



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: 12/7/2022 **VisitType:** Licensing Study **Arrival:** 2:50 PM **Departure:** 5:45 PM

CCLC-37107

In His Arms Pooler

110 Pipemakers Circle, Suite 106 Pooler, GA 31322 Chatham County
 (912) 272-0567 lipski@aol.com

Mailing Address

8001 Hwy 80 E #504
 savannah, GA 31410

Regional Consultant

Kimberly Stoy

Phone: (678) 747-6836

Fax: (706) 314-7859

kimberly.stoy@dec.al.gov

Joint with: Beth Houtz, Kimberly Stoy

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.
12/07/2022	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
05/12/2022	Complaint Closure	Good Standing	
03/03/2022	Complaint 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	A-infant	Infants and One Year Olds	1	7	NC	8	C	NA	NA	Nap,Feeding
Main	B-1-2 years	One Year Olds and Two Year Olds	2	10	C	16	C	NA	NA	Snack
Main	C-2 1/2 years	Two Year Olds	2	13	C	20	C	NA	NA	Outside,Transitioning
Main	D-3-4 years	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	2	22	C	41	C	NA	NA	Free Play,TV
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 85					Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					
Total # Children this Date: 52			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 85			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0				

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	Playground	44	C

Comments

A joint visit was conducted on this date. All staff files and record checks were reviewed. The center does not provide transportation and does not dispense any medication.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 12/07/2022

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 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 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)

_____	_____	_____	_____
Austin Lipski, Program Official	Date	Kimberly Stoy, Consultant	Date
_____	_____	_____	_____
Beth Houtz, Consultant	Date	Kimberly Stoy, 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: 12/7/2022 **VisitType:** Licensing Study

Arrival: 2:50 PM

Departure: 5:45 PM

CCLC-37107

In His Arms Pooler

110 Pipemakers Circle, Suite 106 Pooler, GA 31322 Chatham County
(912) 272-0567 lipski@aol.com

Mailing Address

8001 Hwy 80 E #504
savannah, GA 31410

Regional Consultant

Kimberly Stoy

Phone: (678) 747-6836

Fax: (706) 314-7859

kimberly.stoy@dec.al.gov

Joint with: Beth Houtz, Kimberly Stoy

The following information is associated with a Licensing Study:

Activities and Equipment

591-1-1-.03 Activities

Not Met

Finding

591-1-1-.03(1) requires the Center to provide a daily planned program of varied and developmentally appropriate activities to promote social, emotional, physical, cognitive, language and literacy growth. Center Staff shall use a variety of teaching methods to accommodate the needs of the children's different learning styles. It was determined based on observation that there were no current lesson plans posted in the classrooms.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will plan a program that includes a variety of developmentally appropriate activities that are provided daily, train Staff to use various teaching methods, and monitor both.

Correction Deadline: 12/7/2022

591-1-1-.12 Equipment & Toys(CR)

Technical Assistance

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.12(4) requires that equipment and furniture is secured if it is of a weight or mass that could cause injury from tipping, falling, or being pulled or pushed over.

The director stated that all the classroom interiors are being repainted this weekend and that after the walls are painted all the shelves will be re-secured to the wall and all the TV will be mounted on the wall.

Correction Deadline: 12/7/2022

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

N/A

Comment

Center does not provide swimming activities.

Children's Records

Child # 1	Met
Child # 2	Met
Child # 3	Met
Child # 4	Met
Child # 5	Met

591-1-1-.08 Children's Records**Met****Comment**

Records were observed to be complete and well organized.

Facility

591-1-1-.19 License Capacity(CR)**Met****Comment**

Licensed capacity observed to be met on this date.

591-1-1-.25 Physical Plant - Safe Environment(CR)**Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.25(11) requires that floor coverings be tight, smooth, free of odors and washable or cleanable. It was determined based on observation that in the three and four-year-old classroom there was a carpet that had wrinkles in it and posed a tripping hazard. Additionally, in the two-year-old classroom there were four carpet squares that were pulling up on the corner presenting a tripping hazard.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

Floors will be maintained to be safe and sanitary.

Correction Deadline: 1/6/2023

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

591-1-1-.26(6) requires that playground equipment provide an opportunity for the children to engage in a variety of experiences and shall be age-appropriate. For example, toddlers shall not be permitted to swing in swings designed for School-age Children. The outdoor equipment shall be free of lead-based paint, sharp corners and shall be regularly maintained in such a way as to be free of rust and splinters that could pose significant safety hazard to the children. All equipment shall be arranged so as not to obstruct supervision of children. It was determined based on observation that the following equipment hazards were accessible to children in care.

