



**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

**Date:** 2/22/2023    **VisitType:** Monitoring Visit    **Arrival:** 12:20 PM    **Departure:** 2:00 PM

**CCLC-56596**

**A Step Above Preparatory South**

4195 Welcome All Rd SW Atlanta, GA 30349 Fulton County  
(260) 760-4679 astepaboveprepsouth@gmail.com

**Regional Consultant**

Princess Walton

Phone: (770) 357-7030

Fax: (770) 357-7029

princess.walton@decal.ga.gov

**Mailing Address**

Same

**Quality Rated:** ★

<b>Compliance Zone Designation</b>		
02/22/2023	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing
08/15/2022	ILS with PTO	Good Standing
03/28/2022	Initial Licensing Study	Good Standing

**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	AL-Infant		0	0	C	10	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main	Back F-Private Pre-K		0	0	C	16	C	NA	NA	
Main	BL-One and Two	Two Year Olds	1	9	C	21	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main	CL-Three year old	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	1	13	C	18	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main	DL-Four year old		0	0	C	11	C	NA	NA	
Main	EL-Afterschool		0	0	C	63	C	NA	NA	
Main	HR-One year Old	One Year Olds	1	8	C	12	C	NA	NA	Nap
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 151						Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0				
Total # Children this Date: 30			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 151			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0				

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	Afterschool	55	C
Main	Infant	13	C
Main	Toddler	7	C

**Comments**

The purpose of this visit is to conduct a monitoring visit and to follow-up to previous visit. Consultant discuss transportation training and require report with the director.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 02/22/2023

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.al.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

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.

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#### 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.

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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)



#### 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 1 855-800-7747 or [qualityrated@dec.al.ga.gov](mailto:qualityrated@dec.al.ga.gov) for more information. Free technical assistance is available!**

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Chrystalyn Rivera, Program Official

Date

Princess Walton, 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)**

**Met**

**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)**

**Not Met**

**Finding**

591-1-1-.25(3) requires the Center and surrounding premises to be kept clean, free of debris and in good repair. Hygienic measures such as, but not limited to, screened windows and proper waste disposal procedures shall be utilized to minimize the presence of rodents, flies, roaches and other vermin at the Center. It was determined based on consultant observation that the cabinet and closet had wood pieces that were torn/sticking out that could be a potential hazard to children in care.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center will have the Center and surrounding areas cleaned, make repairs where needed, and remove all debris is removed. The Center will implement a plan to keep areas clean and in good repair that includes regular monitoring.

**Correction Deadline: 2/22/2023**

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

591-1-1-.26(8) requires climbing and swinging equipment to have a resilient surface beneath the equipment and the fall zone from such equipment must be adequately maintained by the Center to assure continuing resiliency. It was determined based on observation that yellow climber was observed 1 inch of mulch underneath and not the required 6 inches.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center will add additional resilient surfacing to the fall zones where needed and check daily, adding resilient surfacing as needed to maintain adequate resiliency.

**Correction Deadline: 3/4/2023****Correction Deadline: 3/28/2022****Corrected on 2/22/2023**

.26(9) - Previous citation was corrected. Consultant did not observed ant beds on this day. The gutter guards had been corrected.

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**Health and Hygiene**

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

591-1-1-.10(4) - Consultant discuss the proper diaper steps with the staff and the director.

**Correction Deadline: 2/22/2023**

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**591-1-1-.17 Hygiene(CR)****Technical Assistance****Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.17(8) - Hand washing was discuss with the staff and director.

**Correction Deadline: 2/22/2023**

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

Paperwork, checklist, permission forms, annual inspection form and proper check of the vehicle after transportation were discussed with the director. Director stated that the center will start transportation the week of February 27.

**Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.36(4)(c) - Consultant discuss with the director that a fire extinguisher must be on both transportation vehicles. Director stated that they haven't started transportation but will start the week of February 27.

**Correction Deadline: 2/22/2023**

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**Sleeping & Resting Equipment**

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

**Comment**

Pleasant naptime environment observed.

**Staff Records**

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

**Comment**

Criminal record checks were observed to be complete.

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

**Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.14(3) - Consultant discuss with the director that a first-aid Kit must be on both transportation vehicles. Director stated that they haven't started transportation but will start the week of February 27.

**Correction Deadline: 3/4/2023**

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

**Comment**

Discussed staff training. Please obtain required documentation.

**Comment**

Please ensure completed orientation checklists are documented and signed.

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

**Comment**

Staff observed to be compliant with applicable laws and regulations.

**Staffing and Supervision**

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**591-1-1-.32 Staff:Child Ratios and Group Size(CR)** **Met**

**Comment**

Center observed to maintain appropriate staff:child ratios.

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

**Comment**

Adequate supervision observed on this date.