



**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:** 2/17/2022    **VisitType:** Monitoring Visit    **Arrival:** 10:35 AM    **Departure:** 11:25 AM

**CCLC-46802**

**Fun Steps Ahead**

4441 Covington Highway Decatur, GA 30035 DeKalb County  
(404) 254-1773 pearliesb@gmail.com

**Mailing Address**  
Same

**Regional Consultant**

Verlyn Gant

Phone: (404) 591-6059  
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verlyn.gant@decal.ga.gov

Joint with: Kesha McNeal

**Quality Rated:**

<b>Compliance Zone Designation</b>			<b>Compliance Zone Designation</b> - 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.  <b>Good Standing</b> - Program is demonstrating an acceptable level of performance in meeting the rules. <b>Support</b> - Program performance is demonstrating a need for improvement in meeting rules. <b>Deficient</b> - Program is not demonstrating an acceptable level of performance in meeting the rules.
02/17/2022	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
09/27/2021	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
06/01/2021	Monitoring Visit	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	1L - Front - Room B - Preschool		0	0	C	6	C	NA	NA						
Main	1R-Room A-Inf	Infants and One Year Olds	2	7	C	7	C	NA	NA	Floor Play,Nap					
Main	2L - Front - Room C - Preschool	Two Year Olds	1	6	C	6	C	NA	NA	Circle Time					
Main	3L - Front - Room D - Preschool		0	0	C	6	C	NA	NA						
Main	4L - Rear - Room E - Preschool - School Age	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds and Five Year Olds and Six Year Olds and Over	1	14	C	25	C	NA	NA	TV					
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 50						Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0									
Total # Children this Date: 27						Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 50					Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0				

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	Playground - Preschool - School Age	18	C

## Comments

On this date February 17, 2022, the consultant followed up to previous visit and conducted an on-site Licensing Study.

Consultant requested the provider submit required documents for the Administrative Review process.

An Administrative Review was conducted on February 21, 2022. Staff files, children's files, training, and background checks were all reviewed.

The Consultant completed exit conference virtually and a copy of the monitoring visit report was electronically emailed to the Program on February 25, 2022.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 02/17/2022

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.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](mailto: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](mailto: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.





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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)

Met

##### Comment

591-1-1-.12(4) requires that equipment and furniture is secured if it is of a weight or mass that could cause injury from tipping, falling, or being pulled or pushed over.

Ensure high chairs are not stacked in the classroom while the infant are active and awake.

**Correction Deadline: 2/17/2022**

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

N/A

##### Comment

Center does not provide swimming activities.

### 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)

Technical Assistance

##### Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.25 - Please be mindful to keep items such as the cleaning materials in the two-year-old classroom inaccessible to children.

##### Comment

Center appears clean and well maintained.

##### Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.25(8) requires protective caps on all unused electrical outlets within children's reach and requires that electrical outlets in use be made inaccessible to children. Ensure the electrical outlet cover on the playground on the right side of the door is replaced as required.

**Correction Deadline: 2/17/2022**

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**591-1-1-.26 Playgrounds(CR)****Not Met****Comment**

Discussed maintenance of resilient surface. Please fluff and redistribute.

**Finding**

591-1-1-.26(6) requires that playground equipment provide an opportunity for the children to engage in a variety of experiences and shall be age-appropriate. For example, toddlers shall not be permitted to swing in swings designed for School-age Children. The outdoor equipment shall be free of lead-based paint, sharp corners and shall be regularly maintained in such a way as to be free of rust and splinters that could pose significant safety hazard to the children. All equipment shall be arranged so as not to obstruct supervision of children. It was determined based on observation that there were two missing pedals on the red riding structure. It was further determined based on observation that there was protruding nails on the blue non-mobile race car and on the police car.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center will provide a variety of age-appropriate equipment that is arranged so as not to obstruct supervision of children. Staff will check the equipment daily to ensure that the equipment is free of hazards, rust and splinters.

**Correction Deadline: 2/27/2022**

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**Food Service**

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

Please ensure that bottles are covered and fully labeled with child's full name.

**Comment**

Please ensure that the revised infant feeding plan is used and that the forms are updated regularly.

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**Health and Hygiene**

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

Staff state proper knowledge of diapering procedures.

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

Proper hand washing of children and staff was discussed with the staff on this date.

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**591-1-1-.20 Medications(CR)****N/A****Comment**

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

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**Safety**

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

Age-appropriate discussion and/or redirection observed.

**Comment**

Staff were observed to maintain a positive learning environment on this date.

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**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)**

**Not Met**

**Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.30(1)(b)3 requires that sheets or similar coverings for cots or mats shall either be marked for individual use or laundered daily. If marked for individual use, they must be laundered weekly or more frequently if needed.

Please ensure that the cots or mats in the preschool classroom have a sheet or a similar covering.

**Correction Deadline: 2/17/2022**

**Finding**

591-1-1-.30(2)(c) requires that infants shall not sleep in equipment other than safety-approved cribs, such as, but not limited to, a car safety seat, bouncy seat, highchair, or swing. Infants who arrive at the Center asleep or fall asleep in such equipment, on the floor or elsewhere, shall be transferred to a safety-approved crib. It was determined based on observation that an infant was asleep in a bouncy seat and was not transferred to a safety approved crib as required.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center will only place infants in safe cribs to sleep and will transfer them to a safe crib when the infants are asleep in other equipment.

**Correction Deadline: 2/17/2022**

## Staff Records

**Records Reviewed: 6**

**Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 0**

Staff # 1	Met
Date of Hire: 03/15/2016	
Staff # 2	Met
Date of Hire: 11/18/2021	
Staff # 3	Met
Date of Hire: 03/26/2018	
Staff # 4	Met
Date of Hire: 06/26/2018	
Staff # 5	Met
Date of Hire: 02/11/2018	
Staff # 6	Met
Date of Hire: 08/14/2017	

**Staff Credentials Reviewed: 4**

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

**Met**

**Comment**

Criminal record checks were observed to be complete.

**Comment**

Staff observed to be compliant with applicable laws and regulations.

<b>Staffing and Supervision</b>
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**Finding**

591-1-1-.32(1) requires the Center to maintain the required Staff:child ratios as follows: under 1 year or under 18 months if not walking = 1:6; 1 year and walking = 1:8; 2 years = 1:10; 3 years = 1:15; 4 years = 1:18; 5 years = 1:20; and 6 years and older = 1:25. A Center must establish groupings of children for care with maximum group sizes as follows: under 1 year = 12; under 18 months/not walking = 12; 1 year and walking = 16; 2 years = 20; 3 years = 30; 4 years = 36; 5 years = 40; and 6 years and older = 50. It was determined based on observation that a ration of 1:7 was observed in the infant classroom when a Staff member left the classroom to label a bottle. A ratio of 2:7 would be required.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center will hire additional Staff or reschedule current Staff to meet required Staff:child ratios and will organize children into groups that meet requirements.

**Correction Deadline: 2/17/2022**

**Comment**

Adequate supervision observed on this date.