



**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:** 2/2/2021    **VisitType:** Monitoring Visit    **Arrival:** 8:30 AM    **Departure:** 9:30 AM

**CCLC-3978**

**Stepping Stones Educational Therapy Center**

141 Futral Rd. Griffin, GA 30224 Spalding County  
 (770) 229-5511 k.bozeman@steppingstoneschool.org

**Regional Consultant**

Brandi Mangino

Phone: (478) 314-9726  
 Fax: (478) 599-0169  
 brandi.mangino@decal.ga.gov

**Mailing Address**  
 Same

**Quality Rated:** ★ ★

<b>Compliance Zone Designation</b>		
02/02/2021	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing
08/20/2020	Licensing Study	Good Standing
04/17/2019	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	A-Left Hall	One Year Olds	3	2	C	16	C	NA	NA	Circle Time, Floor Play
Main	B-Left Hall	One Year Olds	2	5	C	15	C	NA	NA	Circle Time
Main	C-Left Hall	Two Year Olds and Three Year Olds	2	9	C	15	C	NA	NA	Centers
Main	D-Left Hall	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	2	8	C	15	C	NA	NA	Centers
Main	E-Left Hall		0	0	C	13	C	NA	NA	
Main	F-Rear Hall		0	0	C	12	C	NA	NA	
Main	L-Right Hall		0	0	C	12	C	NA	NA	
Main	M-Right Hall		0	0	C	13	C	NA	NA	
Main	N	PreK	2	18	C	22	C	NA	NA	Centers
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.:			133			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0				
Total # Children this Date: 42			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 133			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0				

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	Plgd	31	C
Main	Plgd-Inf./ Preschool	42	C

**Comments**

An administrative review was conducted on February 2, 2021. Criminal record checks were reviewed for all staff, helpers and household members. A virtual visit was conducted on February 8, 2021. An in-person visit was not conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Compliance with the Executive Order issued August 15, 2020 was discussed.

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.al.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

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.al.ga.gov](mailto:CCSRefutations@dec.al.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://dec.al.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)



#### 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.al.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@dec.al.ga.gov](mailto:qualityrated@dec.al.ga.gov)

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Ken Bozeman, Program Official

Date

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Brandi Mangino, 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)

Technical Assistance

##### Technical Assistance

A virtual visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. This rule was unable to be fully evaluated and will be reviewed the next regulatory visit.

Cleaning and disinfecting of equipment and toys discussed.

**Correction Deadline: 2/4/2021**

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

Not Evaluated

##### Comment

Center does not provide swimming activities.

### Facility

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

Technical Assistance

##### Technical Assistance

A virtual visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. This rule was unable to be fully evaluated and will be reviewed the next regulatory visit.

Consultant discussed keeping hazards inaccessible to children in care.

**Correction Deadline: 2/4/2021**

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

Met

**Correction Deadline: 4/17/2019**

**Corrected on 2/2/2021**  
**.25(13) - Citation corrected.**

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**591-1-1-.26 Playgrounds(CR)****Technical Assistance****Technical Assistance**

A virtual visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. This rule was unable to be fully evaluated and will be reviewed the next regulatory visit.

Playground hazards discussed. Playgrounds observed.

**Correction Deadline: 2/4/2021**

<b>Health and Hygiene</b>
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**591-1-1-.10 Diapering Areas & Practices(CR)****Technical Assistance****Technical Assistance**

A virtual visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. This rule was unable to be fully evaluated and will be reviewed the next regulatory visit.

Diapering requirements discussed.

**Correction Deadline: 2/4/2021**

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**591-1-1-.17 Hygiene(CR)****Technical Assistance****Technical Assistance**

A virtual visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. This rule was unable to be fully evaluated and will be reviewed the next regulatory visit.

Handwashing requirements discussed.

**Correction Deadline: 2/4/2021**

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

Documentation for medication dispensing observed complete.

<b>Safety</b>
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**591-1-1-.11 Discipline(CR)****Technical Assistance****Technical Assistance**

A virtual visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. This rule was unable to be fully evaluated and will be reviewed the next regulatory visit.

Discipline was not directly observed. Regulations regarding discipline were discussed.

**Correction Deadline: 2/4/2021**

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

Center does not provide routine transportation.

<b>Sleeping &amp; Resting Equipment</b>
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**Technical Assistance**

A virtual visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. This rule was unable to be fully evaluated and will be reviewed the next regulatory visit.

Safe sleep requirements discussed. Cleaning and disinfecting of cots/mats and sheets discussed.

**Correction Deadline: 2/14/2021**

**Staff Records**

**Records Reviewed: 17**

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

Staff # 1	Met
Date of Hire: 07/29/2019	
Staff # 2	Met
Date of Hire: 08/01/2018	
Staff # 3	Met
Staff # 4	Met
Staff # 5	Met
Date of Hire: 10/01/2012	
Staff # 6	Met
Date of Hire: 07/25/2019	
Staff # 7	Met
Staff # 8	Met
Date of Hire: 07/01/2019	
Staff # 9	Met
Date of Hire: 08/03/2016	
Staff # 10	Met
Date of Hire: 08/01/2018	
Staff # 11	Met
Staff # 12	Met
Staff # 13	Met
Staff # 14	Met
Staff # 15	Met

Staff # 16

Met

Staff # 17

Met

**Staff Credentials Reviewed: 7**

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

**Met**

**Comment**

All current staff have a satisfactory criminal record check.

**Correction Deadline: 2/4/2021**

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

**Technical Assistance**

**Technical Assistance**

Additional cleaning and sanitizing requirement due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The center was in compliance with the Executive Order issued August 15, 2020.

**Correction Deadline: 2/4/2021**

**Staffing and Supervision**

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

**Technical Assistance**

**Technical Assistance**

A virtual visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. This rule was unable to be fully evaluated and will be reviewed the next regulatory visit.

Ratio guidelines discussed.

**Correction Deadline: 2/4/2021**

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

**Technical Assistance**

**Technical Assistance**

A virtual visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. This rule was unable to be fully evaluated and will be reviewed the next regulatory visit.

Supervision regulations discussed and new mealtime supervision requirements discussed.

**Correction Deadline: 2/4/2021**