



**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:** 11/7/2018 **VisitType:** Licensing Study **Arrival:** 11:00 AM **Departure:** 2:00 PM

**CCLC-3621**

**Bright Star Child Care & Learning Center, Inc.**

704 E. Clay Street Thomasville, GA 31792 Thomas County  
 (229) 227-0500 moniaustin@yahoo.com

**Regional Consultant**

Cresia Jackson

Phone: (229) 238-2958

Fax: (229) 238-2957

cresia.jackson@decal.ga.gov

**Mailing Address**

BRIGHT STAR CHILD CARE & LEARNING CTR  
 THOMASVILLE, GA 31792

**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.
11/07/2018	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
04/03/2018	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
10/18/2017	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
			<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.

**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 Left		0	0	C	6	C	NA	NA	
Main	Room B - Back Left	Two Year Olds and Three Year Olds	2	14	C	22	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main	Room C - Back Right - 3 & Up		0	0	C	15	C	NA	NA	
Main	Room D - Front Right	One Year Olds	2	17	C	21	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main	Room E-Right back/front section	Infants	1	6	C	15	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main	Room F-Back Right/Back Section	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	1	6	C	16	C	NA	NA	Nap
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 95						Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0				
Total # Children this Date: 43						Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0				

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	A-Open front area	31	C
Main	B-Toddler Playground	37	C
Main	C- School Age	39	C
Main	D- Preschool	37	C

**Comments**

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/RuleAndRegulations.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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MONICA AUSTIN, Program Official

Date

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Cresia Jackson, Consultant

Date



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### Findings Report

**Date:** 11/7/2018 **VisitType:** Licensing Study

**Arrival:** 11:00 AM

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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.

### 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)**

**Met**

**Correction Deadline: 4/3/2018**

**Corrected on 11/7/2018**

**This citation was observed to be correct on this date.**

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

**Met**

**Comment**

Playground not observed on this date due to inclement weather.

### Health and Hygiene

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

**Met**

**Comment**

Staff state proper knowledge of diapering procedures.

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<b>591-1-1-.17 Hygiene(CR)</b>	<b>Met</b>
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**Comment**

Proper hand washing observed throughout the center.

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<b>591-1-1-.20 Medications(CR)</b>	<b>Met</b>
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**Comment**

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

	<b>Safety</b>
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<b>591-1-1-.11 Discipline(CR)</b>	<b>Not Met</b>
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**Finding**

591-1-1-.11(2) requires that Personnel not: physically or sexually abuse a child or engage or permit others to engage in sexually overt conduct in the presence of any child enrolled in the Center; inflict corporal/physical punishment upon a child; shake, jerk, pinch or handle a child roughly; verbally abuse or humiliate a child which includes, but is not limited to, the use of threats, profanity or belittling remarks about a child or his family; isolate a child in a dark room, closet or un supervised area; use mechanical or physical restraints or devices to discipline children; use medication to discipline or control children's behavior without written medical authorization issued by a licensed professional and given with the parent's written consent; restrict unreasonably a child from going to the bathroom; punish toileting accidents; force-feed a child or withhold feeding a child regularly scheduled meals and/or snacks; force or withhold naps; allow children to discipline or humiliate other children; or confine a child for disciplinary purposes to a swing, highchair, infant carrier, walker or jump seat. It was determined based on consultant observation that a staff person used inappropriate discipline measures when forcing a child to lay down for nap-time. Consultant observed the staff to handle the child roughly as she forced him to the mat, spoke with a harsh tone, and covered the child with the blanket.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center will take immediate action to ensure the action/conduct has ceased; train/review appropriate child guidance techniques with center staff; and have a system in place to monitor and identify inappropriate actions.

**Correction Deadline: 11/7/2018**

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<b>591-1-1-.36 Transportation(CR)</b>	<b>Met</b>
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**Comment**

Center does not provide routine transportation.

	<b>Sleeping &amp; Resting Equipment</b>
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<b>591-1-1-.30 Safe Sleeping and Resting Requirements(CR)</b>	<b>Technical Assistance</b>
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**Technical Assistance**

Consultant discussed with the director to be mindful sleeping arrangement.

	<b>Staff Records</b>
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<b>591-1-1-.09 Criminal Records and Comprehensive Background Checks(CR)</b>	<b>Met</b>
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**Comment**

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

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<b>591-1-1-.31 Staff(CR)</b>	<b>Met</b>
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**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**

Adequate supervision observed on this date.