



**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:** 11/5/2020    **VisitType:** POI Follow Up    **Arrival:** 9:00 AM    **Departure:** 11:30 AM

**CCLC-17693**

**Childcare Network #89**

3584 Mt. Zion Church Road Valdosta, GA 31605 Lowndes County  
(229) 242-1141 cni89@childcarenetwork.com

**Regional Consultant**

Beth Houtz

Phone: (229) 238-2130

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beth.houtz@dec.al.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.
11/05/2020	POI Follow Up	Support	
08/28/2020	Complaint Closure	Support	
07/30/2020	LS POI Follow Up	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-infant	Infants	1	5	C	16	C	NA	NA	Feeding,Nap,Flo or Play
Main	B-1's	One Year Olds and Two Year Olds	1	6	C	15	C	NA	NA	Transitioning
Main	C-2's	Three Year Olds	1	6	C	21	C	NA	NA	Centers
Main	D-PreK		0	0	C	26	C	37	C	
Main	E-After School	Six Year Olds and Over	1	1	C	26	C	36	C	Centers
Main	F-PreK	PreK	2	11	C	27	C	NA	NA	Outside
Main	G-PreK		0	0	C	26	C	36	C	
Main	H-3's		0	0	C	15	C	21	C	
Main	I-Pre-K	Two Year Olds	2	10	C	17	C	23	C	Art
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 189						Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 232				
Total # Children this Date: 39			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 189			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 232				

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	Playground A-infant/Tod	55	C
Main	Playground B-PreK	62	C
Main	Playground C-school-age	121	C
Main	Playground D	29	C

**Comments**

A plan of improvement visit was conducted to follow up on previous rule citations. Compliance with the Executive Order dated August 15, 2020 was observed during the visit.

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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Maria Chavez, Program Official

Date

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Beth Houtz, Consultant

Date



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### Findings Report

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The following information is associated with a POI Follow Up:

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

**Not Met**

**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 brooms and dust pans were stored in the bathrooms of two of the nine classrooms and accessible to children in care.

**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. The consultant discussed with the provider about storing the brooms and dust pans so that children do not have access to the bristle part of the broom or the inside of the dust pans.

**Correction Deadline: 11/5/2020**

**Recited on 11/5/2020**

**Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.25(3) - The consultant observed an outlet cover in the school age classroom is missing a screw at the bottom of the outlet plate.

**Correction Deadline: 11/5/2020**

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

**Not Met**

**Finding**

591-1-1-.26(4) requires that playgrounds be protected from traffic or other hazards by a (4) four foot high fence or other barrier approved by this Department. Fencing material shall not present a hazard to children and shall be maintained so as to prevent children from leaving the playground area by any means other than through an approved access route. Fence gates shall be kept closed except when persons are entering or exiting the area. It was determined based on observation that on the school age playground to the right of the locked storage box there is a four inch gap at the bottom of the chain link fence presenting an entrapment hazard to children in care.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center will routinely check the fence to determine if it is in good repair and remains at least 4 feet high, and will repair any hazards. The Center will train Staff to identify and report any fence hazards and to keep the fence gates closed when not in use. the consultant discussed with the provider different ways to correct the citation such as using boards at the bottom of the fence.

**Correction Deadline: 11/5/2020**

**Correction Deadline: 8/9/2020**

**Corrected on 11/5/2020**

**.26(6) - This citation was observed to be corrected on this date. The red hand bar has been repaired.**

**Finding**

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 the following hazards were present on the playgrounds and accessible to children in care.

- On the toddler playground there were four active ant beds and four ant beds that had been covered with grits.
- On the school age playground there were four active ant beds and six that had been covered in grits.
- On the Pre-K playground there were three active ant beds and six that had been covered in grits.
- On the toddler playground there were several small thin spindly roots that posed a tripping hazard.
- Between the toddler and school age playgrounds there were shrubs that had branches sticking out at a child's eye level that posed a protrusion hazard.
- On the school age playground there was a small blue wading pool that had standing water in it.
- On the school age playground there was standing water in the water fountain and mildew growing on the fountain and under it.
- On the Pre-K playground there are large roots in the back of the playground that pose a tripping hazard.
- On the Pre-K playground there are branches coming through the fence at children's eye level presenting a protrusion hazard.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

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 will treat the ant beds and monitor for future ant beds. The center has been treating the ant beds with grits and dawn and has called Orin to treat the yards. The center will monitor the playground daily for hazards and repair or remove as needed.

**Correction Deadline: 11/19/2020**

**Recited on 11/5/2020**

**Policies and Procedures**

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

**Met**

**Correction Deadline: 9/11/2020**

**Corrected on 11/5/2020**

**.29(3) - This citation was observed to be corrected on this date. The center reports as required.**

**Additionally, new reporting rules were discussed with the provider during the visit.**

**Staff Records**

**Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.24(1) requires the center to maintain a personnel file on the Director, all Employees, Provisional Employees, Personnel, Staff, Students-in-Training, Volunteers, Clerical, Housekeeping, Maintenance, and other Support Staff for the duration of the term of employment plus one calendar year, and it shall contain the following: identifying information to include: name, date of birth, social security number, current address and current telephone number; employment history; as applicable to the position held: evidence of education and qualifying work experience; evidence of all training required by these rules which shall include: title of training, date of training, trainer's signature, location of training and number of clock hours obtained; a statement completed by the staff member that the information provided is true and accurate; any other records required by these rules; and as applicable to the position held, evidence of required orientation including date and signature of person providing the orientation.

The center will ensure that each personnel file contains the required documentation as required by this rule.

**Correction Deadline: 11/10/2020**

<b>Staffing and Supervision</b>
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**591-1-1-.32 Supervision(CR)****Met**

**Correction Deadline: 9/11/2020**

**Corrected on 11/5/2020**

**.32(7) - This citation was observed to be corrected on this date. Proper supervision was observed throughout the center.**