



**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:** 12/29/2020 **VisitType:** Licensing Study

**Arrival:** 10:00 AM

**Departure:** 11:00 AM

**CCLC-33284**

**The Chestnut Treehouse III**

1593 Lawrenceville Hwy Lawrenceville, GA 30044 Gwinnett County  
 (770) 277-6877 candacechristina@gmail.com

**Regional Consultant**

Leena Mitchell

Phone: (706) 433-7111

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leena.mitchell@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.
12/29/2020	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
02/11/2020	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
07/11/2019	Licensing Study	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 - 1st Right	One Year Olds and Two Year Olds	1	4	C	15	C	NA	NA	Free Play
Main	B - 2nd Right		0	0	C	8	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Main	C - 3rd Right		0	0	C	11	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Main	D - Back Right		0	0	C	20	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Main	E - Back Left		0	0	C	22	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Main	F - 2nd Left		0	0	C	22	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Main	G - 1st Left		0	0	C	15	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 113						Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0				
Total # Children this Date: 4			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 113			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0				

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	Playground A - 6wk to 23mth	7	C
Main	Playground B - School Age	22	C
Main	Playground C - Preschool	36	C
Main	Playground D - 2's	23	C

### Comments

An Administrative Review was conducted on December 28, 2020. Staff files, children's files, training, and background checks were all reviewed. A virtual inspection was conducted on December 29, 2020 with the director. An in-person visit was not conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Compliance with the Executive Order issued on August 15, 2020 was reviewed during the virtual inspection.

Plan of Improvement: No Plan Developed

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

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@dec.state.ga.us](mailto:CCSRefutations@dec.state.ga.us).

- 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://dec.state.ga.us/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.

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).

Get started today! Sign up by completing a short online application: <https://qualityrated.dec.state.ga.us/>

Request free technical assistance to help you earn your star rating by contacting the Quality Rated help desk at 855-800-7747 or [qualityrated@dec.state.ga.us](mailto:qualityrated@dec.state.ga.us)

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Candace Christina, Program Official

Date

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Leena Mitchell, 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.

**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.

### Children's Records

**Records Reviewed: 5**

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

Child # 1	Met
Child # 2	Met
Child # 3	Met
Child # 4	Met
Child # 5	Met

**591-1-1-.08 Children's Records**

**Met**

**Comment**

Parent agreements observed obtained/completed.

**Comment**

Parent authorizations obtained/completed.

**Comment**

Records were observed to be complete and well organized.

**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)**

**Not Met**

**Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.25 - Please secure cleaning tools (i.e., broom, plunger) out of reach of children.

**Finding**

591-1-1-.25(13) requires that potentially hazardous equipment, materials and supplies be stored in a locked area inaccessible to children. It was determined based on observation that in classroom 1R, a fire extinguisher was on the floor in the bathroom of accessible to children.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center will identify all hazardous items and keep them in a locked area inaccessible to children. The Center will inform all Staff about hazardous items and the safe storage of those items.

**Correction Deadline: 12/29/2020**

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

**Met**

**Comment**

The outside area appears clean and well maintained. Consultant discussed monitoring the playground and fence surrounding the playground area for normal wear and tear (i.e. exposed roots, active ant beds, resilient surface levels, entrapment hazards, etc.) with the director on this date.

**Food Service**

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

**Met**

**Comment**

Center menu meets USDA guidelines.

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

**Met**

**Comment**

Kitchen appears clean and well organized.

**Health and Hygiene**

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

**Met**

**Comment**

Staff stated proper knowledge of diapering procedures.

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

**Met**

**Comment**

Staff stated proper knowledge of hand washing and hygiene procedures for staff and children during virtual visit.

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

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

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**Policies and Procedures**

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**591-1-1-.22 Parental Access****Met****Comment**

Parental access requirements are met per current COVID-19 guidelines.

**Correction Deadline: 12/29/2020**

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**591-1-1-.27 Posted Notices****Met****Comment**

Observed all required posted notices.

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**591-1-1-.29 Required Reporting****Met****Comment**

Discussed reporting requirements.

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**Safety**

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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**

Staff were observed to maintain a positive learning environment on this date. Staff stated proper discipline procedures during the virtual visit.

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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**

The consultant observed the following vehicles to have a current vehicle inspection report on file:

- Vehicle Tag # - RTU9509 - Expires January 29, 2021.

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**Sleeping & Resting Equipment**

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

591-1-1-.30 - Please ensure that cots and mats are labeled for individual use.

**Comment**

The correct number of mats, sheets and blankets were observed on this date. Cleaning and disinfecting of mats was discussed with the director on this date.

