



**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:** 3/8/2022      **VisitType:** Monitoring Visit      **Arrival:** 11:10 AM      **Departure:** 12:30 PM

**CCLC-33780**

**Glad Tidings Academy**

16603 US Hwy 19 N Thomasville, GA 31792 Thomas County  
 (229) 236-6005 gwelch1965@yahoo.com

**Regional Consultant**

Cresia Jackson

Phone: (229) 238-2958

Fax: (229) 238-2957

cresia.jackson@dec.al.ga.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.
03/08/2022	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
09/24/2021	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
02/01/2021	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
One Bldg.	A	Infants	1	4	NC	14	C	NA	NA	Nap
One Bldg.	B	Four Year Olds	2	16	C	29	C	NA	NA	Outside
One Bldg.	C	One Year Olds	2	5	C	14	C	NA	NA	Lunch
One Bldg.	Classroom G		0	0	C	10	C	NA	NA	
One Bldg.	Classroom H	Two Year Olds	1	9	C	12	C	NA	NA	Clean Up,Lunch
One Bldg.	D	Two Year Olds	1	8	C	20	C	NA	NA	Lunch
One Bldg.	E	One Year Olds	2	6	C	18	C	NA	NA	Lunch
One Bldg.	F		0	0	C	13	C	NA	NA	
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 130					Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					
Total # Children this Date: 48					Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
One Bldg.	A-Infant	16	C
One Bldg.	B-Lg. Plgr.	20	C

### Comments

The purpose of the visit was for on site observation Monitoring visit.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 03/08/2022

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 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.state.ga.us](mailto:qualityrated@dec.state.ga.us) for more information. Free technical assistance is available!**

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)

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Gigi Welch, Program Official

Date

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Cresia Jackson, 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)** **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-.06 Bathrooms** **Technical Assistance**

**Technical Assistance**

Consultant discussed with Director cleaning bathroom area.

**Correction Deadline: 3/8/2022**

**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)** **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 Class rooms (B & C) had purses sitting on the cubbies in the classrooms accessible to children in care. It was further determined that Class (B) had Triamcinolone Acetonide cream sitting on the cubbies 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.

**Correction Deadline: 3/8/2022**

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

Consultant and Director discussed the safety of the playground route.

**Correction Deadline: 4/7/2022****Finding**

591-1-1-.26(6) requires that playground equipment provide an opportunity for the children to engage in a variety of experiences and shall be age-appropriate. For example, toddlers shall not be permitted to swing in swings designed for School-age Children. The outdoor equipment shall be free of lead-based paint, sharp corners and shall be regularly maintained in such a way as to be free of rust and splinters that could pose significant safety hazard to the children. All equipment shall be arranged so as not to obstruct supervision of children. It was determined based on observation the Big red, and blue climbing gym contained many cuts to the plastic areas of the gym set that posed a cutting hazard to the children in care. It was further determined that the red and blue playhouse had exposed rust, as well as the red, blue, and yellow small climbing gym.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center will provide a variety of age-appropriate equipment that is arranged so as not to obstruct supervision of children. Staff will check the equipment daily to ensure that the equipment is free of hazards, rust and splinters.

**Correction Deadline: 4/18/2022**

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

Proper diapering procedures observed.

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

Consultant discussed hand washing with the Director after a staff used gloves to serve the children lunch.

**Correction Deadline: 3/8/2022**

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**591-1-1-.20 Medications(CR)****Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.20(4) requires the Center to keep medication in a cabinet or container that is locked or otherwise not accessible to the children and to be stored separate from cleaning chemicals, supplies or poisons. Medications requiring refrigeration shall be placed in a leak-proof container in a refrigerator that is not accessible to the children. It was determined based on observation that Triamcinolone cream was found in a child book bag, and another tube of Triamcinolone cream was left sitting on a cubbie and not locked away inaccessible to children in care.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center will train Staff on the safe and proper storage of medication and monitor to ensure that the rule is met.

**Correction Deadline: 3/8/2022**

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<b>Safety</b>
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**591-1-1-.11 Discipline(CR)****Met****Comment**

Age-appropriate discussion and/or redirection observed.

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

Center does not provide routine transportation.

## 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 and a burping cloth or cloth diaper was found over the infants face as she slept.

#### 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: 3/8/2022

## Staff Records

Records Reviewed: 22

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 0

Staff # 1	Met
Staff # 2	Met
Staff # 3	Met
Staff # 4	Met
Staff # 5	Met
Staff # 6	Met
Staff # 7	Met
Staff # 8	Met
Staff # 9	Met
Staff # 10	Met

**Records Reviewed: 22****Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 0**

Staff # 11	Met
Date of Hire: 06/14/2026	<u>Reminder - Health &amp; Safety training is required within 90 calendar days of hired</u>
Staff # 12	Met
Staff # 13	Met
Staff # 14	Met
Staff # 15	Met
Staff # 16	Met
Staff # 17	Met
Staff # 18	Met
Staff # 19	Met
Staff # 20	Met
Staff # 21	Met
Staff # 22	Met

**Staff Credentials Reviewed: 1****591-1-1-.09 Criminal Records and Comprehensive Background Checks(CR)** **Met****Comment**

Director provided [7] file(s) for employees hired since last visit.

**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.

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

Adequate supervision observed on this date.

**591-1-1-.32 Supervision(CR)** **Not Met**

**Finding**

591-1-1-.32(7) requires that children be supervised at all times appropriate to the individual age, needs and capabilities of each child. Such supervision must include, but not be limited to, indoor and outdoor activities, mealtimes, naptime, transportation, field trips, and transitions between activities. "Supervision" means that the appropriate number of Staff members are physically present in the area where children are being cared for and are providing watchful oversight to the children, volunteers and Students-in-Training. The persons supervising in the child care area must be alert, positioned to maximize their ability to hear and see the children at all times, and able to respond promptly to the needs and actions of the children being supervised, as well as the actions of the volunteers and Students-in-Training, and provide timely attention to the children's actions and needs. 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. It was determined based on observation that the teacher in class room (A) left the children unattended to go in the hall to place something outside the class room.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center will train Staff and monitor to ensure they are providing supervision and watchful oversight to the children at all times.

**Correction Deadline: 3/8/2022**