



**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: 3/24/2023 **VisitType:** Licensing Study **Arrival:** 8:05 AM **Departure:** 11:35 AM

CCLC-39611

First Steps Child Development Center

3714 Salem Rd Covington, GA 30016 Newton County
(770) 788-8555 tawanbridg@aol.com

Regional Consultant

Rapheal Betton

Phone: (678) 717-5719

Fax:

rapheal.betton@dec.al.ga.gov

Mailing Address

Same

Quality Rated: ★ ★

Compliance Zone Designation		
03/24/2023	Licensing Study	Good Standing
09/28/2022	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing
01/19/2022	Monitoring Visit	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	1LRt Hall Cookie Monster's		0	0	C	16	C	NA	NA	
Main	Count's Castle Rt Side	Five Year Olds and GA PreK	2	17	C	22	C	31	C	Centers
Main	Left Hall 1L Baby Bear's Crib	One Year Olds and Two Year Olds	1	6	C	10	C	NA	NA	Music
Main	Left Hall 1R Big Birs's Nest	Two Year Olds and Three Year Olds	2	5	C	16	C	NA	NA	Circle Time
Main	Left Hall Oscars Cove 2L	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	2	13	C	21	C	29	C	Circle Time
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 85						Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 102				
Total # Children this Date: 41			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 85			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 102				

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	A- 6Wks-5 Yrs	24	C
Main	B- 6 Wks -12 yrs	7	C

Comments

The purpose of this visit was to conduct a licensing study

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 03/24/2023

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.decgal.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), 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 1 855-800-7747 or qualityrated@decgal.ga.gov for more information. Free technical assistance is available!

Tawanna Bridges, Program Official

Date

Rapheal Betton, 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-.03 Activities

Met

Comment

591-1-1-.03(5) - Consultant observed a variety of activities provided for the enrolled children.

Correction Deadline: 3/24/2023

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)

Not Evaluated

Comment

Center does not provide swimming activities.

Children's Records

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

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

Consultant discuss with the provider to ensure that dead bugs are routinely removed from ceiling lighting fixtures throughout the center.

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

Comment

Playground observed to be clean and in good repair.

Health and Hygiene

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

Comment

Staff stated proper diapering procedures for enrolled students throughout the day.

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

Comment

591-1-1-.17(10) - Staff stated proper hand washing procedures throughout the center.

Correction Deadline: 3/24/2023

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

Comment

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

Safety

591-1-1-.05 Animals **Met**

Comment

Center does not keep animals on premises.

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

Comment

Staff stated proper usage of disciplinary procedures, relating to redirection.

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

Complete documentation of transportation observed.

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

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

Comment

Consultant observed safe sleeping and resting equipment.

Staff Records

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

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 **Met**

Comment

Complete first aid kits observed in center and on vehicles.

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

Staff observed to provide direct supervision and be attentive to children's needs.