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**Staff Records**

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**Records Reviewed: 8****Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 7**

Staff # 1 Not Met  
 Date of Hire: 05/17/2017  
"Missing/Incomplete Components"  
 .33(5)-10 Hrs. Annual Training

Staff # 2 Not Met  
 Date of Hire: 08/14/2014  
"Missing/Incomplete Components"  
 .33(5)-10 Hrs. Annual Training

Staff # 3 Met  
 Date of Hire: 02/01/2013

Staff # 4 Not Met  
 Date of Hire: 05/07/2018  
"Missing/Incomplete Components"  
 .33(5)-10 Hrs. Annual Training

Staff # 5 Not Met  
 Date of Hire: 08/22/2014  
"Missing/Incomplete Components"  
 .33(5)-10 Hrs. Annual Training

Staff # 6 Not Met  
 Date of Hire: 03/19/2018  
"Missing/Incomplete Components"  
 .33(5)-10 Hrs. Annual Training

Staff # 7 Not Met  
 Date of Hire: 02/17/2020  
"Missing/Incomplete Components"  
 .33(3)-Health & Safety Certificate

Staff # 8 Not Met  
 Date of Hire: 01/01/2012  
"Missing/Incomplete Components"  
 .33(4)-Food Prep Training Missing 4 hrs.,.33(5)-10 Hrs. Annual Training

**Staff Credentials Reviewed: 5****591-1-1-.09 Criminal Records and Comprehensive Background Checks(CR)****Met****Comment**

The director provided one file for staff members hired since the previous visit was conducted on February 11, 2020. The consultant observed one of one newly hired staff members to have evidence of a satisfactory criminal record check letter on file.

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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 50% of center staff certified in First Aid and CPR.

**Comment**

Please add insect sting preparation cream and protective eye wear to first aid kit.

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**591-1-1-.33 Staff Training****Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.33(3) requires each Staff member with direct care responsibilities to complete health and safety orientation training within the first 90 days of employment. The state-approved training hours obtained will count toward required first year training hours. The training must address the following health and safety topics: prevention and control of infectious diseases (including immunizations); prevention of sudden infant death syndrome and use of safe sleeping practices; administration of medication, consistent with standards for parental consent; prevention of and response to emergencies due to food and allergic reactions; building and physical premises safety, including identification of and protection from hazards that can cause bodily injury such as electrical hazards, bodies of water, and vehicular traffic; prevention of shaken baby syndrome, abusive head trauma and child maltreatment; emergency preparedness and response planning for emergencies resulting from a natural disaster or a human-caused event (such as violence at a child care facility); handling and storage of hazardous materials and the appropriate disposal of bio contaminants; precautions in transporting children; recognition and reporting of child abuse and neglect; and child development. It was determined based on review of records that staff member #6, date of hire February 17, 2020, did not obtain health and safety orientation training within the first 90-days of their date of hire.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center will develop and implement a plan to schedule and track this training for all employees based on their hire dates and will ensure that the training includes all required components as required.

**Correction Deadline: 1/28/2021****Finding**

591-1-1-.33(4) requires within the first year of employment, the Director and person with primary responsibility for food preparation shall have four clock hours of training in food nutrition planning, preparation, serving, proper dish washing and food storage. It was determined based on review of records staff member #7, date of hire January 1, 2012 did not have evidence of four clock hours of training in food nutrition planning, preparation, serving, proper dish washing and food storage.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center will schedule food preparation training, as required, and follow up to ensure the training is completed.

**Correction Deadline: 1/28/2021****Finding**

591-1-1-.33(6) requires that evidence of orientation and training shall be documented in the Personnel file of each Staff member and shall be available to the Department for inspection. It was determined based on review of records that the following did not complete the required 10 hours of annual training for the year of 2019.  
Staff member #1 with a documented date of hire of May 17, 2017  
Staff member #2 with a documented date of hire of August 14, 2014  
Staff member #4 with a documented date of hire of May 7, 2018  
Staff member #5 with a documented date of hire of August 22, 2014  
Staff member #6 with a documented date of hire of March 19, 2018  
Staff member #8 with a documented date of hire of January 1, 2012



**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center will develop and implement procedures to review staff records for documentation of training and orientation, to obtain and place missing documentation in staff records, and to file such documents in staff records on an ongoing basis.

**Correction Deadline: 1/8/2021**

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

**Met**

**Comment**

Staff observed to be compliant with applicable laws and regulations. Additional cleaning and sanitizing requirements due to the COVID-19 pandemic were discussed and observed during a virtual walk through on this date. The program was in compliance with the Executive Order issued on August 15, 2020.

<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**

Staff observed to provide direct supervision and be attentive to children's needs.