- A Step 2 Toy storage container was on the playground that posed an entrapment hazard.
- Three tricycles without handlebar covers.
- On the yellow bus climbing toy there was rust and on the top rail sharp metal edges.
- On the circle tricycles there was one trike missing a pedal and two trikes with broken wheels.
- An elephant riding toy and a pink riding toy were broken and had sharp edges.
- The green jeep had chipping paint.
- The yellow and blue see-saw on the front part of the playground had rust and chipping paints.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will provide a variety of age-appropriate equipment that is arranged so as not to obstruct supervision of children. Staff will check the equipment daily to ensure that the equipment is free of hazards, rust and splinters.

Correction Deadline: 12/17/2022

Finding

591-1-1-.26(8) requires climbing and swinging equipment to have a resilient surface beneath the equipment and the fall zone from such equipment must be adequately maintained by the Center to assure continuing resiliency. It was determined based on observation that there were large sticks of mulch within the playground's resilient surface. Three pieces were measured, the first measured 12 inches in length and one and a half inches wide, the second piece measured 11 3/4 inches in length and one inch wide, and the third piece measured 16 3/4 inches in length and one and a quarter inches wide.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will add additional resilient surfacing to the fall zones where needed and check daily, adding resilient surfacing as needed to maintain adequate resiliency.

Correction Deadline: 12/17/2022

Finding

591-1-1-.26(9) requires the playground to be kept clean, free from litter and free of hazards, such as but not limited to rocks, exposed tree roots and exposed sharp edges of concrete. It was determined based on observation that there was an active bed on the back part of the playground by the yellow and blue see-saw. Additionally, the horse rocking toy had a concrete edge under it measuring seven inches in length and the red and blue rocking toy had a concrete edge under it measuring eight and half inches in length that posed a hazard to children in care.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will remove any litter and fix or remove hazards from the playground and will routinely monitor the playground and remove litter and hazards.

Correction Deadline: 12/7/2022

Food Service

591-1-1-.15 Food Service & Nutrition

Technical Assistance

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.15(1) requires that meals and snacks are served, with serving sizes dependent upon the age of the child, that meet nutritional guidelines as established by the United States Department of Agriculture Child and Adult Care Food Program. Meals and snacks shall be varied daily, and additional servings of nutritious food shall be offered to children over and above the required daily minimum, if not contraindicated by special diets.

The consultant discussed with the director the whole grain, 100% juice, and milk USDA components for snacks and meals. The consultant emailed the director an At a Glance Info sheet with the various components.

Correction Deadline: 12/7/2022

Comment

CACFP Meal Pattern Requirements effective October 1, 2017 will be implemented October 1, 2018: 3 Components for breakfast: Grains, Vegetables, Fruits or both, Milk
5 Components for lunch – Grains, Meat/Meat alternates, Fruits, Vegetable, and Milk OR Grains, Meat/Meat alternates, 2 different types of vegetables, and Milk
2 of 5 Components for snack

Provided Updated CACFP Infant Meal pattern and Child/Adult Meal pattern flyers.

The Crediting Handbook for the CACFP can be located on DECAL and USDA's website:

DECAL

<http://decal.ga.gov/CACFP/Handbook.aspx>

USDA

<http://www.fns.usda.gov/cacfp/cacfp-handbooks>

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.15(2) requires that a signed written feeding plan for children less than one (1) year of age shall be obtained from Parent(s) and that instructions from the Parent(s) shall be updated regularly as new foods are added or other dietary changes are made. The feeding plan shall be posted in the child's assigned room and must include the child's feeding schedule, the amount of formula or breast milk to be given, instructions for the introduction of solid foods, the amount of food to be given and notation of any type(s) of commercially premixed formula which may not be used in an emergency because of food allergies.

The consultant observed feeding plans that had not been updated within the past six months. The consultant discussed with the director about updating feeding plans every three to six months to ensure they are relevant to the infants current feeding needs.

Correction Deadline: 12/7/2022

Health and Hygiene

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

Finding

591-1-1-.10(9) requires Center Staff to not use the area used for diapering for food preparation and to keep the diapering area clear of formulas, food, food utensils and food preparation items. It was determined based on observation that there were three bottles in the hand washing sink next to the changing area and on the other side of the sink there was Gerber Fruit and Veggie melts and a bottle next to a bottle labeled soap and water and a bottle labeled bleach and water. Additionally, in the one-and two-year-old classroom there was a pacifier and a sippy cup in the hand washing sink by the changing area.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

Center staff will be trained, specified areas will be available for food preparation and placement of food-related items, and the director will monitor.

Correction Deadline: 12/7/2022

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

Comment

Proper hand washing observed throughout the center.

591-1-1-.20 Medications(CR) N/A

Comment

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

Policies and Procedures

591-1-1-.29 Required Reporting Met

Comment

Discussed reporting requirements. The consultant discussed the center completing a required report fro holiday closures and verifications, serious incidents and illnesses, and structural damages to the building.

