



**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:** 2/20/2018    **VisitType:** Licensing Study    **Arrival:** 3:00 PM    **Departure:** 4:45 PM

**CCLC-31574**

**Polka-Dots Early Childhood Development Center**

1719 Fountain Court Columbus, GA 31909 Muscogee County  
(706) 596-1233 cbyrd39@gmail.com

**Regional Consultant**

Penny Svenson

Phone: (470) 346-1037

Fax: (678) 891-5613

penny.svenson@decal.ga.gov

**Mailing Address**

1719 Fountain Court  
Columbus, GA 31904

**Quality Rated:** ★ ★

<b>Compliance Zone Designation</b>		
02/20/2018	Licensing Study	Good Standing
09/20/2017	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing
03/15/2017	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	A/Red	Two Year Olds	1	9	C	16	C	NA	NA	Transitioning
Main	B/Blue	Four Year Olds and Five Year Olds and Six Year Olds and Over	1	13	C	24	C	NA	NA	Transitioning
Main	C/Green	Three Year Olds	1	14	C	24	C	NA	NA	Snack
Main	D/Yellow	Six Year Olds and Over	1	17	C	20	C	NA	NA	Transitioning
Main	E/Orange	One Year Olds	1	6	C	15	C	NA	NA	Transitioning, Diapering
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 99						Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0				
Total # Children this Date: 59			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 99			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0				

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	One	37	C

**Comments**

The consultant issued and discussed the compliance determination worksheet on this date.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 02/20/2018

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).



**Reminder:** All employees of child care programs must be fingerprinted before **January 1, 2017**. For instructions and to submit records check applications online, please visit [www.decalkoala.com](http://www.decalkoala.com). You are encouraged not to wait and to complete the process as soon as possible.

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), e-mail the following information to [CCSRefutations@decals.ga.gov](mailto:CCSRefutations@decals.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://decals.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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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 New Deadlines:**

Your program must be Quality Rated by December 31, 2020 in order to continue to receive Childcare and Parent Services (CAPS). Sign up for Quality Rated by June 30, 2018 in order to be eligible to receive a bonus package.

Get started today! Sign up by completing a short online application: <https://qualityrated.decals.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@decals.ga.gov](mailto:qualityrated@decals.ga.gov)

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Carolyn Byrd, Program Official

Date

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Penny Svenson, Consultant

Date



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### Findings Report

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The following information is associated with a Licensing Study:

### Activities and Equipment

**591-1-1-.12 Equipment & Toys(CR)**

**Met**

**Comment**

A variety of equipment and toys were observed throughout the center.

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

**Met**

**Comment**

Center does not provide swimming activities.

### Facility

**591-1-1-.06 Bathrooms**

**Met**

**Comment**

Bathrooms observed to be clean and well maintained.

**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)**

**Met**

**Comment**

Center appears clean and well maintained.

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

Previously Cited: 591-1-1-.26(8) requires the playground to be kept clean, free of litter and hazards. It was determined based on observation in the outdoor play area that the following were observed:

The three swing chains on the upper playground were rusted.

A net was attached to the monkey bars and swing set posing a choking hazard on the upper playground..

591-1-1-.26(9) requires the playground to be kept clean, free from litter and free of hazards, such as but not limited to rocks, exposed tree roots and exposed sharp edges of concrete. It was determined based on observation that there was no resilient surface under the swings when six inches was required.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

Previously Cited: To ensure the cleanliness, sanitation and safety of the playground, the center will sand and repaint the chains and also remove the net.

The Center will remove any litter and fix or remove hazards from the playground and will routinely monitor the playground and remove litter and hazards.

The center director showed documentation for the equipment to be painted on September 23, 2017.

**Correction Deadline: 2/28/2018****Recited on 2/20/2018**

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<b>Food Service</b>
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**591-1-1-.15 Food Service & Nutrition****Met****Comment**

Center menu meets USDA guidelines.

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**591-1-1-.18 Kitchen Operations****Met****Comment**

Kitchen appears clean and well organized.

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<b>Health and Hygiene</b>
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**591-1-1-.10 Diapering Areas & Practices(CR)****Met****Comment**

Proper diapering procedures observed.

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

Staff were observed to remind children to wash hands.

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

Documentation for medication dispensing observed complete.

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<b>Safety</b>
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**591-1-1-.05 Animals****Met****Comment**

Center does not keep animals on premises.

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

**Comment**

Age-appropriate discussion and/or redirection observed.

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**591-1-1-.13 Field Trips(CR)** **Met**

**Comment**

Center does not participate in field trips at this time.

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**591-1-1-.36 Transportation(CR)** **Met**

**Comment**

Complete documentation of transportation observed.

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**Sleeping & Resting Equipment**

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

**Comment**

The correct number of mats, sheets and blankets were observed on this date.

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**Staff Records**

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**Records Reviewed: 7**

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

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Staff # 1	Met
Date of Hire: 09/05/2005	
Staff # 2	Met
Date of Hire: 04/29/2015	
Staff # 3	Met
Date of Hire: 11/01/2010	
Staff # 4	Met
Date of Hire: 10/01/2015	
Staff # 5	Met
Date of Hire: 09/18/2017	
Staff # 6	Met
Date of Hire: 10/31/2010	
Staff # 7	Met
Date of Hire: 11/09/2010	

**Staff Credentials Reviewed: 7**

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**591-1-1-.09 Criminal Records Check(CR)** **Met**

**Comment**

Criminal records checks were observed to be complete.

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

**Comment**

Evidence observed of 100% of center staff certified in First Aid and CPR.

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

**Comment**

Documentation observed of required staff training.

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

**Comment**

Discussed that all lead staff must enroll in an approved education program within 6 months of hire and complete degree within 18 months.

<b>Staffing and Supervision</b>
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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.