



**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:** 8/30/2022 **VisitType:** Monitoring Visit

**Arrival:** 11:00 AM

**Departure:** 12:00 PM

**CCLC-34766**

**The Bright Futures Academy**

3602 Highlands Pkwy Smyrna, GA 30082 Cobb County  
(678) 424-1076 thebrightfuturesacademy@gmail.com

**Regional Consultant**

Evelyn McBurse

Phone: (770) 405-7958

Fax: (404) 591-5186

evelyn.mcburse@dec.al.ga.gov

**Mailing Address**

Same

**Quality Rated:** No

<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.
08/30/2022	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
03/23/2022	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
10/06/2021	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	

  

<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.

**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 1st Left	Infants and One Year Olds	1	6	C	7	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main	B 2nd Left		0	0	C	8	C	NA	NA	
Main	C 3rd Left	Two Year Olds	1	13	C	15	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main	D Right Room	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	1	10	C	10	C	NA	NA	Nap
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 40					Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					
Total # Children this Date: 29			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 40			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0				

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	Playground	15	C

**Comments**

An in-person inspection was conducted on August 30, 2022 with the Provider. The provider's signature on the administrative review letter was obtained on August 30, 2022. An Administrative Review was conducted on September 7, 2022. Staff files and background checks were all reviewed.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 08/30/2022

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 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 855-800-7747 or [qualityrated@dec.state.ga.us](mailto:qualityrated@dec.state.ga.us) for more information. Free technical assistance is available!**

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](http://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)

MERACKLER Parson, Program Official

Date

Evelyn McBurse, Consultant

Date



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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**

Equipment and furniture observed to be properly secured, as applicable.

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

**Not Evaluated**

**Comment**

Center does not provide swimming activities.

**Facility**

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

**Met**

**Correction Deadline: 3/23/2022**

**Corrected on 8/30/2022**

**.19(1) - Correction of the previous citation in that consultant observed the center's licensed capacity to be met in each classroom.**

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

**Met**

**Comment**

Center appears clean and well maintained.

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

**Met**

**Comment**

Please monitor playground area for trash and litter.

**Health and Hygiene**

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

**Comment**

Staff stated proper knowledge of diapering procedures.

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

**Comment**

Staff stated proper hand washing and hygiene procedures.

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**591-1-1-.20 Medications(CR)** **Not Evaluated**

**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**

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

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**591-1-1-.36 Transportation(CR)** **Not Evaluated**

**Comment**

Center does not provide routine transportation.

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**Sleeping & Resting Equipment**

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

**Comment**

Discussed SIDS and infant sleeping position.

**Comment**

Pleasant naptime environment observed.

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**Staff Records**

**Records Reviewed: 4**

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

Staff # 1 Met

Date of Hire: 06/25/2020

Staff # 2 Met

Date of Hire: 01/18/2021

Staff # 3 Met

Date of Hire: 07/01/2022

Staff # 4 Met

Date of Hire: 03/16/2014

**Staff Credentials Reviewed: 2**

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

**Comment**

Director provided one file for employees hired since last visit on March 23, 2022.

**Comment**

Satisfactory comprehensive criminal record checks were observed to be complete for all staff on this date.

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

**Met**

**Correction Deadline: 4/22/2022**

**Corrected on 8/30/2022**

**.14(1) - Correction of the previous citation in that consultant observed eligible staff to have evidence of completing current CPR and First Aid training.**

**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)**

**Not Met**

**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 in Classroom C only one staff member was present with thirteen two-year-olds.

**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: 8/31/2022**

**Recited on 8/30/2022**

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

**Met**

**Comment**

Adequate supervision observed on this date.