



**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:** 7/17/2019    **VisitType:** Licensing Study    **Arrival:** 8:45 AM    **Departure:** 12:30 PM

**CCLC-38619**

**Bree's Creative Learning Childcare Center**

508 University Drive Valdosta, GA 31602 Lowndes County  
(229) 469-7254 durdenbree@yahoo.com

**Regional Consultant**

Beth Houtz

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**Mailing Address**

3922 Karaline Cir  
Valdosta, GA 31605

**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.
07/17/2019	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
06/26/2019	Complaint Investigation by Phone	Good Standing	
01/30/2019	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	A	One Year Olds	2	9	C	7	NC	NA	NA	Floor Play
Main	B	Infants and One Year Olds and Two Year Olds	2	16	NC	13	NC	NA	NA	Nap, Floor Play, Diapering
Main	C	One Year Olds	2	11	C	9	NC	12	C	Circle Time, Art
Main	D	Two Year Olds	1	17	NC	18	C	25	C	Story, Centers
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 47						Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 57				
Total # Children this Date: 53			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 47			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 57				

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	Playground A	23	C
Main	Playground B	25	C

**Comments**

The purpose of today's visit is a licensing study. This is the first visit for the fiscal year. Bree's Preschool, the owner/director's second center, picks up siblings from this location to take to the Preschool location. The children transported are enrolled at the Preschool center.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 07/17/2019

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.decal.ga.gov/CCS/RulesAndRegulations.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@decal.ga.gov](mailto:CCSRefutations@decal.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://decal.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.decal.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@decal.ga.gov](mailto:qualityrated@decal.ga.gov)

Kristal Henley, Program Official

Date

Beth Houtz, Consultant

Date



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### Findings Report

**Date:** 7/17/2019    **VisitType:** Licensing Study    **Arrival:** 8:45 AM    **Departure:** 12:30 PM

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The following information is associated with a Licensing Study:

### Activities and Equipment

**591-1-1-.03 Activities**

**Not Met**

**Finding**

591-1-1-.03(2) requires the Center to keep current lesson plans on site that reflect appropriate instruction practices and activities to support children's development The Center shall have sufficient and varied play and learning equipment and materials to support the above program of activities in all developmental areas. It was determined based on observation that in classroom D the lesson plan was dated for March 5-9, 2019.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center will keep current lesson plans on site that include appropriate instruction practices and activities and will have sufficient and varied play and learning equipment and materials to support the activities.

**Correction Deadline: 7/17/2019**

**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**

**Not Met**

**Correction Deadline: 7/6/2019**

**Corrected on 7/17/2019**

**.08(2) - This citation was observed to be corrected on this date. The center has 100 percent compliance for immunizations with the local Health Department.**

**Finding**

591-1-1-.08(6) requires the Center to maintain records of a child's daily arrival and departure for the twelve (12) preceding months that the Parent or person(s) authorized by the Parent documents, in written or electronic format, each time the Parent or authorized person drops off and picks up the child. The documentation shall include at least the date, the child's name, the arrival and departure times, and the signature or initials of the Parent or authorized person at the time of arrival and departure. These records shall be made available to the Department in printed or written form upon request. It was determined based on observation that on the infant room and two-year-old classroom sign-in sheets a child on each sheet was signed and already signed out even though the child was still in care. The parent signed out the children for the expected pick-up time later in the day.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center will maintain arrival and departure records as required, will ensure the documentation includes all of the required information, and will provide the records to the Department when requested.

**Correction Deadline: 7/17/2019**

**Facility**

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

**Met**

**Comment**

Please secure cleaning tools (i.e., broom, plunger) out of reach of children.

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

**Not Met**

**Finding**

591-1-1-.19(1) requires a Center to provide 35 square feet of usable space per child, which will determine the Center's License capacity. It was determined based on observation that in classroom A there were nine children in a space licensed for seven, in classroom B there were sixteen children in a space licensed for thirteen, and in classroom C there were eleven children in a space licensed for nine.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center will limit the number of children in this space to the licensed capacity.

