



**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: 9/29/2021 **VisitType:** Licensing Study **Arrival:** 12:00 PM **Departure:** 12:55 PM

CCLC-2282

The Starting Point Day Care

1929 Skidaway Road Savannah, GA 31404 Chatham County
(912) 236-7373 lindasmart47@yahoo.com

Regional Consultant

Stacey Foston

Phone: (706) 806-0407

Fax: (706) 806-0406

stacey.foston@dec.al.gov

Mailing Address

Same

Quality Rated: No

| 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. |
|------------------------------------|------------------|---------------|--|
| 09/29/2021 | Licensing Study | Good Standing | |
| 03/11/2021 | Monitoring Visit | Good Standing | |
| 09/28/2020 | 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 | Back | | 0 | 0 | C | 9 | C | NA | NA | | |
| Main | end left | Four Year Olds | 1 | 6 | C | 12 | C | NA | NA | Nap | |
| Main | Middle front | Three Year Olds | 1 | 3 | C | 5 | C | NA | NA | Nap | |
| Main | middle rear infant | Infants | 1 | 3 | C | 5 | C | NA | NA | Floor Play | |
| Main | Right toddler | One Year Olds and Two Year Olds | 2 | 9 | C | 15 | C | NA | NA | Nap | |
| Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: | | | 46 | | | Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: | | | 0 | | |
| Total # Children this Date: | | | 21 | | | Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: | | | 46 | | |
| | | | | | | Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: | | | 0 | | |

| Building | Playground | Playground Occupancy | Playground Compliance |
|----------|------------|----------------------|-----------------------|
| Main | Playground | 46 | C |

Comments

An Administrative Review was conducted on September 28, 2021. Staff files, children's files, training, and background checks were all reviewed. A virtual inspection was conducted on September 29, 2021 with the Director. An in-person visit was not conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

A one day letter was issued. The video affidavit is to be submitted by October 6, 2021.

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



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.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

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)

Linda Smart, Program Official

Date

Stacey Foston, Consultant

Date



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Findings Report

Date: 9/29/2021 **VisitType:** Licensing Study **Arrival:** 12:00 PM **Departure:** 12:55 PM

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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.

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 **Technical Assistance**

Comment
Parent authorizations obtained/completed.

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.08(6) - Discussed the that electronic attendance records submitted for review should have the authorized release person signature on documents. Also discussed the following rule that states the Center is to maintain records of a child's daily arrival and departure for the twelve (12) preceding months that the Parent or person(s) authorized by the Parent documents, in written or electronic format, each time the Parent or authorized person drops off and picks up the child. The documentation shall include at least the date, the child's name, the arrival and departure times, and the signature or initials of the Parent or authorized person at the time of arrival and departure. These records shall be made available to the Department in printed or written form upon request.

Correction Deadline: 9/29/2021

| |
|-----------------|
| Facility |
|-----------------|

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

No hazards were observed accessible to the children during the virtual walkthrough. The center will be mindful to keep items that may pose a hazard inaccessible to the children.

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

Comment

Due to technical issues the playground was not observed during the virtual visit. The center sent pictures of the playground after the visit. The Playground was observed to be clean and in good repair.

| |
|---------------------|
| Food Service |
|---------------------|

591-1-1-.15 Food Service & Nutrition **Technical Assistance**

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.15 - Discussed new revision to restricted food rule which states: 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.

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.15(2) - Please ensure the new updated infant feeding form is used. Discussed revision to the written feeding plans for children under the age of 1 years old. Age-appropriate solid foods (including cereal) shall not be given to infants or children less than one (1) year of age until recommended as developmentally appropriate by the child's primary care physician and indicated in writing by the Parent(s).

Correction Deadline: 9/29/2021

| |
|---------------------------|
| Health and Hygiene |
|---------------------------|

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

Comment

Staff stated proper knowledge of diapering procedures.

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

Comment

A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. During the virtual walk through, handwashing supplies were observed at all sinks. Discussed hand washing requirements with the director.

