



**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:** 3/31/2023 **VisitType:** Monitoring Visit **Arrival:** 9:30 AM **Departure:** 12:35 PM

**CCLC-3219**

**Calhoun First United Methodist David Learning Center**

301 N Piedmont Street Calhoun, GA 30703 Gordon County  
 (706) 629-3110 daycare@calhounfirst.com

**Regional Consultant**

Chasity Baugh

Phone: (770) 357-1717

Fax: (770) 357-1720

chasity.baugh@dec.al.ga.gov

**Mailing Address**

P.O. Box 517  
 Calhoun, GA 30703

**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.
03/31/2023	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
08/23/2022	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
03/15/2022	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
Building 1 Fellowship Hall	Downstairs 1R - two-year-olds	Two Year Olds and Three Year Olds	2	9	C	10	C	NA	NA	TV,Outside,Diapering,Transitioning
Building 1 Fellowship Hall	Downstairs 2R Back Infants	Infants	1	2	C	5	C	NA	NA	Floor Play
Building 1 Fellowship Hall	Downstairs 2R Front - one-year-olds	One Year Olds and Two Year Olds	2	18	C	11	NC	NA	NA	Outside,Transitioning,TV,Diapering
Building 1 Fellowship Hall	Upstairs 1R - three and four-year-olds	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	2	10	C	12	C	NA	NA	Centers
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 38			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0							
Main	A-2's		0	0	C	15	C	NA	NA	
Main	B-3-4's		0	0	C	19	C	NA	NA	
Main	C- Infants/Toddlers		0	0	C	25	C	NA	NA	
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 59			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0							
Total # Children this Date: 39			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 97							
			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0							

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Building 1 Fellowship Hall	Playground 2	44	C
Main	Older	62	C
Main	Younger	35	C

#### Comments

A Monitoring Visit was completed on March 31, 2023. The Center submitted Amendment-4124, to add classrooms in the fellowship hall, the second playground and the gym to the center's license. The additional space was added due to a water pipe burst caused by freezing temperatures at the end of December 2022. The amendment was approved on March 28, 2023.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 03/31/2023

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.

#### 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)



### 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.al.ga.gov](mailto:qualityrated@dec.al.ga.gov) for more information. Free technical assistance is available!**

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Amie Blalock, Program Official

Date

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Chasity Baugh, 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-.03 Activities**

**Technical Assistance**

**Technical Assistance**

Consultant discussed 591-1-1-.03(1) requires the Center to provide a daily planned program of varied and developmentally appropriate activities to promote social, emotional, physical, cognitive, language and literacy growth. Center Staff shall use a variety of teaching methods to accommodate the needs of the children's different learning styles.

**Correction Deadline: 3/31/2023**

**Technical Assistance**

Consultant discussed 591-1-1-.03(7)(a) which requires a center that operates five hours or more per day to provide at least one and one-half hours of outdoor activity per day, weather permitting, for each child who is not an infant and at least one hour daily for infants. Consultant spoke with Director specifically about providing infants with outdoor time.

**Correction Deadline: 3/31/2023**

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

**Not Met**

**Comment**

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

**Finding**

591-1-1-.12(4) requires that equipment and furniture is secured if it is of a weight or mass that could cause injury from tipping, falling, or being pulled or pushed over. It was determined based on observation, in classroom Upstairs 1R - three and four-year-olds the tall brown shelf sitting in front of the sink was not secure and could easily be pulled over.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center will ensure that the identified equipment or furniture and any other such existing or future items are secured adequately and will have a system for checking these for stability.

**Correction Deadline: 3/31/2023**

**Finding**

591-1-1-.12(8) requires toys for children under three years of age to be age-appropriate; non-toxic and lead-free; too large to be swallowed by a child and not capable of causing asphyxiation or strangulation; free of sharp pieces, edges or points; free of small parts which may be pried off by a child, free of rust; and easily cleaned with a disinfectant daily. It was determined based on observation one-year-olds, two-year-olds and three-year-olds playing on outdoor playground equipment that was not age appropriate. Furthermore, one-year-olds were observed to put pea-gravel in their mouths while on the playground.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

Center staff will provide age-appropriate toys and remove any toys that are not age-appropriate in each room housing children under three years of age. The Center will implement a plan to train Staff to regularly examine toys for the listed hazards and remove toys when hazards are identified and to clean toys with a disinfectant daily.

**Correction Deadline: 3/31/2023**

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**591-1-1-.35 Swimming Pools & Water-related Activities(CR)****N/A****Comment**

Center does not provide swimming activities.

<b>Facility</b>
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**591-1-1-.19 License Capacity(CR)****Met****Comment**

Discussed movement of children to maintain capacities. Amendment was approved on March 28, 2023 to increase capacity. Center added two buildings to the center's license. Consultant discussed classroom capacities with Provider as Classroom Downstairs 1R - two-year-olds was licensed for ten (10) children, but has 14 children on roster. There were nine (9) children present at time of visit. Additionally, Classroom Downstairs 2R Front - one-year-olds was licensed for 11 children, but has 20 children on roster. There were 19 children present at time of visit.

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

No hazards observed accessible to children on this date.

**Comment**

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

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**591-1-1-.26 Playgrounds(CR)****Technical Assistance****Comment**

Playground observed to be clean and in good repair.

