



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: 11/5/2018 **VisitType:** Licensing Study **Arrival:** 10:45 AM **Departure:** 3:45 PM

CCLC-2636

Oma's Learning Center and Daycare

1345 West Hill Ave. Valdosta, GA 31601 Lowndes County
 (229) 247-2313 omaslearningctr@yahoo.com

Regional Consultant

Beth Houtz

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Mailing Address
 Same

Quality Rated: ★ ★

Compliance Zone Designation			Compliance Zone Designation - 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. Good Standing - Program is demonstrating an acceptable level of performance in meeting the rules. Support - Program performance is demonstrating a need for improvement in meeting rules. Deficient - Program is not demonstrating an acceptable level of performance in meeting the rules.
11/05/2018	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
04/26/2018	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
10/05/2017	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
bld2-rm H	Pre-K/ school age	PreK	2	21	C	40	C	56	C	Outside
bld2-rm H	Pre-K/ school age	PreK	2	21	C	40	C	56	C	Transitioning, Outside
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 80			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 323							
Main	Cafeteria		0	0	C	16	C	23	C	
Main	Cafeteria		0	0	C	16	C	23	C	
Main	Room A -2 1/2 yrs (right side of Bldg.)	Two Year Olds	1	9	C	18	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main	Room A -2 1/2 yrs (right side of Bldg.)	Two Year Olds	1	9	C	18	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main	Room B - 3 yrs (right side Bldg.)	Three Year Olds	2	16	C	30	C	42	C	Nap
Main	Room B - 3 yrs (right side Bldg.)	Three Year Olds	2	16	C	30	C	42	C	Nap, Transitioning
Main	Room C - 1 yrs (left side of building)	One Year Olds	1	8	C	13	C	NA	NA	Transitioning, Nap
Main	Room C - 1 yrs (left side of building)	One Year Olds	1	8	C	13	C	NA	NA	Transitioning, Nap
Main	Room D - Infants (left side of Bldg.)	Infants	2	11	C	12	C	NA	NA	Diapering, Nap, Floor Play

Main	Room D - Infants (left side of Bldg.)	Infants	2	11	C	12	C	NA	NA	Diapering, Nap, Floor Play
Main	Room E - 18 mth - 2 yrs (left side bldg)	One Year Olds	1	8	C	13	C	NA	NA	Transitioning
Main	Room E - 18 mth - 2 yrs (left side of building)	One Year Olds	1	8	C	13	C	NA	NA	Lunch, Transitioning
Main	Room F - 2 year olds (left side of building)	Two Year Olds	1	10	C	13	C	NA	NA	Transitioning, Lunch
Main	Room F - 2 year olds (left side of building)	Two Year Olds	1	10	C	13	C	NA	NA	Lunch, Transitioning
Main	Room G - 1 yrs (left side end of hallway)		0	0	C	13	C	NA	NA	
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 243			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 323							
Total # Children this Date: 166			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 323				Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 323			

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	playground	67	C
Main	playground	67	C

Comments

The purpose of today's visit is a licensing study. This is the first visit of the fiscal year. The center does provide transportation and the consultant observed transportation during the visit. All employee files were reviewed during the visit. A list of required items for employee files and training guidelines were left at the center during the visit.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 11/05/2018

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.al.ga.gov.

- 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.al.ga.gov/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.al.ga.gov/>
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.al.ga.gov

Jazmine Newsome, Program Official

Date

Beth Houtz, 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.

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

Records were observed to be complete and well organized.

Facility

591-1-1-.06 Bathrooms	Met
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Comment

Bathrooms observed to be clean and well maintained.

591-1-1-.19 License Capacity(CR)	Met
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Comment

Licensed capacity observed to be routinely met by center.

591-1-1-.25 Physical Plant - Safe Environment(CR)	Technical Assistance
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Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.25(3) - The consultant observed an outlet plug in classroom E behind the changing area on the counter top to be only partially covered by the outlet plate. The consultant discussed with the director about installing an outlet cover that will fully cover the outlet plug to ensure there is no access to the outlet plug.

Correction Deadline: 11/5/2018

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

591-1-1-.26(4) - The consultant observed on the Pre-K playground one section of the fence on the left hand side to not be secured to the ground. The consultant discussed with the Director about securing the fence to the ground so there is no gap at the bottom.

Correction Deadline: 11/5/2018

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.26(6) - The consultant observed the red tricycle circle with four tricycles to have a loose fit on each arm attaching the tricycle to the middle base. The consultant discussed with the Director about tightening the arms so that they are not loose.

