



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: 5/23/2023 **VisitType:** Complaint Investigation & Monitoring Visit **Arrival:** 9:50 AM **Departure:** 3:15 PM

CCLC-46772

Stepping Stones Academy

1108 Bear Creek Blvd Hampton, GA 30228 Henry County
 (770) 707-3955 hamptonssa@gmail.com

Region Consultant

April Brown

Phone: (770) 357-5101
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 april.brown@dec.al.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. |
|------------------------------------|--|---------------|--|
| 05/23/2023 | Complaint Investigation & Monitoring Visit | Good Standing | |
| 10/04/2022 | Complaint Closure | Good Standing | |
| 10/04/2022 | Complaint Investigation & 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- Infants-1st Right | Infants and One Year Olds | 2 | 10 | C | 11 | C | NA | NA | Floor Play,Nap |
| Main | B- 2's 2nd Right | One Year Olds | 2 | 12 | C | 20 | C | NA | NA | Lunch |
| Main | C- PreK 3rd Right | Three Year Olds | 1 | 13 | C | 19 | C | NA | NA | Music |
| Main | D- PreK 4th Right | GA PreK | 2 | 8 | C | 26 | C | NA | NA | Music |
| Main | E- School age-5th Right | Four Year Olds | 2 | 17 | C | 27 | C | NA | NA | Centers |
| Main | F- Toddlers- 2nd Left | One Year Olds | 1 | 8 | C | 10 | C | NA | NA | Art |
| Main | G- 3's 3rd Left | Two Year Olds | 2 | 12 | C | 15 | C | NA | NA | TV |
| Main | H- 3's 4th Left | Three Year Olds | 2 | 13 | C | 15 | C | NA | NA | Free Play |
| Main | I- PreK 5th Left | | 0 | 0 | C | 20 | C | NA | NA | Not In Use |
| | | | | | Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 163 | | Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0 | | | |
| Total # Children this Date: 93 | | | Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 163 | | | Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0 | | | | |

| Building | Playground | Playground Occupancy | Playground Compliance |
|----------|------------------------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|
| Main | Playground C (back right) | 99 | C |
| Main | Playground D (right front) | 47 | C |
| Main | Plgd A - Infants left side of Bldg | 20 | C |


| | | | |
|------|--------------------|----|---|
| Main | Plgd B- Toddler | 46 | C |
| Main | Plgd E- School age | 86 | C |

Comments

CI/MV completed on this date.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 05/23/2023

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

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), do the following:

- 1) Log into DECAL KOALA www.decalkoala.com with the userid for your program
- 2) On the home page scroll down to the Inspection Reports and select 'Refute Citation' for the visit report in dispute
- 3) Select the specific rule number(s) that you are refuting, add the reason for disagreement regarding the rule citation, and upload supporting documentation
- 4) Submit the refutation in DECAL KOALA to Child Care Services (CCS) within 10 business days of the completion date.

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 Quality Rated/CAPS Update:

As January 1, 2022, child care providers must be Quality Rated to receive Childcare and Parent Services (CAPS). Newly licensed, or new to CAPS providers may be eligible for the new CAPS/QR Provisional Status, allowing for scholarships while working toward a star rating.

Contact the Quality Rated help desk at 855-800-7747 or qualityrated@dec.state.ga.us for more information. Free technical assistance is available!

Stephanie Snyder, Program Official

Date

April Brown, 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

Comment

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

Technical Assistance

Please ensure that a variety of age-appropriate toys and play materials be available, stored on low, open shelves accessible to children in each room or assigned area as required.

Correction Deadline: 6/22/2023

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

N/A

Comment

Pool not in use at this time, gates observed locked on this date.

Facility

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

Met

Correction Deadline: 10/5/2022

Corrected on 5/23/2023

Correction of citation in that license capacity was observed to be met by the center on this date.

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

Met

Comment

Center appears clean and well maintained on this date.

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

Met

Comment

Discussed maintenance of resilient surface. Please fluff and redistribute due to rain as needed.

Correction Deadline: 10/14/2022

Corrected on 5/23/2023

Correction of citation in that the rusted screws and back board of the basketball goals were removed on this date.

Food Service

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

Met

Correction Deadline: 10/5/2022

Corrected on 5/23/2023

Correction of citation in that infant feeding plans were corrected and instructions for the introduction of solid foods was completed.

Health and Hygiene

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

Met

Comment

Hand washing requirements for diapering were discussed with the director and infant staff members on this date.

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

Met

Comment

Staff were observed to remind children to wash hands on this date.

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

N/A

Comment

The center currently does not dispense or administer medication at this time.

Safety

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

Met

Comment

Age-appropriate discussion and redirection observed on this date.

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

Met

Comment

A current and completed inspection was observed for both vehicles used in transporting children on this date. Vehicles with tag numbers ending in L4623 and E4651 were completed on April 3, 2023.

Correction Deadline: 10/14/2022

Corrected on 5/23/2023

Correction of citation in that the driver completed the two hour transportation training on May 2, 2023. Additionally, all staff members who participate in transportation completed the two hour training as required.

Correction Deadline: 10/5/2022

Corrected on 5/23/2023

Correction of citation in that the designated person immediately documented in writing with a check or other mark/symbol to account for each child listed on the passenger transportation checklist form during routine school transportation.

Correction Deadline: 10/5/2022

Corrected on 5/23/2023

Correction of citation in that the driver or other designated person documented in writing the time of arrival and departure each time a child departed from the center, loaded and unloaded as required.

Correction Deadline: 10/5/2022

Corrected on 5/23/2023

Correction of citation in that the first check was completed immediately upon unloading the last child during routine school transportation.

Correction Deadline: 10/5/2022

Corrected on 5/23/2023

Correction of citation in that the second designated staff person immediately documented after the first check of the vehicle during routine school transportation as required.

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

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

Comment

Discussed SIDS and infant sleeping position with the infant staff members and director on this date.

Staff Records

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

Comment

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

Comment

Director provided 11 file(s) for employees hired since the last visit which was completed on October 4, 2022.

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

Correction Deadline: 11/3/2022

Corrected on 5/23/2023

Correction of citation in that both staff members were no longer employed at the center on this date.

591-1-1-.33 Staff Training Met

Correction Deadline: 11/3/2022

Corrected on 5/23/2023

Correction of citation in that one staff member was no longer employed. The other staff member completed the 10 hour health and safety training as required.

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

Comment

Staff observed to be compliant with applicable laws and regulations on this date.

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.

Comment

Adequate supervision observed on this date.