



**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:** 7/22/2019    **VisitType:** Licensing Study    **Arrival:** 8:40 AM    **Departure:** 11:30 AM

**CCLC-48752**

**Bree's Creative Learning Preschool, Childcare Center**

1820 Iola Drive Valdosta, GA 31602 Lowndes County  
 (229) 232-5036 durdenbree@yahoo.com

**Regional Consultant**

Beth Houtz

Phone: (229) 238-2130  
 Fax: (229) 238-2955  
 beth.houtz@dec.al.ga.gov

**Mailing Address**

3922 Karaline Circle  
 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.
07/22/2019	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
06/28/2019	Complaint Closure	Good Standing	
06/26/2019	Complaint Investigation Follow Up	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 - 1L	Five Year Olds and Six Year Olds and Over	1	15	C	10	NC	NA	NA	Outside
Main	Room B - 1R	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	2	27	C	27	C	NA	NA	Transitioning, Centers
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.:			35			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.:		0		
Total # Children this Date:			42			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.:		35		
						Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.:		0		

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	Playground A	15	C
Main	Playground B	23	C

**Comments**

The purpose of today's visit is a licensing study. This is the first visit of the fiscal year. The center provides morning transportation from the Child Care center and participates in field trips. All employee files were reviewed during the visit.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 07/22/2019

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)

Bree Carter, Program Official

Date

Beth Houtz, Consultant

Date



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### Findings Report

**Date:** 7/22/2019 **VisitType:** Licensing Study **Arrival:** 8:40 AM **Departure:** 11:30 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.

### 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**

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

**Corrected on 7/22/2019**

**.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.**

**591-1-1-.06 Bathrooms****Met****Comment**

Bathrooms observed to be clean and well maintained.

**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 the classroom licensed for ten (10) children there was a total of fifteen (15) children present.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

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

**Correction Deadline: 7/22/2019****591-1-1-.25 Physical Plant - Safe Environment(CR)****Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.25(3) requires the Center and surrounding premises to be kept clean, free of debris and in good repair. Hygienic measures such as, but not limited to, screened windows and proper waste disposal procedures shall be utilized to minimize the presence of rodents, flies, roaches and other vermin at the Center. It was determined based on observation that the following items were in need of repair.

-The bathroom handle in the bathroom licensed for ten children had pulled off and a screw at the bottom was exposed.

- The outside part of the door of the classroom leading to the playground had chipping and peeling paint.

- To the right of the outside door leading to the playground there is a rotten board at the bottom.

- In the bathroom at the end of the hallway the wall paneling and toe molding are pulling away from the wall causing a gap and exposing nails and screws.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center will have the Center and surrounding areas cleaned, make repairs where needed, and remove all debris is removed. The Center will implement a plan to keep areas clean and in good repair that includes regular monitoring. The Director removed the exposed screw from the bathroom door during the visit. additionally, the director stated that a work order has been submitted to the landlord regarding the rotten board.

**Correction Deadline: 7/22/2019****591-1-1-.26 Playgrounds(CR)****Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.26(9) requires the playground to be kept clean, free from litter and free of hazards, such as but not limited to rocks, exposed tree roots and exposed sharp edges of concrete. It was determined based on observation that on the left side playground there were two active ant beds along the fence closet to the main road. The first ant bed measured 18 inches wide and the second ant bed measured six (6) inches wide. Additionally, there was one mushroom located under the red jeep on the left side play ground. When the consultant first arrived children were observed to be playing on the left side playground.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center will remove any litter and fix or remove hazards from the playground and will routinely monitor the playground and remove litter and hazards.

**Correction Deadline: 7/22/2019****591-1-1-.15 Food Service & Nutrition****Met****Comment**

Center menu meets USDA guidelines.

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

**Comment**

Kitchen appears clean and well organized.

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**Health and Hygiene**

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

**Comment**

There were no diapered children enrolled in the program on this date. Children enrolled are Preschool and School Age only.

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

**Comment**

Proper hand washing observed throughout the center.

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

**Comment**

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

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**Policies and Procedures**

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

**Comment**

Fire and Safety Drills were observed to be posted and up to date.

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

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

**Comment**

Observed all required posted notices.

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

**Comment**

Thank you for reporting as required.

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**Safety**

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**591-1-1-.05 Animals** **Met**

**Comment**

Center does not keep animals on premises.

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

**Comment**

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

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**591-1-1-.13 Field Trips(CR)** **Not Met**

**Finding**

591-1-1-.13(2) requires Center Staff to obtain written permission from Parents in advance of the child's participation in any field trip and such permission must be signed and dated by a Parent. It was determined based on a review of records that on a field trip on May 30, 2019 to KB Horse Camp two children attended the field trip and were listed on the field trip form but did not have a parent's signature denoting permission to attend the field trip.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

Center Staff will have and use a system to obtain written field trip permission in advance and ensure the permission is signed and dated by the responsible person.

