



**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: 6/12/2019 **VisitType:** Initial Licensing Study **Arrival:** 10:00 AM **Departure:** 2:10 PM

CCLC-51070

Buddy Bear Academy

308 Dewey McGlamry Road Fitzgerald, GA 31750 Ben Hill County
(229) 423-7788 bba2019@yahoo.com

Regional Consultant

Jennifer Salies

Phone: (770) 357-7052

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jennifer.salies@decals.ga.gov

Mailing Address

Same

Quality Rated: No

Compliance Zone Designation		
06/12/2019	Initial Licensing Study	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	Infants and One Year Olds and Two Year Olds	1	5	C	16	C	NA	NA	Floor Play, Free Play	
Main	B	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds and Five Year Olds and Six Year Olds and Over	2	8	C	18	C	NA	NA	Centers	
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.:			34			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.:			0		
Total # Children this Date:			13			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.:			34		
						Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.:			0		

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	Playground A - All ages	35	C

Comments

Final License not issued, pending Fire Marshal Certificate of Occupancy and the Environmental Health Department inspection on the septic tank. Consultant discussed Quality Rated and the new Criminal Background Requirements with the new Owner on this date. Final Renewable Licensed issued on June 24, 2019 from desk.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 06/12/2019

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

You have received permission to operate and the form received with this report is intended to serve as a temporary license which is **valid for thirty(30) days**. Your actual license/ will be emailed to you upon receipt of the licensing fee. You may pay the licensing fee either online at <http://www.dec.state.ga.us/> or by certified check or money order mailed to: Bright from the Start, 2 Martin Luther King Jr. Drive SE, Suite 670 East Tower, Atlanta, GA 30334

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.

- 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

Leia Argabright, Program Official

Date

Jennifer Salies, Consultant

Date



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Findings Report

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The following information is associated with a Initial Licensing Study:

Activities and Equipment

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

Met

Comment

Equipment and furniture observed to be properly secured.

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

Met

Comment

Center does not provide swimming activities.

Facility

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

Met

Comment

The overall licensed capacity is thirty-four (34) children.

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

Not Met

Comment

No hazards observed accessible to children on this date.

Finding

591-1-1-.25(3) requires the Center and surrounding premises to be kept clean, free of debris and in good repair. Hygienic measures such as, but not limited to, screened windows and proper waste disposal procedures shall be utilized to minimize the presence of rodents, flies, roaches and other vermin at the Center. It was determined based on consultant's observation that two (2) toilets in the bathroom were missing the caps on the base screws.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will add the caps to the base of the toilets.

Correction Deadline: 6/28/2019

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's observation that the fence measured three (3) feet along the right side and three (3) feet five (5) inches along the back side when four (4) feet are required. Further, it was observed that there were ten (10) bolts, protruding more than two (2) threads around the gates of the playground and the pole along the top of the fence, on the left side, had exposed rust accessible to the children.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will add an extension to the fence so that it measures four (4) feet around the whole playground, pressure wash, sand, and repaint the top fence poles, and will turn around all the bolts to face the outside of the playground.

Correction Deadline: 7/19/2019**Finding**

591-1-1-.26(6) requires that playground equipment provide an opportunity for the children to engage in a variety of experiences and shall be age-appropriate. For example, toddlers shall not be permitted to swing in swings designed for School-age Children. The outdoor equipment shall be free of lead-based paint, sharp corners and shall be regularly maintained in such a way as to be free of rust and splinters that could pose significant safety hazard to the children. All equipment shall be arranged so as not to obstruct supervision of children. It was determined based on consultant's observation that the bus, merry go round, and play house had chipped paint accessible to the children. Further, it was observed that the back tires on the bus were deteriorating and peeling.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will pressure wash, sand, and repaint the equipment and replace the back tires.

Correction Deadline: 7/19/2019

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**

Proper hand washing observed throughout the center.

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

Discussed proper medication documentation and procedures.

Safety

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

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

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

Center does not provide routine transportation. Consultant discussed transportation requirements if/when the facility decides to incorporate transportation. The center will contact their regional consultant and complete the required two (2) hour transportation training prior to transporting children.

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

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

Met

Comment

Discussed SIDS and infant sleeping position. Two (2) of two (2) cribs were present meeting safety compliance with Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) and American Society of Testing and Materials International (ASTM) safety standards as they were manufactured in 2014. Consultant also observed fourteen (14) cots for the older children in the classroom on this date.

Staff Records

Records Reviewed: 4

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 0

Staff # 2

Met

Date of Hire: 08/08/1997

Staff # 3

Met

Date of Hire: 10/03/1996

Staff # 4

Met

Date of Hire: 01/03/2000

Records Reviewed: 4

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 0

Staff # 1

Met

Date of Hire: 06/05/2019

Staff Credentials Reviewed: 4

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

Met

Comment

Criminal record checks were observed to be complete. Four (4) of four (4) staff records were observed to have comprehensive satisfactory Criminal Background Check determination letters on file. Two (2) comprehensive satisfactory Criminal Background Check determination letters were also on file for relatives who work periodically at the facility.

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.

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

Met

Comment

Adequate supervision observed on this date.