



**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:** 11/26/2019 **VisitType:** Licensing Study

**Arrival:** 10:35 AM

**Departure:** 1:15 PM

**CCLC-3080**

**First United Methodist Early Learning Center**

353 Main Street Thomson, GA 30824 McDuffie County  
 (706) 595-0403 Annemarie@thomsonfumc.org

**Regional Consultant**

Valarie Musselwhite

Phone: (770) 357-9988

Fax: (678) 302-2440

valarie.musselwhite@decal.ga.gov

**Mailing Address**

323 Church Street  
 Thomson, GA 30824

**Quality Rated:** No

| <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.<br><br><b>Good Standing</b> - Program is demonstrating an acceptable level of performance in meeting the rules.<br><b>Support</b> - Program performance is demonstrating a need for improvement in meeting rules.<br><b>Deficient</b> - Program is not demonstrating an acceptable level of performance in meeting the rules. |
|------------------------------------|------------------|---------------|--|
| 11/26/2019                         | Licensing Study  | Good Standing |  |
| 04/25/2019                         | Monitoring Visit | Good Standing |  |
| 12/11/2018                         | 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              |
|----------|------------------------------|-----------------|-------|----------|------|------------|--------------|------------|--------------|--------------------|
| Main     | Room A 1st R Hall 1st R Room | Two Year Olds   | 2     | 11       | C    | 17         | C            | NA         | NA           | Lunch,Outside      |
| Main     | Room B 1st R Hall 2nd R Room | Two Year Olds   | 2     | 12       | C    | 17         | C            | NA         | NA           | Nap,Free Play      |
| Main     | Room C 1st R Hall 3rd R Room |                 | 0     | 0        | C    | 16         | C            | NA         | NA           |                    |
| Main     | Room D 1st R Hall 4th R Room |                 | 0     | 0        | C    | 18         | C            | NA         | NA           |                    |
| Main     | Room E Back Hall Right       |                 | 0     | 0        | C    | 15         | C            | NA         | NA           |                    |
| Main     | Room F Back Hall Left        |                 | 0     | 0        | C    | 15         | C            | NA         | NA           |                    |
| Main     | Room G 2nd R Hall 4th L Room | One Year Olds   | 2     | 13       | C    | 18         | C            | NA         | NA           | Lunch,Outside      |
| Main     | Room H 2nd R Hall 3rd L Room | Infants         | 2     | 4        | C    | 17         | C            | NA         | NA           | Floor Play         |
| Main     | Room I 2nd R Hall 2nd L Room | Three Year Olds | 1     | 15       | C    | 17         | C            | NA         | NA           | Free Play          |
| Main     | Room J 2nd R Hall 1st L Room | Three Year Olds | 2     | 1        | C    | 17         | C            | NA         | NA           | Transitioning,Na p |

Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 167

Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0

Total # Children this Date: 56

Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 167


Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0

| <b>Building</b> | <b>Playground</b>   | <b>Playground<br/>Occupancy</b> | <b>Playground<br/>Compliance</b> |
|-----------------|---------------------|---------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Main            | 1 Preschool         | 81                              | C                                |
| Main            | 2 Toddler           | 19                              | C                                |
| Main            | 3 Infants/Ones/Twos | 16                              | C                                |

**Comments**

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 11/26/2019

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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Anne Marie Thomas, Program Official

Date

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Valarie Musselwhite, Consultant

Date



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### Findings Report

**Date:** 11/26/2019 **VisitType:** Licensing Study

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#### CCLC-3080

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The following information is associated with a Licensing Study:

### Activities and Equipment

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

Not Met

#### Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.12(2) - Please remove the cardboard blocks in poor condition from Classroom B.

**Correction Deadline: 11/26/2019**

#### 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 an observation that the television in Classroom C, television in Classroom E, and two desktop computer screens in Classroom F were unstable.

#### 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: 12/6/2019**

#### 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: 2**

Child # 1

Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.08(1)(a)-Work Address Missing

Child # 2 Not Met  
"Missing/Incomplete Components"  
.08(1)-Emergency Contact information Missing

Child # 3 Met

Child # 4 Met

Child # 5 Met

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**591-1-1-.08 Children's Records**

**Technical Assistance**

**Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.08 - Please review children's files for missing information.

**Facility**

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**591-1-1-.06 Bathrooms**

**Met**

**Comment**

Bathrooms observed to be clean and well maintained.