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)**N/A****Comment**

Center does not participate in field trips at this time.

591-1-1-.36 Transportation(CR)**N/A****Comment**

Center does not provide routine transportation.

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

591-1-1-.30 Safe Sleeping and Resting Requirements(CR)**Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.30(1)(a)2 requires that a crib mattress is firm, tight-fitting without gaps, at least 2 inches thick and covered with a waterproof, washable material. Before a change of occupant, each mattress shall be cleaned with a disinfectant. It was determined that all seven mattresses in the infant classroom were quilted and not cleanable as required. Additionally, one of seven mattresses had a rip on the corner with exposed batting from the back of the quilted surface.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The center will ensure that a crib mattress is firm, tight-fitting without gaps, at least

Correction Deadline: 12/7/2022

Finding

591-1-1-.30(1)(b)1 requires that cots and mats are of sound construction and of sufficient size to accommodate comfortably the size and weight of the child; and that mats are in good repair, washable, covered with a waterproof material and at least two inches (2") thick. It was determined based on observation that in the two-year old classroom there were seven of sixteen cots stored under the shelves that were ripped or torn. Additionally, in the three and four-year-old classroom there were four of seventeen cots that were ripped or torn.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will ensure that cots and mats are of sound construction and of sufficient size to accommodate the size and weight of the child and mats are in good repair, washable, covered with a waterproof material and is at least two inches thick.

Correction Deadline: 12/7/2022

Correction Deadline: 3/18/2022

Corrected on 12/7/2022

.30(1)(d) - This citation was observed to be corrected on this date. Staff stated that children are placed head to feet during nap times.

Finding

591-1-1-.30(4). requires that if cots and mats are stored in the children's activity room or area, they shall be stored to prevent children's access to them and to allow maximum use of play space. When storage is available and used for the storage of cots and mats that allows the cots, mats and any bedding to be stored without touching any other cots, mats or bedding, the bedding may be left on the cot or mat. When such storage is not available for the cots and mats, each child's bedding shall be kept separate from other children's bedding and stored in containers marked for individual use, such as, but not limited to, bins, cubbies, or bags. It was determined based on observation that the cots in Classroom B, C, and D were stored in the classrooms and were not covered to prevent the spread of germs.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will store cots and mats so children do not have access to them and they don't take up play space and will store them so each child's bedding is separate from the others.

Correction Deadline: 12/7/2022

Staff Records

Records Reviewed: 10

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 1

Staff # 1 Date of Hire: 06/07/2021	Met
Staff # 2 Date of Hire: 05/10/2026	Met <u>Reminder - Health & Safety training is required within 90 calendar days of hired</u>
Staff # 3 Date of Hire: 11/14/2022	Met <u>Reminder - Health & Safety training is required within 90 calendar days of hired</u>
Staff # 4 Date of Hire: 05/19/2016	Met
Staff # 5 Date of Hire: 06/10/2014 <u>"Missing/Incomplete Components"</u> .31(2)(b)2.-Staff Qualifications-Education Missing	Not Met
Staff # 6 Date of Hire: 01/06/2017	Met
Staff # 7 Date of Hire: 10/05/2020	Met
Staff # 8 Date of Hire: 06/10/2014	Met
Staff # 9 Date of Hire: 11/10/2022	Met <u>Reminder - Health & Safety training is required within 90 calendar days of hired</u>
Staff # 10 Date of Hire: 10/05/2022	Met <u>Reminder - Health & Safety training is required within 90 calendar days of hired</u>

Staff Credentials Reviewed: 6

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

Comment

Director provided three file(s) for employees hired since last visit. Criminal record checks were complete on this date.

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

Defer

591-1-1-.33(5)- Annual training for 2022 will be reviewed during the first regulatory visit of 2023.

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: 12/31/2022

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

Not Met

Finding

591-1-1-.31(2)(b)2. requires teachers and lead caregivers to meet minimum academic requirements and qualifying experience at the time of employment. It was determined based on the consultant’s review of records that a staff member who was hired on June 10, 2014 did not meet the minimum academic requirements of the lead teacher position.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

A teacher/lead caregiver will be hired that meets the minimum academic requirements and qualifying work experience.

Correction Deadline: 1/31/2023

Recited on 12/7/2022

Staffing and Supervision

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

Not Met

Finding

591-1-1-.32(2) requires the Center maintain Staff:child ratios in mixed-age groups based on the age of the youngest group of children that includes more than twenty percent of the total number of children in the mixed-age group. It was determined based on observation that in the infant classroom there were four infants and three one-year-old children with one staff member for a ratio of 1:7 when the ratio should have been 1:6 based on the youngest age group of infants.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will provide adequate staff when there is a mixed-age group.

Correction Deadline: 12/7/2022

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

Met

Comment

Adequate supervision observed on this date.