



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: 1/19/2022 **VisitType:** Licensing Study **Arrival:** 1:10 PM **Departure:** 2:00 PM

CCLC-47194

Learning Spot for Tots

8350 Veterans Parkway Columbus, GA 31909 Muscogee County
 (706) 940-0490 genianga@aol.com

Regional Consultant

Penny Svenson
 Phone: (470) 346-1037
 Fax: (678) 891-5613
 penny.svenson@decals.ga.gov

Mailing Address
 Same

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.
01/19/2022	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
07/23/2021	Complaint Closure	Good Standing	
07/21/2021	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	A - Infants	Infants	1	4	C	4	C	NA	NA	Nap, Floor Play
Main	B - 2's		0	0	C	6	C	NA	NA	
Main	C- 1's	One Year Olds	1	9	NC	7	NC	NA	NA	Nap
Main	D- 3's and 4's	Two Year Olds and Three Year Olds	1	13	C	18	C	NA	NA	Nap
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 35						Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0				
Total # Children this Date: 26			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 35			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0				

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	All ages	32	C

Comments

February 4, 2022-The vsiit was closed out on this date due to a systems issue.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 01/19/2022

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.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



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.decal.ga.gov/>
Request free technical assistance to help you earn your star rating by contacting the Quality Rated help desk at 855-800-7747 or qualityrated@decal.ga.gov

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@decal.ga.gov.

- 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://decal.ga.gov/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)

Genia Webb, Program Official

Date

Penny Svenson, 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: 1/19/2022 VisitType: Licensing Study Arrival: 1:10 PM Departure: 2:00 PM

CCLC-47194

Learning Spot for Tots

8350 Veterans Parkway Columbus, GA 31909 Muscogee County
(706) 940-0490 genianga@aol.com

Mailing Address
Same

Regional Consultant

Penny Svenson

Phone: (470) 346-1037

Fax: (678) 891-5613

penny.svenson@decal.ga.gov

The following information is associated with a Licensing Study:

Activities and Equipment

591-1-1-.03 Activities

Technical Assistance

Technical Assistance

The Consultant discussed with the Director that Center Staff were required to ensure children less than three years of age do not spend more than one-half hour of time consecutively in confining equipment, such as swings, highchairs, jump seats, carriers, walkers or cribs when they are awake. Children shall use such equipment, unless they are asleep in their crib, only when they are awake. Such children shall be allowed time to play on the floor daily. Infants shall have supervised tummy time on the floor daily when they are awake

Correction Deadline: 1/19/2022

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.

Children's Records

Records Reviewed: 5

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 1

Child # 1	Met
Child # 2	Met
Child # 3	Met
Child # 4	Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.08(3)-Address of Release Person Missing

Child # 5

Met

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

Not Met

Finding

591-1-1-.08(1) requires the Center Staff to maintain a file for each child while such child is in care and for one year after that child is no longer enrolled. In order for the file to be complete, the file shall contain the following: child's name, birth date, sex, address, living arrangement, name of school if applicable; names of both Parents, home and work addresses, and home and work telephone numbers; name(s) and addresses of the person(s) to whom the child may be released including address, telephone numbers, relationship to child and to Parent(s), and other identifying information; name(s) and telephone number(s) of person(s) to contact in emergencies when the Parent cannot be reached; name and telephone number of the child's primary source of health care; and a statement regarding known allergies, physical problems, mental health disorders, mental retardation or developmental disabilities which limit the child's participation in the program. It was determined based on a review of records that the address for a person a child could be released to was not listed as required.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

Center staff will develop a plan that includes how to obtain all required information for currently enrolled children and how to ensure this is done for future enrollees as well. The plan will also include how and where to maintain files for the required amount of time. The plan will be implemented and followed. Files will be reviewed and completed as required.

Correction Deadline: 1/19/2022

Facility

591-1-1-.06 Bathrooms

Met

Comment

Please monitor bathrooms for necessary supplies.

591-1-1-.19 License Capacity(CR)

Technical Assistance

Technical Assistance

The Consultant discussed with the Director that an amendment was needed to reflect the correct capacity for the first classroom on the left.

Correction Deadline: 1/19/2022

591-1-1-.25 Physical Plant - Safe Environment(CR)

Not Met

Finding

591-1-1-.25(13) requires that potentially hazardous equipment, materials and supplies be stored in a locked area inaccessible to children. It was determined based on Consultant observation that a purse was present on a table in the first room on the left and in the room located downstairs and a hazard was posed.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will identify all hazardous items and keep them in a locked area inaccessible to children. The Center will inform all Staff about hazardous items and the safe storage of those items.