Correction Deadline: 11/15/2018

Food Service

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

Center menu meets USDA guidelines.

591-1-1-.18 Kitchen Operations	Met
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Comment

Kitchen appears clean and well organized.

Health and Hygiene

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

Proper diapering procedures observed.

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

Proper hand washing observed throughout the center.

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

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

Policies and Procedures

591-1-1-.21 Operational Policies & Procedures**Met****Comment**

Fire and Safety Drills were observed to be documented and up-to-date.

Correction Deadline: 11/10/2018

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

Observed all required posted notices.

Safety

591-1-1-.11 Discipline(CR)**Met****Comment**

Age-appropriate discussion and/or redirection observed.

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

Center does not participate in field trips at this time.

591-1-1-.36 Transportation(CR)**Not Met****Comment**

Paperwork, checklist, permission forms, annual inspection form and proper check of the vehicle after transportation were discussed with the director.

Comment

The vehicle had an approved fire extinguisher and first aid kit on this date.

Finding

591-1-1-.36(3)(a-b) requires any Center that provides any type of transportation to obtain two (2) hours of state-approved or state-accepted transportation training, biannually, for the Director and for each person responsible for or who participates in the transportation of children. The training shall include, but is not limited to, a review of the transportation rules, a review of approved transportation forms and procedures, and instruction on the usage and completion of the forms and procedures. This training may be counted as part of the annual training requirements for Staff. It was determined based on a review of records that three of the four drivers did not have the required transportation training.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will ensure that the Director, Center Staff, and any person responsible for the transportation of children has completed the required transportation training.

Correction Deadline: 11/15/2018

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

591-1-1-.30 Safe Sleeping and Resting Requirements(CR)**Not Met**

Finding

591-1-1-.30(2) requires the Center to provide a safe sleep environment in accordance with American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP), Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) and American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM) recommendations as listed in these rules for all infants. Center Staff shall place an infant to sleep on the infant's back in a crib unless the Center has been provided a physician's written statement authorizing another sleep position for that particular infant that includes how the infant shall be placed to sleep and a time frame that the instructions are to be followed. When an infant can easily turn over from back to front and back again, Staff shall continue to put the infant to sleep initially on the infant's back but allow the infant to roll over into his or her preferred position and not re-position the infant. Sleepers, sleep sacks and wearable blankets that fit according to the commercial manufacturer's guidelines and will not slide up around the infant's face may be used when necessary for the comfort of the sleeping infant. Swaddling shall not be used unless the Center has been provided a physician's written statement authorizing its use for a particular infant that includes instructions and a time frame for swaddling the infant. Center Staff shall not place objects or allow objects to be placed in or on the crib with an infant such as but not limited to toys, pillows, quilts, comforters, bumper pads, sheepskins, stuffed toys, or other soft items and shall not attach objects or allow objects to be attached to a crib with a sleeping infant, such as, but not limited to, crib gyms, toys, mirrors and mobiles. It was determined based on observation that an infant was asleep in a crib with a bib around their neck. Additionally, two out of twelve cribs had a bib hanging on the side of the cribs.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will take all steps necessary to provide a safe sleep environment for infants as listed in these rules; will train Staff to follow these rules; and will monitor for compliance.

Correction Deadline: 11/5/2018

Staff Records

Records Reviewed: 15

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 10

Staff # 1

Not Met

Date of Hire: 01/08/2016

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(5)-10 Hrs. Annual Training

Staff # 2

Not Met

Date of Hire: 04/20/2018

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(3)-Health & Safety Certificate

Staff # 3

Not Met

Date of Hire: 10/16/2017

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(4)-1st Yr. Training - 10 hrs.

