met
Staff # 4	Met
Staff # 5	Met
Staff # 6	Met
Staff # 7	Met

**Records Reviewed: 11**

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

Staff # 8	Met
Staff # 9	Met
Staff # 10	Met
Staff # 11	Met

**Staff Credentials Reviewed: 3**

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

**Comment**

Criminal record checks were observed to be complete.

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**591-1-1-.14 First Aid & CPR Met**

**Correction Deadline: 3/19/2020**

**Corrected on 12/14/2021**

**.14(3) - First aid kit observed complete.**

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**591-1-1-.33 Staff Training Not Met**

**Finding**

591-1-1-.33(4) requires within the first year of employment, the Director and person with primary responsibility for food preparation shall have four clock hours of training in food nutrition planning, preparation, serving, proper dish washing and food storage. It was determined based on review of records that the Director and the person with primary responsibility for food preparation did not have evidence of completing four clock hours of training in food nutrition planning, preparation, serving, proper dish washing and food storage.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center will schedule food preparation training, as required, and follow up to ensure the training is completed.

**Correction Deadline: 1/13/2022**

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

**Comment**

Staff observed to be compliant with applicable laws and regulations.

**Staffing and Supervision**

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

**Comment**

Center observed to maintain appropriate staff:child ratios.

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**591-1-1-.32 Supervision(CR) Met**

**Comment**

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