



**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:** 2/11/2019    **VisitType:** Monitoring Visit    **Arrival:** 11:00 AM    **Departure:** 1:10 PM

**CCLC-2282**

**The Starting Point Day Care**

1929 Skidaway Road Savannah, GA 31404 Chatham County  
(912) 236-7373 lindasmart47@yahoo.com

**Regional Consultant**

Stacey Foston

Phone: (706) 806-0407

Fax: (706) 806-0406

stacey.foston@dec.al.ga.gov

**Mailing Address**  
Same

**Quality Rated:** No

<b>Compliance Zone Designation</b>		
02/11/2019	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing
08/29/2018	Licensing Study	Good Standing
03/19/2018	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing

**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.

**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	Back		0	0	C	9	C	NA	NA						
Main	end left	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds and Five Year Olds	1	10	C	12	C	NA	NA	Nap, Transitioning, Lunch					
Main	Middle front		0	0	C	5	C	NA	NA						
Main	middle rear infant	Infants and One Year Olds	1	5	C	5	C	NA	NA	Transitioning, Nap					
Main	Right toddler	One Year Olds and Two Year Olds and Three Year Olds	1	9	C	15	C	NA	NA	Lunch, Transitioning					
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 46						Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0									
Total # Children this Date: 24						Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 46					Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0				

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
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**Comments**

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 02/11/2019

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

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)



**Important New Deadlines:**

Your program must be Quality Rated by December 31, 2020 in order to continue to receive Childcare and Parent Services (CAPS).

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)

Linda Smart, Program Official

Date

Stacey Foston, Consultant

Date



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### Findings Report

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The following information is associated with a Monitoring Visit:

### Activities and Equipment

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

**Met**

#### Comment

Equipment and furniture observed to be properly secured, as applicable.

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

**N/A**

#### Comment

Center does not provide swimming activities.

### Children's Records

**Records Reviewed: 3**

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

Child # 1	Met
Child # 2	Met
Child # 3	Met

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

**Met**

**Correction Deadline: 8/31/2018**

**Corrected on 2/11/2019**

**.08(1) - The three children files reviewed on this date were complete.**

### Facility

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

**Comment**

Licensed capacity observed to be routinely met by center.

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

**Comment**

No hazards observed accessible to children on this date.

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

**Finding**

591-1-1-.26(7) requires that climbing and swinging equipment be anchored. It was determined based on observation that the blue slide was not anchored and was not on level ground. The sand under slide is soft and shifting therefore causing the slide to lean.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center will remove or repair equipment that is not anchored and will regularly inspect the equipment to ensure it remains anchored. The center will move the slide to a part of the playground where the ground is harder and ensure the slide is stable. The center will ensure the children do not use the slide until it is moved and secure.

**Correction Deadline: 2/21/2019**

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**Health and Hygiene**

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**591-1-1-.10 Diapering Areas & Practices(CR)** **Technical Assistance**

**Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.10 - Discussed diapering pad requirements with the director. Please ensure the diapering pad is smooth and non porous.

**Comment**

Staff state proper knowledge of diapering procedures.

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

**Comment**

Proper hand washing observed throughout the center.

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

**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**

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

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**591-1-1-.36 Transportation(CR)** **Met**

**Comment**

Transportation logs observed to be complete. The vehicle had proper restraints.

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**Sleeping & Resting Equipment**

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

**Comment**

Pleasant naptime environment observed.

## Staff Records

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

**Comment**

Criminal record checks were observed to be complete.

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

**Correction Deadline: 12/31/2018**

**Corrected on 2/11/2019**

**.33(6) - The previous citation was observed to be corrected. The consultant observed documentation that the staff completed the required training for the year 2018.**

**591-1-1-.31 Staff(CR)** **Not Met**

**Finding**

Previously Cited: 591-1-1.31(2)(b) requires teachers/lead caregivers to meet minimum qualifications. It was determined based on review of records and discussion with the director that four lead teachers had not completed a program to meet the credential requirements with in the required eighteen months.

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 review of records that three teachers had not obtained a credential as required.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The teachers have completed the required class work hours. The staff is awaiting the final observation to obtain the CDA credential.

**Correction Deadline: 4/12/2019**

**Recited on 2/11/2019**

## 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**

**Correction Deadline: 8/29/2018**

**Corrected on 2/11/2019**

**.32(7) - Observed adequate supervision this date.**