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**591-1-1-.19 License Capacity(CR)**

**Met**

**Comment**

Licensed capacity observed to be routinely met by center.

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

**Met**

**Correction Deadline: 4/25/2019**

**Corrected on 11/26/2019**

**.25(13) - Correction of previous citation in that the consultant observed the center free of hazards.**

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

**Technical Assistance**

**Comment**

Playground observed to be clean and in good repair.

**Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.26(4) - Please ensure children are playing on the licensed and fenced in areas during outdoor play.

**Correction Deadline: 11/26/2019**

**Health and Hygiene**

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

**Not Met**

**Finding**

591-1-1-.10(4) requires that if diapers are changed on a diaper changing surface, the surface shall be smooth, nonporous, and equipped with a guard or rails to prevent falls. Between each diaper change, the diaper changing surface shall be cleaned with a disinfectant and dried with a single-use disposable towel. It was determined based on an observation that the diapering mat in Classroom D was not non porous.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center will ensure there is a smooth, nonporous changing surface that has a guard or rails for safety in each classroom that houses children wearing diapers. Center Staff will be trained and have adequate supplies to properly clean the diaper changing surface between each diaper change.

Correction Deadline: 11/29/2019

Recited on 11/26/2019

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

**Comment**

Proper hand washing observed throughout the center.

591-1-1-.20 Medications(CR) Technical Assistance

**Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.20(2) - Consultant and director discussed medication forms and procedures.

Correction Deadline: 11/26/2019

**Policies and Procedures**

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

**Comment**

The consultant observed completed documentation of emergency drills.

**Safety**

591-1-1-.05 Animals N/A

**Comment**

Center does not keep animals on premises.

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

**Comment**

Staff were observed to maintain a positive learning environment on this date.

591-1-1-.13 Field Trips(CR) N/A

**Comment**

Center does not participate in field trips at this time.

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

**Comment**

Center does not provide routine transportation.

**Sleeping & Resting Equipment**

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

**Comment**

Pleasant naptime environment observed.

**Staff Records**

Records Reviewed: 11

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 0

Staff # 1 Met

Staff # 2 Met

**Records Reviewed: 11**

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

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|  |     |
|--|-----|
| Staff # 3<br>Date of Hire: 05/15/2019  | Met |
| Staff # 4<br>Date of Hire: 11/15/2014  | Met |
| Staff # 5                              | Met |
| Staff # 6                              | Met |
| Staff # 7                              | Met |
| Staff # 8<br>Date of Hire: 08/06/2019  | Met |
| Staff # 9<br>Date of Hire: 08/06/2019  | Met |
| Staff # 10<br>Date of Hire: 03/13/2017 | Met |
| Staff # 11                             | Met |

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**Staff Credentials Reviewed: 7**

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**591-1-1-.09 Criminal Records and Comprehensive Background Checks(CR) Met**

**Correction Deadline: 4/25/2019**

**Corrected on 11/26/2019**

**.09(1)(a) - Correction of previous citation in that the consultant observed all staff, volunteers, and independent contractors to have current comprehensive satisfactory criminal record checks on file. The director stated proper knowledge of criminal record check rules and regulations.**

**Correction Deadline: 4/25/2019**

**Corrected on 11/26/2019**

**.09(1)(c) - Correction of previous citation in that the consultant observed all staff, volunteers, and independent contractors to have current comprehensive satisfactory criminal record checks on file. The director stated proper knowledge of criminal record check rules and regulations.**

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

**Correction Deadline: 5/31/2019**

**Corrected on 11/26/2019**

**.14(2) - Correction of previous citation in that the consultant observed 100% of staff with current First Aid and CPR training.**

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**591-1-1-.33 Staff Training Met**

**Comment**

Documentation observed of required staff training.

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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.

|                                 |
|---------------------------------|
| <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**

Staff observed to provide direct supervision and be attentive to children's needs.