



**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:** 4/17/2019    **VisitType:** Monitoring Visit    **Arrival:** 10:50 AM    **Departure:** 12:40 PM

**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>			<b>Compliance Zone Designation</b> - 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.  <b>Good Standing</b> - Program is demonstrating an acceptable level of performance in meeting the rules. <b>Support</b> - Program performance is demonstrating a need for improvement in meeting rules. <b>Deficient</b> - Program is not demonstrating an acceptable level of performance in meeting the rules.
04/17/2019	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
12/04/2018	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
01/22/2018	Licensing Study	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-Left Hall	Infants and One Year Olds	2	6	C	16	C	NA	NA	Floor Play, Nap, Feeding
Main	B-Left Hall	One Year Olds and Two Year Olds and Three Year Olds	2	8	C	15	C	NA	NA	Lunch
Main	C-Left Hall	Two Year Olds	2	11	C	15	C	NA	NA	Lunch
Main	D-Left Hall		0	0	C	15	C	NA	NA	
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		0	0	C	22	C	NA	NA	
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 133						Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0				
Total # Children this Date: 25			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**

Plan of Improvement: To Be Submitted 05/01/2019

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.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

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@decal.ga.gov](mailto: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.

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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.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](mailto:qualityrated@decal.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**

**Date:** 4/17/2019    **VisitType:** Monitoring Visit    **Arrival:** 10:50 AM    **Departure:** 12:40 PM

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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**  
 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.

**Facility**

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

**Comment**  
 Please secure cleaning tools (i.e., broom, plunger) out of reach of children.

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

**Comment**  
 Licensed capacity observed to be routinely met by center.

**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 in the Pre-K classroom a closet was unlocked with a vacuum and two staff purses accessible. It was further determined in Room C (two-year-old room) that in the restroom a sweeper was accessible to children and baby wipes were accessible.

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 .....  
 .....  
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**Comment**

Discussed SIDS and infant sleeping position.

**Comment**

The correct number of mats, sheets and blankets were observed on this date. Cleaning and disinfecting of mats was discussed with the director on this date.

**Staff Records****Records Reviewed: 14****Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 0**

Staff # 1	Met
Date of Hire: 08/10/2016	
Staff # 2	Met
Date of Hire: 08/01/2016	
Staff # 3	Met
Date of Hire: 08/12/2009	
Staff # 4	Met
Date of Hire: 07/01/2017	
Staff # 5	Met
Date of Hire: 02/13/2017	
Staff # 6	Met
Date of Hire: 07/01/2002	
Staff # 7	Met
Staff # 8	Met
Date of Hire: 07/30/2003	
Staff # 9	Met
Date of Hire: 01/07/2013	
Staff # 10	Met
Date of Hire: 07/17/2017	
Staff # 11	Met
Date of Hire: 10/01/2007	
Staff # 12	Met
Date of Hire: 07/25/2018	
Staff # 13	Met
Date of Hire: 01/05/2015	

Staff # 14

Met

**Staff Credentials Reviewed: 14**

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

**Met**

**Comment**

Consultant requested to view all Criminal Record checks for employees hired after last visit. Director stated that there have been no new hires since last visit

**Correction Deadline: 12/4/2018**

**Corrected on 4/17/2019**

**.09(1)(a) - Citation observed to be corrected.**

**Correction Deadline: 12/4/2018**

**Corrected on 4/17/2019**

**.09(1)(c) - Citation observed to be corrected.**

**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.

**Comment**

Discussed combining children of mixed ages.

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

**Met**

**Comment**

Adequate supervision observed on this date.