



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

Cover Sheet

Date: 11/22/2021 **VisitType:** Licensing Study

Arrival: 2:45 PM

Departure: 3:25 PM

CCLC-448

Stepping Stones Child Care - Free Home

11930 Cumming Highway Canton, GA 30115 Cherokee County
 (770) 844-7795 steppingstones@etcmil.com

Regional Consultant

Rachael Brown

Phone: (770) 342-7795

Fax: (678) 891-5887

rachael.brown@dec.al.ga.gov

Mailing Address

201 Little River Farms Trail
 Canton, GA 30115

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.
11/22/2021	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
04/29/2021	MV POI Follow Up	Good Standing	
03/23/2021	Incident Investigation Closure	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	A1- Left Hallway Left	Infants and One Year Olds	3	11	C	16	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main	B- Left Hallway 3rd right room	One Year Olds	2	9	C	13	C	NA	NA	Floor Play
Main	C- Left Hallway 2nd right	Two Year Olds	2	14	C	14	C	NA	NA	Outside
Main	D-Left side 1st Rt. Pre-k	GA PreK	2	18	C	21	C	29	C	Centers
Main	E- 2 R Right Side Back Three's	Three Year Olds	3	21	C	32	C	NA	NA	Outside
Main	F- Front Right 1R Pre-k	GA PreK	2	16	C	26	C	37	C	Circle Time

Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 122

Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 141

Total # Children this Date: 89

Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 122

Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 141

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	Playground A Infant	46	C
Main	Playground B Middle	64	C
Main	Playground C Right	83	C

Comments

An Administrative Review was conducted on November 18, 2021. Staff files, children's files, training, and background checks were all reviewed. A virtual inspection was conducted on November 18, 2021 with the Director. An in-person visit was not conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

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



Important New Deadlines:

Due to the ongoing COVID restrictions, the deadline to become Quality Rated for programs who want to continue to receive Childcare and Parent Services (CAPS), has been extended to at least December 31, 2021.

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

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)

Tonya Barrett, Program Official

Date

Rachael Brown, 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 Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. A variety of equipment and toys were observed throughout the center.

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

N/A

Comment

Center does not provide swimming activities.

Children's Records

Records Reviewed: 5

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 0

Child # 1	Met
Child # 2	Met
Child # 3	Met
Child # 4	Met
Child # 5	Met

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

Met

Comment

Records were observed to be complete and well organized.

Facility

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

Comment

A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Bathrooms observed to be clean and well maintained.

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

Comment

A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Licensed capacity observed to be met by center.

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

Comment

A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. No hazards observed accessible to children on this date.

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

Comment

A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Discussed maintenance of resilient surface. Please fluff and redistribute.

Food Service

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

Comment

Center menu meets USDA guidelines.

591-1-1-.18 Kitchen Operations **Met**

Comment

A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Kitchen appears clean and well organized.

Health and Hygiene

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

Comment

A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Hand washing and sanitizing requirements for diapering were discussed with the Director on this date. During the virtual walk through the diapering area was observed and the provider displayed proper knowledge of the rules and regulations.

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

Comment

A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Hand washing and sanitizing requirements for diapering were discussed with the Director on this date. Liquid soap and paper towels were observed accessible in the restroom area.

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

Comment

A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Discussed proper medication documentation and procedures.

Policies and Procedures

591-1-1-.21 Operational Policies & Procedures **Met**

Comment

Program observed complete emergency drills

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

Observed all required posted notices.

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

Thank you for reporting as required.

Safety**591-1-1-.05 Animals****N/A****Comment**

Center does not keep animals on premises.

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

A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Staff were observed to maintain a positive learning environment on this date. Redirection and discussion stated to be used throughout the center.

591-1-1-.13 Field Trips(CR)**N/A****Comment**

Center does not participate in field trips at this time.

591-1-1-.36 Transportation(CR)**N/A****Comment**

Center does not provide routine transportation.

Sleeping & Resting Equipment**591-1-1-.30 Safe Sleeping and Resting Requirements(CR)****Met****Comment**

A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Discussed SIDS and infant sleeping position.

Staff Records**Records Reviewed: 24****Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 0**

Staff # 1

Met

Date of Hire: 05/28/2021

Staff # 2

Met

Date of Hire: 02/01/1997

Staff # 3

Met

Staff # 4

Met

Date of Hire: 05/09/2011

Staff # 5

Met

Date of Hire: 05/28/2021

Staff # 6 Met
Date of Hire: 05/20/2019

Staff # 7 Met
Date of Hire: 10/18/2021 Reminder - Health & Safety training is required within 90 calendar days of hired

Staff # 8 Met
Date of Hire: 03/27/2001

Staff # 9 Met
Date of Hire: 01/28/2013

Staff # 10 Met
Date of Hire: 08/21/2020

Staff # 11 Met
Date of Hire: 10/25/2018

Staff # 12 Met
Date of Hire: 06/08/2016

Staff # 13 Met
Date of Hire: 09/19/2018

Staff # 14 Met
Date of Hire: 09/07/2021 Reminder - Health & Safety training is required within 90 calendar days of hired

Staff # 15 Met
Date of Hire: 08/09/2021

Staff # 16 Met

Staff # 17 Met
Date of Hire: 07/26/2021

Staff # 18 Met
Date of Hire: 08/12/2021

Staff # 19 Met
Date of Hire: 09/20/2021 Reminder - Health & Safety training is required within 90 calendar days of hired

Staff # 20 Met

Records Reviewed: 24

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 0

Staff # 21	Met
Date of Hire: 10/19/2021	<u>Reminder - Health & Safety training is required within 90 calendar days of hired</u>
Staff # 22	Met
Date of Hire: 01/11/2021	
Staff # 23	Met
Staff # 24	Met
Date of Hire: 10/19/2021	<u>Reminder - Health & Safety training is required within 90 calendar days of hired</u>

Staff Credentials Reviewed: 11

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

Comment

Criminal record checks were observed to be complete.

Comment

Director provided ten files for employees hired since last visit.

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

Comment

A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Complete first aid kits observed in center.

Comment

Evidence observed of 100% of center staff certified in First Aid and CPR.

591-1-1-.33 Staff Training Met

Comment

Documentation observed of required staff training.

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

Comment

A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. 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

A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Center observed to maintain appropriate staff:child ratios.

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

Comment

A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Adequate supervision observed on this date.