**Correction Deadline: 7/22/2019**

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

**Not Met**

**Finding**

591-1-1-.36(4)(c) requires that each vehicle be equipped with a fire extinguisher maintained in working order and kept inaccessible to children. It was determined based on observation that the fire extinguisher on the van plate ending in 1692 had a fire extinguisher that was in the red on the indicator and not usable.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The center will ensure that each vehicle has a working fire extinguisher and that the fire extinguisher is kept out of reach of children.

**Correction Deadline: 7/22/2019**

**Finding**

591-1-1-.36(7)(c)3. requires that the driver or other designated person document in writing the time of arrival and departure each time the vehicle departs from the Center, is loaded or unloaded at each school and when the vehicle returns to the Center; each time the vehicle departs from the Center, arrives at the location where any child is picked up or dropped off and when the vehicle returns to the Center; each time the vehicle leaves the Center, arrives at a field trip destination, leaves a field trip destination, and returns to the Center. It was determined based on a review of records that on the transportation forms for the weeks of July 1-5, 2019, July 8-12, 2019, July 15-19, 2019, and July 22, 2019 there was no Return Time to Facility documented for any of the transportation dates.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center will ensure that each time of arrival and departure is documented by the driver or designated person with training, review and monitoring.

**Correction Deadline: 7/23/2019**

**Finding**

591-1-1-.36(7)(d)2. requires that the second designated Staff person conduct a check of the vehicle immediately upon the completion of the first check of the vehicle. The responsible person shall physically walk through the entire vehicle; visually inspect all seat surfaces, under all seats and in all compartments or recesses in the vehicle's interior; and sign the passenger transportation checklist(s), indicating all of the children have exited the vehicle. There shall be continuous watchful oversight of the vehicle between the first check and second check. It was determined based on a review of records that on the following field trip forms there was no second signature documented on the transportation form for the second unload.

-May 15, 2019 to Kingdom Builders Delivered Center on the first, second, and third sheets.

-May 22, 2019 to Wild Adventures on the first and second sheets.

-June 3, 2019 to Morningside Church

Additionally, on the field trips forms for Wild Adventures on May 22, 2019 and Kingdom Builders on May 15, 2019 the same person signed for the first and second vehicle checks and not two separate people as required.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center will train Staff who are or may be involved in transporting children in how to thoroughly inspect a vehicle and properly complete transportation documentation. The Center will review and monitor.

**Correction Deadline: 7/22/2019**

**Sleeping & Resting Equipment**

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

No infants enrolled at the center. The correct number of mats, sheets and blankets were observed on this date. Cleaning and disinfecting of mats was discussed with the director on this date.

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**Staff Records**

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**Records Reviewed: 4****Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 0**

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Staff # 1	Met
Date of Hire: 02/23/2018	
Staff # 2	Met
Date of Hire: 05/17/2017	
Staff # 3	Met
Date of Hire: 08/20/2015	
Staff # 4	Met
Date of Hire: 12/05/2018	

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**Staff Credentials Reviewed: 3**

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

Criminal record checks were observed to be complete.

**Correction Deadline: 6/26/2019****Corrected on 7/22/2019**

**.09(1)(a) - This citation was observed to be corrected on this date. All staff had a satisfactory comprehensive background check on file.**

**Correction Deadline: 6/26/2019****Corrected on 7/22/2019**

**.09(1)(c) - This citation was observed to be corrected on this date. All staff had a satisfactory comprehensive background check on file.**

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**591-1-1-.14 First Aid & CPR****Not Met****Comment**

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

**Finding**

591-1-1-.14(3) requires the Center to have a first aid kit in each building of the Center and in any vehicle used by the Center for transportation of children, that contains scissors, tweezers, gauze pads, adhesive tape, thermometer, band-aids, assorted sizes, antibacterial ointment, insect-sting preparation, an antiseptic cleansing solution, triangular bandages, rubber gloves, protective eye wear, a protective face mask, and a cold pack. The first aid kit, together with a first aid instruction manual which must be kept with the kit at all times, shall be stored so that it is not accessible to children but is easily accessible to Staff. It was determined based on observation that the first aid kit in the vehicle plate number ending in 1692 was missing an ice pack, thermometer, and eye protection.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

Center Staff will provide any missing first aid kits, add any missing items to each first aid kit and will develop and use a plan for checking the kits and replacing missing items in each kit in the future. First aid kits and instruction manuals will be stored so that they kits are not accessible to children but are easily accessible to Center Staff.

**Correction Deadline: 8/1/2019**

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**591-1-1-.31 Staff(CR)**

**Met**

**Comment**

Staff observed to be compliant with applicable laws and regulations.

<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**

Center observed to maintain appropriate staff:child ratios.