Correction Deadline: 1/19/2022

Technical Assistance

The Consultant discussed with the Director to monitor areas of the classrooms and bathrooms for clutter that was stacked too high and may pose a fall hazard.

Correction Deadline: 1/19/2022

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

591-1-1-.26(4) requires that playgrounds be protected from traffic or other hazards by a (4) four foot high fence or other barrier approved by this Department. Fencing material shall not present a hazard to children and shall be maintained so as to prevent children from leaving the playground area by any means other than through an approved access route. Fence gates shall be kept closed except when persons are entering or exiting the area. It was determined based on consultant observation that two privacy fence boards were broken and jagged on the gate that led to the front parking lot.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will routinely check the fence to determine if it is in good repair and remains at least 4 feet high, and will repair any hazards. The Center will train Staff to identify and report any fence hazards and to keep the fence gates closed when not in use. The boards will be replaced. The fence will be monitored and repaired moving forward.

Correction Deadline: 1/19/2022

Food Service

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

591-1-1-.15(2)(a) requires Center Personnel to hold and feed infants less than six months of age and older children who cannot hold their own bottles or sit alone. Baby bottles shall never be propped; the infant's head shall be elevated while feeding. It was determined based on consultant observation that an infant was present in their crib on their back and held their own bottle, and their head was not elevated as required.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will train Staff to hold infants less than six months old or who can not hold their own bottle, to never prop bottles and to elevate infant's heads during feeding. The director will monitor Staff to ensure appropriate feeding procedures are followed.

Correction Deadline: 1/19/2022**Technical Assistance**

The Consultant discussed with the Director that foods and drinks with little or no nutritional value, i.e., sweets, soft drinks, etc. be served only on special occasions and only in addition to the required nutritious meals and snacks.

Correction Deadline: 1/19/2022

591-1-1-.18 Kitchen Operations**Not Met****Technical Assistance**

The Consultant discussed with the Director that all food items were required to be stored in airtight containers, to include any snack items that were opened and not consumed during one snack time. .

Technical Assistance

The Consultant discussed with the Director that garbage was to be stored in trash containers with lids that were emptied and cleaned as needed. Acceptable facilities, including water and detergent or steam, shall be provided and used for cleaning containers. Areas around outside containers shall be kept clean.

Correction Deadline: 1/19/2022**Technical Assistance**

The Consultant discussed with the Director that the kitchen was expected to be kept clean, and free from dirty dishes and clutter.

Correction Deadline: 1/29/2022**Finding**

591-1-1-.18(7) requires each Center to have a designated space for storage of food and kitchen items and that the area be kept clean and free of accumulation of dust, dirt, food particles and grease deposits. It was determined based on consultant observation that the freezer and refrigerator had spilled liquids and food particles present.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will designate an area for the storage of these items, will thoroughly clean the space, if needed, develop and implement a plan to train Staff, as needed, and inspect the storage area daily.

Correction Deadline: 1/19/2022

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) **Technical Assistance**

Technical Assistance

The Consultant discussed with the Director that all Staff were required to wash their hands as they entered the center.

Correction Deadline: 1/19/2022

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

Comment

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

Policies and Procedures

591-1-1-.22 Parental Access **Met**

Correction Deadline: 7/23/2021

Corrected on 1/19/2022

The correction was made.

591-1-1-.27 Posted Notices **Met**

Comment

Please make sure that all required signs are posted and up to date.

Safety

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

Comment

Center does not keep animals on premises.

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

Comment

The visit was conducted during nap time. Discipline was not observed. Staff stated redirection was used for disciplinary measures.

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

Comment

Center does not participate in field trips at this time.

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

Pleasant naptime environment observed.

Staff Records

Records Reviewed: 5

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 0

Staff # 1

Met

Date of Hire: 07/24/2019

Staff # 2

Met

Date of Hire: 01/17/2022

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

Staff # 3

Met

Date of Hire: 05/20/2019

Staff # 4

Met

Date of Hire: 08/21/2018

Staff # 5

Met

Date of Hire: 06/05/2017

Staff Credentials Reviewed: 3

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

Met

Comment

Criminal record checks were observed to be complete.

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

Met

Comment

Evidence observed of 100% of center staff certified in First Aid and CPR that were required to have it.

591-1-1-.33 Staff Training

Met

Correction Deadline: 6/13/2021

Corrected on 1/19/2022

Staff obtained training for the year they were required to obtain training. Staff will continue to obtain their required training.

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

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 Consultant observation that there were four one-year-old children and five two-year-old children present in the first room on the left to one staff member and another staff member was required.

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: 1/19/2022

Comment

Adequate supervision observed on this date.