Staff # 4

Not Met

Date of Hire: 02/13/2012

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(5)-10 Hrs. Annual Training

Staff # 5

Met

Date of Hire: 10/08/2018

Records Reviewed: 15**Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 10**

Staff # 6	Met
Date of Hire: 01/24/2018	
Staff # 7	Met
Date of Hire: 10/15/1988	
Staff # 8	Met
Date of Hire: 05/10/2002	
Staff # 9	Not Met
Date of Hire: 12/28/2017	
<u>"Missing/Incomplete Components"</u>	
.33(3)-Health & Safety Certificate,.36(3)(a-b)-2 hrs. Transportation Training missing	
Staff # 10	Not Met
Date of Hire: 08/03/2016	
<u>"Missing/Incomplete Components"</u>	
.33(5)-10 Hrs. Annual Training,.36(3)(a-b)-2 hrs. Transportation Training missing	
Staff # 11	Not Met
Date of Hire: 05/16/2018	
<u>"Missing/Incomplete Components"</u>	
.33(3)-Health & Safety Certificate	
Staff # 12	Not Met
Date of Hire: 11/22/1987	
<u>"Missing/Incomplete Components"</u>	
.33(5)-10 Hrs. Annual Training	
Staff # 13	Not Met
Date of Hire: 04/21/2017	
<u>"Missing/Incomplete Components"</u>	
.33(4)-1st Yr. Training - 10 hrs.,.31(2)(b)2.-Staff Qualifications-Education Missing	
Staff # 14	Not Met
Date of Hire: 09/12/2016	
<u>"Missing/Incomplete Components"</u>	
.33(5)-10 Hrs. Annual Training	
Staff # 15	Met
Date of Hire: 01/08/2018	

Staff Credentials Reviewed: 15

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.09(1)(j) requires that for portability for Directors, Employees and Provisional Employees, excluding Students-in-Training, only the most recently issued determination letter is eligible for portability and must be ported electronically. A Center may accept a satisfactory Fingerprint Records Check Determination letter or a satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination letter issued by the Department if the Records Check Clearance Date is within the preceding 12 months from the hire date, the individual has not had a lapse of employment from the child care industry that lasted for 180 days (6 months) or longer, and the Center does not know or reasonably should not know that the individual's satisfactory status has changed.

It was determined based on a review of employee records that two employees were within the portability date but had not been electronically ported to the current center. The consultant discussed with the Director about ensuring new employees are ported electronically via the current center's DECAL Koala.

Correction Deadline: 11/5/2018

591-1-1-.09 Criminal Records Check(CR)**Met**

Correction Deadline: 4/26/2018

Corrected on 11/5/2018

.09(1)(a) - This citation was observed to be corrected on this date. All employees had a comprehensive record check letter.

591-1-1-.14 First Aid & CPR**Met****Comment**

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

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 training at the time of employment that will count toward required annual training: Staff employed prior to September 30, 2016 will complete the training by December 29, 2016 and Staff employed after September 30, 2016 will complete the health and safety training within the first 90 days of employment. It was determined based on a review of records that three employees had not completed the required health and safety training within the first 90 days of employment.

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.

Correction Deadline: 12/5/2018

Finding

591-1-1-.33(4) requires all Staff who provide any direct care to children, except independent contractors, Students-in-Training and volunteers, to obtain ten (10) clock hours of training or instruction in child care issues from an accredited school or Department-approved source. At least six (6) of the clock hours must be divided as follows: four (4) clock hours of training in any of the following topics: disease control, cleanliness, basic hygiene, illness detection, illness disposition and childhood injury control and two (2) clock hours of training in identifying, reporting and meeting the needs of abused, neglected or deprived children. It was determined that two employees who were currently in their second year of employment did not complete the required ten (10) clock hours of training or instruction in child care issues from an accredited school or Department-approved source. At least six (6) of the clock hours must be divided as follows: four (4) clock hours of training in any of the following topics: disease control, cleanliness, basic hygiene, illness detection, illness disposition and childhood injury control and two (2) clock hours of training in identifying, reporting and meeting the needs of abused, neglected or deprived children.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will plan and schedule training and follow up to ensure that direct care Staff complete the required hours of training in the required subjects.

Correction Deadline: 12/5/2018**Finding**

591-1-1-.33(6) requires, in the first year of employment and then by calendar year thereafter, all supervisory and caregiver Personnel, except independent contractors, Students-in-Training and volunteers to attend ten (10) clock hours of training which is task-focused in early childhood education or child development or subjects relating to job assignment and is offered by an accredited college, university or vocational program or other Department-approved source. It was determined based on a review of employee records that eight employees had not obtained the required ten (10) clock hours of training which is task-focused in early childhood education or child development or subjects relating to job assignment and is offered by an accredited college, university or vocational program or other Department-approved source.

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: 12/5/2018**591-1-1-.31 Staff(CR)****Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.31(2)(b)2. requires teachers and lead caregivers to meet minimum academic requirements and qualifying experience at the time of employment. It was determined based on a review of records that only four of seven lead teachers met the minimum academic requirements and qualifying experience of teacher/ lead caregiver.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

A teacher/lead caregiver will be hired that meets the minimum academic requirements and qualifying work experience.

Correction Deadline: 11/5/2018**Staffing and Supervision****591-1-1-.32 Staff:Child Ratios and Group Size(CR)****Met****Comment**

Center observed to maintain appropriate staff:child ratios.

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

Center observed to maintain appropriate staff:child ratios.