



**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:** 12/28/2021 **VisitType:** Complaint Investigation Follow Up **Arrival:** 10:45 AM **Departure:** 1:15 PM

**CCLC-53918**

**Heritage Early Learning Academy**

328 Greene St Augusta, GA 30901 Richmond County  
(706) 821-0034 hela@heritageacademyaugusta.org

**Regional Consultant**

Tiffany Carter

Phone: (404) 478-8047

Fax: (404) 478-8048

tiffany.carter@dec.al.gov

**Mailing Address**

Same

**Quality Rated:** No

<b>Compliance Zone Designation</b>		
12/28/2021	Complaint Investigation Follow Up	Good Standing
08/02/2021	Initial Licensing Study	NA

**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(Stars)	Infants	1	1	C	10	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main	B-Infants(Comets)	Infants	1	2	C	10	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main	C-One Year Olds (Caterpillar)	One Year Olds	1	7	C	10	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main	D-One Year Old (Butterfly)	One Year Olds	2	10	C	10	C	NA	NA	Free Play
Main	E-Two Year Old (Acorn)	Two Year Olds	1	5	C	10	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main	F-Two Year Old-(Oaktree)		0	0	C	10	C	NA	NA	
Main	G-Three year old-(Pathfinders)		0	0	C	18	C	NA	NA	
Main	H-Three Year Old (Seekers)	Three Year Olds	2	17	C	18	C	NA	NA	Lunch
Main	I-Four year old (Adventurers)	Four Year Olds	1	11	C	19	C	NA	NA	Lunch
Main	J-Four year old (Explorers)		0	0	C	19	C	NA	NA	

Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 134

Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0

Total # Children this Date: 53

Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 134

Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	Playground A-Infants	7	C


Main	Playground B-Two year old -Five year old	61	C
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**Comments**

12/28/2021: The purpose of today's visit was to conduct a complaint investigation and to follow-up on previous visit.



Plan of Improvement: To Be Submitted 02/16/2022

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](mailto: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](mailto: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)

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Elizabeth Westergreen, Program Official

Date

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Tiffany Carter, Consultant

Date



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### Findings Report

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The following information is associated with a Complaint Investigation Follow Up:

	<b>Facility</b>
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591-1-1-.26 Playgrounds(CR)

Met

Correction Deadline: 12/31/2021

Corrected on 12/28/2021

.26(5) - Previous citation was corrected on this date.