**Technical Assistance**

Consultant discussed 591-1-1-.26(6) which requires that playground equipment provide an opportunity for the children to engage in a variety of experiences and shall be age-appropriate. For example, toddlers shall not be permitted to swing in swings designed for School-age Children. Consultant discussed with Provider younger children using their designated playground, at the main building.

**Correction Deadline: 4/10/2023**

**Technical Assistance**

Consultant discussed 591-1-1-.26(6) which requires that playground equipment provide an opportunity for the children to engage in a variety of experiences and shall be age-appropriate. For example, toddlers shall not be permitted to swing in swings designed for School-age Children. The outdoor equipment shall be free of lead-based paint, sharp corners and shall be regularly maintained in such a way as to be free of rust and splinters that could pose significant safety hazard to the children. All equipment shall be arranged so as not to obstruct supervision of children.

**Correction Deadline: 4/10/2023**

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

Consultant discussed 591-1-1-.15(4) which requires that a feeding chair or similar equipment designed for feeding children shall be provided for the use of each child being fed who is capable of sitting up but who is unable to sit unassisted at a table and must be cleaned with a disinfectant after each use. Such chair or similar equipment shall have a broad base to prevent tipping, a surface that the child cannot raise, a strap or other device which prevents the child from sliding out of the chair, and a feeding surface free of cracks.

**Correction Deadline: 3/31/2023**

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**Health and Hygiene**

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**591-1-1-.07 Children's Health****Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.07(5) requires Center Staff to not permit children to wear around their necks or attach to their clothing pacifiers or other hazardous items. It was determined based on observation a four-year-old child was wearing an amber necklace. The child was observed to remove necklace and give it to a staff member.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center will instruct Staff regarding this safety requirement.

**Correction Deadline: 3/31/2023**

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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**

Proper hand washing observed throughout the center.

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

Documentation for medication dispensing observed complete.

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**Safety**

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**591-1-1-.11 Discipline(CR)****Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.11(2) requires that Personnel not: physically or sexually abuse a child or engage or permit others to engage in sexually overt conduct in the presence of any child enrolled in the Center; inflict corporal/physical punishment upon a child; shake, jerk, pinch or handle a child roughly; verbally abuse or humiliate a child which includes, but is not limited to, the use of threats, profanity or belittling remarks about a child or his family; isolate a child in a dark room, closet or unsupervised area; use mechanical or physical restraints or devices to discipline children; use medication to discipline or control children's behavior without written medical authorization issued by a licensed professional and given with the parent's written consent; restrict unreasonably a child from going to the bathroom; punish toileting accidents; force-feed a child or withhold feeding a child regularly scheduled meals and/or snacks; force or withhold naps; allow children to discipline or humiliate other children; or confine a child for disciplinary purposes to a swing, highchair, infant carrier, walker or jump seat. It was determined based on observation a staff member used inappropriate discipline when they were observed physically constraining three-year-old while on the playground, as the staff member was lying on the child as a form of discipline. The child was observed to cry out, no bruising was observed. When the consultant discussed the disciplinary action with the staff member, they stated the child was acting out. Consultant discussed the Department's policy with staff member and Provider.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center will take immediate action to ensure the action/conduct has ceased; train/review appropriate child guidance techniques with center staff; and have a system in place to monitor and identify inappropriate actions.

**Correction Deadline: 3/31/2023**

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**591-1-1-.36 Transportation(CR)****N/A****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.

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**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-.33 Staff Training****Met****Comment**

Please ensure completed orientation checklists are documented and signed.

**Comment**

Discussed: Health and Safety Training is required for each staff member with direct care responsibilities within 90 calendar days of their hire date.

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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.

**Comment**

Staff observed to be compliant with applicable laws and regulations.

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**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)****Not Met****Comment**

A supervision plan was created on this date in regard to the younger children accessing their age-appropriate playground.

**Finding**

591-1-1-.32(7) requires that children be supervised at all times appropriate to the individual age, needs and capabilities of each child. Such supervision must include, but not be limited to, indoor and outdoor activities, mealtimes, naptime, transportation, field trips, and transitions between activities. "Supervision" means that the appropriate number of Staff members are physically present in the area where children are being cared for and are providing watchful oversight to the children, volunteers and Students-in-Training. The persons supervising in the child care area must be alert, positioned to maximize their ability to hear and see the children at all times, and able to respond promptly to the needs and actions of the children being supervised, as well as the actions of the volunteers and Students-in-Training, and provide timely attention to the children's actions and needs. Staff shall be attentive and participating with all children during mealtimes and shall be seated within an arm's length away from children thirty-six (36) months of age and younger. It was determined based on observation a one-year-old putting pea-gravel in their mouth while on the playground. Upon consultant's arrival, a one-year-old child was sitting on the playground, putting pea gravel in their mouth. Staff members on the playground did not see the child and were not near him at the time. Additionally, another one-year-old child was observed putting pea-gravel in another one-year-old child's mouth while on the playground. Additionally, a two-year-old child was observed playing with trash, which included an empty soda can while in classroom Downstairs 2R Front - one-year-olds.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center will train Staff and monitor to ensure they are providing supervision and watchful oversight to the children at all times.

**Correction Deadline: 3/31/2023**