



**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:** 7/6/2022    **VisitType:** Complaint Investigation Follow Up    **Arrival:** 12:45 PM    **Departure:** 2:30 PM

**CCLC-46772**

**Stepping Stones Academy**

1108 Bear Creek Blvd Hampton, GA 30228 Henry County  
 (770) 707-3955 hamptonssa@gmail.com

**Regional Consultant**

Beverly Pollard

Phone: (770) 357-7002

Fax: (770) 357-7001

beverly.pollard@decal.ga.gov

**Mailing Address**  
 Same

**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.
07/06/2022	Complaint Investigation Follow Up	Good Standing	
02/24/2022	Complaint Investigation Follow Up	Good Standing	
02/24/2022	Complaint Closure	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	A- Infants-1st Right	Two Year Olds	1	12	NC	11	NC	NA	NA	Nap
Main	B- 2's 2nd Right	Three Year Olds	1	13	C	20	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main	C- PreK 3rd Right		0	0	C	19	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Main	D- PreK 4th Right	Five Year Olds and Six Year Olds and Over	1	22	C	26	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main	E- School age-5th Right		0	0	C	27	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Main	F- Toddlers- 2nd Left	One Year Olds	1	7	C	10	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main	G- 3's 3rd Left	One Year Olds	1	6	C	15	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main	H- 3's 4th Left		0	0	C	15	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Main	I- PreK 5th Left		0	0	C	20	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 163						Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0				
Total # Children this Date: 60			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 163			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0				

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	Playground C (back right)	99	C
Main	Playground D (right front)	47	C
Main	Plgd A - Infants left side of Bldg	20	C
Main	Plgd B- Toddler	46	C

**Comments**

The investigation remains open on this date, pending additional information. Upon completion the finding will be reviewed with the provider and a final copy of the report will be sent.

The purpose of this visit was to follow up to the previous visit conducted on February 24, 2022.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 07/06/2022

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 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@decal.ga.gov](mailto:qualityrated@decal.ga.gov) 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)

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Stephanie Snyder, Program Official

Date

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Beverly Pollard, Consultant

Date



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**Findings Report**

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

**Staff Records**

**Records Reviewed: 14**

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

Staff # 1	Met
Date of Hire: 05/16/2022	<u>Reminder - Health &amp; Safety training is required within 90 calendar days of hired</u>
Staff # 2	Met
Date of Hire: 11/02/2020	
Staff # 3	Met
Date of Hire: 07/06/2022	<u>Reminder - Health &amp; Safety training is required within 90 calendar days of hired</u>
Staff # 4	Met
Date of Hire: 11/02/2020	
Staff # 5	Met
Date of Hire: 05/20/2022	<u>Reminder - Health &amp; Safety training is required within 90 calendar days of hired</u>
Staff # 6	Met
Date of Hire: 05/16/2022	<u>Reminder - Health &amp; Safety training is required within 90 calendar days of hired</u>
Staff # 7	Met
Date of Hire: 05/24/2022	<u>Reminder - Health &amp; Safety training is required within 90 calendar days of hired</u>
Staff # 8	Met

**Records Reviewed: 14**

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

Date of Hire: 04/10/2017

Staff # 9 Met

Date of Hire: 06/08/2021

Staff # 10 Met

Date of Hire: 09/09/2019

Staff # 11 Met

Date of Hire: 08/30/2021

Staff # 12 Met

Date of Hire: 03/09/2022

Staff # 13 Met

Date of Hire: 02/17/2020

Staff # 14 Met

Date of Hire: 03/01/2022

**Staff Credentials Reviewed: 5**

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

**Met**

**Comment**

Criminal record checks were observed to be complete.

**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 that on this date, there was a ratio of one staff person to 12, two-year-old children, during nap time. Two staff persons were 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: 7/6/2022**