



**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:** 5/19/2021    **VisitType:** Licensing Study    **Arrival:** 9:00 AM    **Departure:** 11:15 AM

**CCLC-50126**

**Little Blessings Childcare**

205 Independent Street Bainbridge, GA 39819 Decatur County  
(229) 246-8820 littleblessings@bainbridgechurch.org

**Regional Consultant**

Debrik Perry

Phone: (478) 599-9821  
Fax: (478) 314-5864  
debrik.perry@decal.ga.gov

**Mailing Address**

205 Independent Street, P. O. Box 863  
Bainbridge, GA 39818

**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.
05/19/2021	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
11/10/2020	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
01/14/2020	Monitoring Visit	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	Room A	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	2	21	C	37	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main	Room B	Two Year Olds and Three Year Olds	1	9	C	18	C	NA	NA	Centers
Main	Room C	Infants and One Year Olds	2	6	C	14	C	NA	NA	Centers
Main	Room D	One Year Olds	2	11	C	18	C	NA	NA	Nap
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 75			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0			Building @35 capacity limited by Insufficient Toilets/Sinks				

Total # Children this Date: 47    Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 75    Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	Playground A	37	C
Main	Playground B (Infant and Toddler)	31	C

**Comments**

An Administrative Review was conducted on May 15, 2021. Staff files, children's files, training, and background checks were all reviewed. A virtual inspection was conducted on May 20, 2021 with the Director. An in-person visit was not conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Compliance with the Executive Order issued on May 1, 2021, 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



### Important New Deadlines:

Due to the ongoing COVID restrictions, the deadline to become Quality Rated for programs who want to continue to receive Childcare and Parent Services (CAPS), has been extended to at least December 31, 2021.

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)

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)

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Sherry Ellison, Program Official

Date

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Debrik Perry, Consultant

Date



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### Findings Report

**Date:** 5/19/2021 **VisitType:** Licensing Study **Arrival:** 9:00 AM **Departure:** 11:15 AM

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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-.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.

**Comment**

Please be mindful to keep items that pose a hazard inaccessible to children.

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

**Met**

**Correction Deadline: 2/14/2020**

**Corrected on 5/19/2021**

The previous citation was corrected. The rusted swings have been removed and replaced. The merry go round has been repainted. The tricycle with the missing pedal has been removed and replaced.

### Food Service

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

Consultant discussed revision to the written feeding plans for children under the age of 1 years old. Age-appropriate solid foods (including cereal) shall not be given to infants or children less than one (1) year of age until recommended as developmentally appropriate by the child's primary care physician and indicated in writing by the Parent(s). As soon as the feeding plan indicates that a child is ready for solid foods, the child shall be fed from individual spoons and individual containers or dishes. A child shall not be fed directly from the original baby food container if the contents are to be fed to the child at more than one (1) meal or to more than one (1) child.

**Comment**

Consultant discussed new revision to restricted food rule which states: Foods that are associated with young children's choking incidents, such as, but not limited to, peanuts, hot dogs, raw carrots, popcorn, fish with bones, cheese cubes, grapes and any other food that is of similar shape and size of the trachea/wind pipe shall not be served to the children less than four (4) years of age. Children older than four (4) years of age may be served these foods provided that the foods are cut in such a way as to minimize choking.

**Correction Deadline: 5/19/2021**

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**Health and Hygiene**

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

Hand washing and sanitizing requirements for diapering were discussed with the Director/ on this date of May 20, 2021.

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

Hand washing and sanitizing requirements for diapering were discussed with the Director on this date on May 20, 2021.

**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**

A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Discipline was not directly observed during the virtual walk through. Regulations regarding proper discipline were discussed with the Director/ on this date of May 20, 2021.

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

Center does not provide routine transportation.

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**Sleeping & Resting Equipment**

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**Comment**

A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Infant sleep requirements was not directly observed during the virtual walk through. Regulations regarding infant sleep requirements were discussed with the Director on this date of May 20, 2021.

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**Staff Records**

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**Records Reviewed: 12****Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 0**

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Staff # 1	Met
Date of Hire: 11/09/2018	
Staff # 2	Met
Date of Hire: 02/18/2020	
Staff # 3	Met
Date of Hire: 01/01/2021	
Staff # 4	Met
Date of Hire: 07/30/2020	
Staff # 5	Met
Date of Hire: 03/14/2008	
Staff # 6	Met
Date of Hire: 02/14/2019	
Staff # 7	Met
Date of Hire: 03/25/2021	
Staff # 8	Met
Date of Hire: 01/20/2020	
Staff # 9	Met
Date of Hire: 01/17/2017	
Staff # 10	Met
Staff # 11	Met
Date of Hire: 01/23/2020	
Staff # 12	Met
Date of Hire: 08/18/2020	

**Staff Credentials Reviewed: 3**

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**Comment**

Consultant requested to view all Criminal Record checks for employees hired after last visit. Director stated that there have been two new hires since November 10, 2020.

**Comment**

Criminal record checks were observed to be complete.

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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 a review of staff files that staff #3 and staff #6 did not complete the required health and safety training.

**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: 6/18/2021****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 a review of staff files that no staff had completed the required four hours of nutritional training.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

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

**Correction Deadline: 6/18/2021****Finding**

91-1-1-.33(5) requires that every calendar year after the first year of employment, all supervisory and caregiver Personnel, except independent contractors, Students-in-Training and volunteers shall attend ten (10) clock hours of diverse training which is task-focused in on-going health, safety and early childhood or child development related topics and which is offered by an accredited college, university or vocational program or other Department-approved source. The annual ten (10) clock hours of training shall be chosen from the following fields: child development, including discipline, guidance, nutrition, injury control and safety; health, including sanitation, disease control, cleanliness, detection and disposition of illness; child abuse and neglect, including identification and reporting, and meeting the needs of abused and/or neglected children; and business related topics, including parental communication, recordkeeping, etc.; provided however that such business related training shall be limited to no more than two (2) of the required ten (10) clock hours of training. Records of completion of such training shall be maintained, as required by these rules. It was determined based on a review of staff files, that staff #3 and staff #4 did not complete the 10 hour required annual training .

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center will plan and schedule the required 10 hours of annual training each year and follow up to ensure the training is completed.

**Correction Deadline: 6/18/2021**

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

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 May 1, 2021

<b>Staffing and Supervision</b>
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**591-1-1-.32 Staff:Child Ratios and Group Size(CR)****Met****Comment**

Adequate supervision observed on this date.

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

Consultant discussed new revision to the supervision rule which states: 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

**Comment**

Adequate supervision observed on this date.