



**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: 11/5/2020 **VisitType:** Licensing Study **Arrival:** 10:00 AM **Departure:** 11:00 AM

CCLC-445

Stepping Stones Child Development Center

5176 Old Norcross Rd. Norcross, GA 30071 Gwinnett County
(770) 446-2464 BILLDUNN@PRODIGY.NET

Regional Consultant

Leena Mitchell

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leena.mitchell@decal.ga.gov

Mailing Address

Same

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.
11/05/2020	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
02/18/2020	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
11/13/2019	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	1L		0	0	C	10	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Main	1R	PreK	2	5	C	24	C	NA	NA	Centers
Main	Back Right	Two Year Olds and Three Year Olds	1	2	C	8	C	NA	NA	Story
Main	Down Stairs		0	0	C	5	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Main	Front	Six Year Olds and Over	1	2	C	10	C	NA	NA	Homework
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 57						Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0				
Total # Children this Date: 9			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 57			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0				

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	A	28	C
Main	B	160	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.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.

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.

- 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.

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

Michelle Barber, Program Official

Date

Leena Mitchell, 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-.12 Equipment & Toys(CR)

Met

Comment

A variety of equipment and toys were observed throughout the center.

Comment

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

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

Met

Comment

Center does not provide swimming activities.

Children's Records

Records Reviewed: 5

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 3

Child # 1	Met
Child # 2	Not Met
<u>"Missing/Incomplete Components"</u>	
.08(3)-Address of Release Person Missing	
Child # 3	Not Met
<u>"Missing/Incomplete Components"</u>	
.08(3)-Address of Release Person Missing	
Child # 4	Met
Child # 5	Not Met
<u>"Missing/Incomplete Components"</u>	

.08(3)-Address of Release Person Missing

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

Not Met

Comment

Parent agreements observed obtained/completed.

Finding

591-1-1-.08(1)(b) requires Center Staff to maintain a file for each child that includes parental authorizations, including, but not limited to, written authorization for the Center to obtain emergency medical care for the child when the Parent is not available. It was determined based on review of records that three of five children's records did not have documentation of the release to persons' address.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will develop and follow a system to place and maintain all types of parental authorizations in these files.

Correction Deadline: 11/5/2020

Facility

591-1-1-.06 Bathrooms

Met

Comment

Bathrooms observed to be clean and well maintained.

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)

Met

Comment

Center appears clean and well maintained.

Comment

No hazards observed accessible to children on this date.

591-1-1-.26 Playgrounds(CR)

Met

Comment

Playground observed to be clean and in good repair. Please ensure to monitor the playground areas for the following hazards:

- Normal wear and tear of playground equipment and toys.
- Potential entrapment hazards in the fence surrounding the playground area.
- Biting and/or stinging insects (i.e. ants, bees, etc.)
- Loose and/or weak tree branches surrounding the playground area.
- Standing water in and around playground equipment after inclement weather.
- Fluff and redistribute resilient surface as needed.

Food Service

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

Not Met

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>

Finding

591-1-1-.15(7) requires that food be served according to manufacturer’s instructions and recommendations. Foods that are associated with young children’s choking incidents, such as, but not limited to, peanuts, hot dogs, raw carrots, popcorn, fish with bones, cheese cubes, grapes and any other food that is of similar shape and size of the trachea/windpipe shall not be served to the children less than four (4) years of age. Children older than four (4) years of age may be served these foods provided that the foods are cut in such a way as to minimize choking. Food shall not be accessible or served to children until it has been chopped, diced, cut or mashed and is appropriate for each child’s age and individual eating, chewing and swallowing ability. It was determined based on review of records that on November 2, 2020, children under four-years old were served corn dogs and on November 4, 2020, children under four-years old were served grapes.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will train Staff and monitor food served and accessible to children to ensure that the food does not present a choking hazard.

Correction Deadline: 11/5/2020

Health and Hygiene

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

Comment

Staff state proper knowledge of diapering procedures.

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

Comment

Staff stated the proper handwashing procedures for staff and children during virtual visit.

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

Comment

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

Policies and Procedures

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

Comment

Please make sure that all required signs are posted and up to date.

591-1-1-.29 Required Reporting **Met**

Comment

Discussed reporting requirements.

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. Staff stated proper discipline procedures during the virtual visit.

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

Met

Comment

Center does not participate in field trips at this time.

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

Met

Comment

Center does not provide routine transportation.

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

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

Met

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 stated proper safe sleep policy and procedure during virtual visit.

Correction Deadline: 2/18/2020

Corrected on 11/5/2020

.30(4) - The consultant observed the previous citation to be corrected in that the consultant observed all mats and blankets to be stored separately and not to be touching.

Staff Records

Records Reviewed: 7

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 1

Staff # 1	Met
Date of Hire: 08/10/2017	
Staff # 2	Met
Date of Hire: 01/04/2016	
Staff # 3	Met
Date of Hire: 06/01/2008	
Staff # 4	Met
Date of Hire: 07/13/2015	
Staff # 5	Not Met
Date of Hire: 05/01/2017	

Records Reviewed: 7

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 1

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.31(2)(b)2.-Staff Qualifications-Education Missing

Staff # 6 Met
Date of Hire: 01/09/2017

Staff # 7 Met
Date of Hire: 05/14/2019

Staff Credentials Reviewed: 2

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. Provider stated that there have been no new hires since last visit

Comment

Criminal record checks were observed to be complete.

591-1-1-.09 Criminal Records Check(CR) Met

Comment

Criminal records checks were observed to be complete.

591-1-1-.14 First Aid & CPR Not Met

Comment

Complete first aid kits observed in center.

Finding

591-1-1-.14(1) requires the Center Director and, at any given time, at least fifty percent (50%) of the caregiver Staff to successfully complete a biennial training program in cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and a triennial training program in first aid. The first aid training must be done by certified or licensed health care professionals or trainers and must deal with the provision of emergency care to infants and children. The Center shall maintain current evidence of the successful completion of such training which shall be available to the Department for inspection. It was determined based on a review of records that five out of six staff members had documentation on file of current training in CPR and First Aid which did not include information to confirm that the training was obtained from an approved source.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center Director and at least 50% of the caregiver Staff will complete the needed training. The Director will send written verification to the consultant upon completion and will develop a plan to ensure that at least 50% of the caregiver Staff have completed this training at any given time and that evidence of successful completion of the training is on file available for inspection.

Correction Deadline: 12/5/2020

591-1-1-.33 Staff Training Met

Comment

Documentation observed of required staff training.

Comment

Discussed: Health and Safety Training is required for each staff member with direct care responsibilities within 90 calendar days of their hire date.

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

Comment

Discussed that all lead staff must enroll in an approved education program within 6 months of hire and complete degree within 18 months.

Comment

Staff observed to be compliant with applicable laws and regulations. Additional cleaning and sanitizing requirements due to the COVID-19 pandemic were discussed and observed during a virtual walk through on this date. The program was in compliance with the Executive Order issued on August 15, 2020.

Staffing and Supervision

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

Not Met

Comment

Center observed to maintain appropriate staff:child ratios.

Comment

Discussed combining children of mixed ages.

Finding

591-1-1-.32(4)(b) allows children who turn three years old during the regular school year to remain with two-year olds for the remainder of the school year but requires agreement from the older child's Parent(s) for the continued placement. It was determined based on observation that in the back right classroom two and three-year old children were in the same class without a parental agreement on file.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will secure parental permission and keep it on file.

Correction Deadline: 11/5/2020

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

Technical Assistance

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.32 - Discussed proper supervision: responding promptly, bathrooms and playgrounds.

Comment

A supervision plan was created on this date.