



**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:** 11/5/2019    **VisitType:** Licensing Study    **Arrival:** 10:00 AM    **Departure:** 12:15 PM

**CCLC-33299**

**Sister/Sister Learning Center**

1212 Whispering Pines Road Albany, GA 31707 Dougherty County  
(229) 854-0665 breka241@yahoo.com

**Mailing Address**  
Same

**Regional Consultant**

Charlene Story

Phone: (770) 405-7942  
Fax: (770) 408-0759  
charlene.story@decal.ga.gov

Joint with: Allison Morrison

**Quality Rated:** ★ ★

<b>Compliance Zone Designation</b>		
11/05/2019	Licensing Study	Good Standing
04/29/2019	Licensing Study	Good Standing
12/26/2018	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	Classroom A (After School)		0	0	C	8	C	NA	NA		
Main	Classroom D	Infants and One Year Olds and Two Year Olds	2	10	C	9	NC	NA	NA	Diapering, Story	
Main	Classroom E	Four Year Olds	1	9	C	7	NC	10	C	Transitioning	
Main	Room B (6 wks.-18 mos.)	Two Year Olds	2	10	C	10	C	NA	NA	Art, Transitioning	
Main	Room C (19 mos.-36 mos.)	Two Year Olds	1	10	C	10	C	NA	NA	Circle Time, Transitioning	
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.:			44			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.:			47		
Total # Children this Date: 39			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.:			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.:			47		

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	Outside Playground A	36	C
Main	Outside Playground B	18	C

**Comments**

Plan of Improvement: No Plan Developed

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/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.

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#### 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.

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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)

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Shanieka Lewis, Program Official

Date

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Charlene Story, Consultant

Date

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Allison Morrison, 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-.03 Activities**

**Technical Assistance**

**Technical Assistance**

Consultant discussed with Director about classrooms having current lesson plans posted each week.

**Correction Deadline: 11/5/2019**

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

**Met**

**Comment**

Equipment and furniture observed to be properly secured on this date.

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

**N/A**

**Comment**

Center does not provide swimming activities.

### Children's Records

**Records Reviewed: 5**

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

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

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

Parent agreements observed obtained and completed on this date.

**Comment**

Records were observed to be complete and well organized on this date.

**Facility**

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**591-1-1-.06 Bathrooms****Met****Comment**

Bathrooms were observed to be clean and well maintained on this date.

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

Licensed capacity was observed to be met by center.

**591-1-1-.25 Physical Plant - Safe Environment(CR)****Technical Assistance****Comment**

No hazards were observed accessible to children on this date.

**Technical Assistance**

Consultant discussed with director about dusting vents above changing areas.

**Correction Deadline: 11/5/2019**

**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 the outer fence measured three feet and six inches high instead of the required four foot high

**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.

**Correction Deadline: 11/19/2019**

**Food Service**

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**591-1-1-.15 Food Service & Nutrition****Met****Comment**

Center menu meets USDA guidelines on this date.

**591-1-1-.18 Kitchen Operations****Met****Comment**

Kitchen appeared cleaned and well organized on this date.

**Health and Hygiene**

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

**Comment**

Consultant observed proper diapering procedures on this date.

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

**Comment**

Proper hand washing observed throughout the center on this date.

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

**Comment**

The Provider currently does not dispense or administer medication.

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**Policies and Procedures**

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

**Comment**

Program observed complete emergency drills on this date.

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

**Comment**

Consultant observed all required posted notices on this date.

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**Safety**

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

**Comment**

Center does not keep animals on premises.

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

**Comment**

Age-appropriate discussion and redirection observed on this date.

**Comment**

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

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

**Comment**

Center does not participate in field trips at this time.

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

**Comment**

Center does not provide routine transportation.

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**Sleeping & Resting Equipment**

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

**Comment**

Discussed SIDS and infant sleeping position on this date.

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**Staff Records**

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**Records Reviewed: 8**

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

Staff # 1 Date of Hire: 09/20/2019	Met
Staff # 2 Date of Hire: 12/13/2018	Met
Staff # 3 Date of Hire: 01/12/2014	Met
Staff # 4 Date of Hire: 01/02/2014	Met
Staff # 5 Date of Hire: 03/20/2018	Met
Staff # 6 Date of Hire: 10/21/2015	Met
Staff # 7 Date of Hire: 05/16/2019	Met
Staff # 8 Date of Hire: 03/20/2019	Met

**Staff Credentials Reviewed: 5**

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

**Comment**

Criminal record checks were observed to be complete on this date.

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

**Comment**

Complete first aid kits observed in center.

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

**Comment**

Staff observed to be compliant with applicable laws and regulations.

**Staffing and Supervision**

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

**Comment**

Center observed to maintain appropriate staff:child ratios on this date.

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

**Comment**

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