



**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:** 1/18/2023    **VisitType:** Monitoring Visit    **Arrival:** 11:00 AM    **Departure:** 2:50 PM

**CCLC-38999**

**Bells Ferry Learning Center**

3639 Canton Road Marietta, GA 30066 Cobb County  
 (770) 635-7720 sharon@bellsferrylc.com

**Regional Consultant**

Neli Todorova

Phone: (770) 359-5167  
 Fax: (678) 891-5630  
 neli.todorova@dec.al.ga.gov

**Mailing Address**

4714 Shallow Ridge Rd  
 Kennesaw, GA 30144

**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.
01/18/2023	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
07/27/2022	Complaint Investigation & Licensing Study	Good Standing	
01/14/2022	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
Left Front Building	Classrom H	GA PreK	2	14	C	25	C	NA	NA	Nap
Left Front Building	Classrom G	GA PreK	2	19	C	23	C	NA	NA	Nap
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 48			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0							
Main	A- 1R	One Year Olds	1	5	C	15	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main	B-2R	Infants	1	4	C	11	C	NA	NA	Floor Play,Nap
Main	C- 3R	Two Year Olds	2	7	C	15	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main	D- 2L	Three Year Olds	1	14	C	15	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main	E- 1L		0	0	C	15	C	NA	NA	
Main	F- Middle		0	0	C	27	C	NA	NA	
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 98			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0							
Total # Children this Date: 63			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 146			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0				

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Left Front Building	Playground A Left, 3 and Up	195	C


Left Front Building	Playground B, Right, 6wks- 2yrs	27	C
Main	A- Infant/toddler	27	C
Main	B- Preschool-School age	194	C

**Comments**

The purpose of the visit is to follow up on previous visit and to conduct a Monitoring Visit.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 01/18/2023

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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Lana Ukhov, Program Official

Date

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Neli Todorova, 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)**

**Technical Assistance**

**Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.12 - Please ensure that the computer screens in the Pre K rooms are secured and cannot be pulled or pushed over.

**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)**

**Technical Assistance**

**Comment**

Center appears clean and well maintained.

**Comment**

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

**Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.25(17) - Please ensure that the ivy growing at the bottom of the fence at the right side of the Infant Playground is cut and inaccessible, and that there are no thorny vines growing.

**Correction Deadline: 1/18/2023**

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**591-1-1-.25 Physical Plant-Structural/Mechanical****Met****Comment**

591-1-1-.25(21) - Please determine if the full length glass on the sun room doors is safety glass and add additional protection if needed.

**Correction Deadline: 1/28/2023**

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

591-1-1-.26(4) - Please ensure that the top of the fence in the right corner of the Infant Playground is attached at the pole and there are no gaps and rust.

**Correction Deadline: 1/18/2023****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 measurements that the resilient surface in the fall zones of the regular swings measured approximately one inch, when at least six (6) inches are required. Additionally, the resilient surface in the fall zone of the slide that measured more than five feet in height measured approximately one inch, when at least six were required.

The fall zone for regular swings are measured by measuring the length of the chain and adding seven feet. For a chain five feet long, a fall zone that extends 12 feet to the front and 12 feet to the back of stationary swing is needed.

For the slide, the fall zone extends five feet around the exit, and four feet around the entrance.

**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: 1/28/2023****Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.26(9) - Please watch the Large Playground for rotting wood with splinters.

**Correction Deadline: 1/18/2023**

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

Hand washing requirements for diapering were discussed with the director on this date.

**Comment**

591-1-1-.10(1) - Please research available documentation to determine if there is exhaust system in the diapering rooms.

If one is not available, windows that are screened and able to stay open during diapering are needed, or the exhaust system from the bathrooms need to be extended into the diapering rooms.

**Correction Deadline: 1/18/2023**

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

591-1-1-.17(7) - Please ensure that children's hands are washed after diapering.

**Correction Deadline: 1/18/2023**

**Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.17(8) - Discussed with the Director that the use of gloves during diapering does not substitute for handwashing before diapering.

**Correction Deadline: 1/18/2023**

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

**Met**

**Comment**

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

**Organization**

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**591-1-1-.16 Governing Body & License**

**Met**

**Comment**

591-1-1-.16(f) - Please consider submitting an Amendment Application to code the F-Middle room as a Special Use space instead of a licensed room. Additionally, consider if adding the Sun room as a Special Use room would be beneficial.

**Correction Deadline: 1/18/2023**

**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.

**Correction Deadline: 7/27/2022**

**Corrected on 1/18/2023**

**.11(1) - Previous citation corrected on this date as staff stated proper knowledge.**

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

**Met**

**Comment**

Field trip documentation observed to be complete.

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

**Met**

**Comment**

A current/completed inspection was observed for all vehicles used in transporting children this date.

**Comment**

Complete documentation of transportation observed.

**Comment**

The vehicle had an approved fire extinguisher.

**Sleeping & Resting Equipment**

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

**Technical Assistance**

**Comment**

Discussed SIDS and infant sleeping position.

**Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.30(1)(a)3 - Please ensure that the crib sheets are tight fitting.

**Correction Deadline: 1/18/2023**

**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) - Please ensure that the vehicle has a complete kit before children are transported.

**Correction Deadline: 1/28/2023**

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

**Comment**

Staff observed to be compliant with applicable laws and regulations.

<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.