**Correction Deadline: 7/17/2019**

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

**Met**

**Comment**

Please be mindful to keep items that pose a hazard inaccessible to children and keep closet doors inaccessible from being opened.

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

**Technical Assistance**

**Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.26(6) - The consultant observed a screw tip to be sticking out on a playhouse. The owner removed the screw during the visit.

Correction Deadline: 7/27/2019

## Food Service

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

**Comment**

Center menu meets USDA guidelines.

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

**Comment**

Kitchen appears clean and well organized.

## Health and Hygiene

**591-1-1-.10 Diapering Areas & Practices(CR)** **Not Met**

**Comment**

Proper diapering procedures observed.

**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 observation that in classroom A and C the changing pad was quilted and porous and not smooth and nonporous as required.

**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: 7/17/2019**

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

**Comment**

Proper hand washing observed throughout the center.

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

**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: 7/22/2019**

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

**Comment**

Observed all required posted notices.

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

**Comment**

Thank you for reporting as required.

## Safety

### 591-1-1-.05 Animals

Met

#### 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)

Met

#### Comment

Center does not participate in field trips at this time.

### 591-1-1-.36 Transportation(CR)

Met

#### Comment

Center does not provide routine transportation. The owner's Preschool center picks up siblings that are enrolled at the Preschool center and transports them in the mornings to the Preschool center where they are enrolled. No children enrolled at the child care center are transported.

## Sleeping & Resting Equipment

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

Not Met

#### Comment

Discussed SIDS and infant sleeping position.

#### Finding

591-1-1-.30(1)(a) requires a crib that is safety approved in compliance with Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) and American Society of Testing and Materials International (ASTM) safety standards be provided for each infant. It was determined based on observation that there were thirteen infants in care and only nine cribs in the classroom.

#### POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will provide a crib that is safety approved in compliance with CPSC and ASTM safety standards for each infant.

**Correction Deadline: 7/27/2019**

## Staff Records

**Records Reviewed: 6**

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

Staff # 1	Met
Date of Hire: 01/22/2019	
Staff # 2	Met
Date of Hire: 07/03/2019	
Staff # 3	Met
Staff # 4	Met
Date of Hire: 06/27/2019	

Staff # 5 Met  
 Date of Hire: 06/28/2019

Staff # 6 Met  
 Date of Hire: 04/24/2017

**Staff Credentials Reviewed: 11**

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

**Comment**

Criminal record checks were observed to be complete.

**Comment**

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

**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 Met**

**Comment**

Documentation observed of required staff training.

**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) Not Met**

**Finding**

591-1-1-.32(1) requires the Center to maintain the required Staff:child ratios as follows: under 1 year or under 18 months if not walking = 1:6; 1 year and walking = 1:8; 2 years = 1:10; 3 years = 1:15; 4 years = 1:18; 5 years = 1:20;and 6 years and older = 1:25. A Center must establish groupings of children for care with maximum group sizes as follows: under 1 year = 12; under 18 months/not walking = 12; 1 year and walking = 16; 2 years = 20; 3 years = 30; 4 years = 36; 5 years = 40; and 6 years and older = 50. It was determined based on observation that in the infant classroom (Room B) there were two staff and sixteen infants under 18 months that were not walking in care. Additionally, in the two-year-old classroom (Room D) there was one staff and 17 two-year-old children in care.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center will hire additional Staff or reschedule current Staff to meet required Staff:child ratios and will organize children into groups that meet requirements. During the visit additional staff came into Room B and D to assist and bring the rooms into ratio.

**Correction Deadline: 7/17/2019**

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

**Finding**

591-1-1-.32(7) requires that children be supervised at all times and that the persons supervising in the child care area be alert, able to respond promptly to the needs and actions of the children being supervised, as well as the actions of the chaperones and Students-in-Training, and provide timely attention to the children's actions and needs. It was determined based on observation that in classrooms B and D staff were not able to respond promptly to the needs and actions of the children being supervised due to being over ratio in those classrooms.

**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: 7/17/2019**