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

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

Policies and Procedures

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

Observed documentation of emergency drills and plans.

Safety

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

Discipline was not directly observed during the virtual walk through. The center's discipline policy and practices were discussed with the director.

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

A current/completed inspection was observed for all vehicles used in transporting children. The two vehicles present during the virtual visit had the required fire extinguisher and first aid kit.

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

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

Pleasant naptime environment observed.

Staff Records

Records Reviewed: 7**Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 3**

Staff # 1 Not Met

Date of Hire: 01/10/2012

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

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

Staff # 2 Met

Date of Hire: 05/14/2021

Staff # 3 Met

Date of Hire: 06/25/2021

Staff # 4 Not Met

Date of Hire: 05/23/2016

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.09-Criminal Records Check Missing

Staff # 5 Met

Date of Hire: 10/01/1996

Staff # 6

Not Met

Date of Hire: 02/24/2011

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

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

Staff # 7

Met

Date of Hire: 09/15/2005

Staff Credentials Reviewed: 9**591-1-1-.09 Criminal Records and Comprehensive Background Checks(CR)****Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.09(1)(c) requires the Center to ensure that every Employee has a valid and current satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination on file prior to being present at the Center while any child is present for care or before an individual age 17 or older resides in the Center. The Comprehensive Records Check Determination must have a Records Check Clearance Date that is no older than the preceding 12 months of the hire date; provided, however, if the Employee has had a lapse of employment from the child care industry that lasted for 180 days (6 months) or longer, a new satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination is required. It was determined based on a review of records that staff #4 was present at the center and did not have a valid and current satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination on file.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

IMMEDIATE CORRECTION - The Center will ensure that every Employee has a valid and current satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination on file prior to being present at the Center while any child is present for care or before an individual age 17 or older resides in the Center. The Comprehensive Records Check Determination must have a Records Check Clearance Date that is no older than the preceding 12 months of the hire date; provided, however, if the Employee has had a lapse of employment from the child care industry that lasted for 180 days (6 months) or longer, a new satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination is required. The program's owner or an officer/member of the corporation must view the A to Z Background Check video units pertaining to this records check rule and return the signed affidavit by October 6, 2021. A one day Letter was emailed to the center. The center will ensure the CRC rules are maintained.

Correction Deadline: 9/29/2021**Finding**

591-1-1-.09(1)(l)3. requires the Center to immediately require a new Comprehensive Records Check Determination for a Director, Employee or Provisional Employee at least once every five years. It was determined based on review of records that staff #4 Comprehensive Records Check Determination expired on June 7, 2021 and the staff had not obtained a new Comprehensive Records Check Determination.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

IMMEDIATE CORRECTION - The Center will ensure that each Director, Employee and Provisional Employee has a Comprehensive Records Check Determination on file that has been issued within the past five years. The program's owner or an officer/member of the corporation must view the A to Z Background Check video units pertaining to this records check rule and return the signed affidavit within one week from this visit date. The Center will ensure CRC rules are maintained. The video affidavit is to be submitted by October 6, 2021. A one day letter was emailed to the center.

Correction Deadline: 9/29/2021**591-1-1-.14 First Aid & CPR****Met****Comment**

Evidence observed of 50% of center staff certified in First Aid and CPR.

591-1-1-.33 Staff Training**Met**

Comment

Documentation observed of required staff training for he year 2020 was observed March 11, 2021.

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

Not 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.

Finding

591-1-1.31(2)(b) requires teachers/lead caregivers to meet minimum qualifications. It was determined based on review of records and discussion with the director that two lead teachers had not completed a program to meet the credential requirements.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The teachers have completed the required class work hours. The staff stated the previous instructor did not contact them to schedule the observation. The staff has had to contact a new instructor to complete the remaining requirements to obtain the credential. The staff will have place documentation that states the name of new instructor and date the credential is expected to be obtained

Correction Deadline: 10/29/2021

Recited on 9/29/2021

| |
|---------------------------------|
| 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.