



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: 12/18/2018 **VisitType:** Initial Licensing Study **Arrival:** 8:30 AM **Departure:** 1:00 PM

CCLC-50203

Big Blue Marble - Steven's Creek Road

925 Steven's Creek Road Augusta, GA 30907 Richmond County
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Regional Consultant

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Same

Quality Rated: ★

Compliance Zone Designation		
12/18/2018	Initial Licensing Study	Good Standing

Compliance Zone Designation - 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.

Good Standing - Program is demonstrating an acceptable level of performance in meeting the rules.

Support - Program performance is demonstrating a need for improvement in meeting rules.

Deficient - 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	A	Infants	2	7	C	16	C	NA	NA	Floor Play, Nap, Feeding
Main	B	One Year Olds	2	10	C	23	C	NA	NA	Free Play
Main	C	Two Year Olds	2	11	C	24	C	NA	NA	Circle Time
Main	D	Three Year Olds	1	15	C	30	C	NA	NA	Circle Time
Main	E	Four Year Olds	2	16	C	34	C	NA	NA	Circle Time
Main	F		0	0	C	17	C	NA	NA	
Main	G	Four Year Olds	2	15	C	29	C	NA	NA	Transitioning, Clean Up
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 173						Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0				
Total # Children this Date: 74			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 173			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0				

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	Large Playground	155	C
Main	Small Playground	22	C

Comments

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 12/18/2018

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.al.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

You have received permission to operate and the form received with this report is intended to serve as a temporary license which is **valid for thirty(30) days**. Your actual license/ will be emailed to you upon receipt of the licensing fee. You may pay the licensing fee either online at <http://www.dec.al.ga.gov/> or by certified check or money order mailed to: Bright from the Start, 2 Martin Luther King Jr. Drive SE, Suite 670 East Tower, Atlanta, GA 30334

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.al.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://dec.al.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.dec.al.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@dec.al.ga.gov

LAKEISHA THIGPEN, Program Official

Date

Brianne Walters, Consultant

Date



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Findings Report

Date: 12/18/2018 **VisitType:** Initial Licensing Study **Arrival:** 8:30 AM **Departure:** 1:00 PM

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The following information is associated with a Initial Licensing Study:

Activities and Equipment

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

Met

Comment

Equipment and furniture observed to be properly secured, as applicable.

Comment

There was a very limited supply of books in Room C. Any torn books should be replaced.

591-1-1-.35 Swimming Pools & Water-related Activities(CR)

N/A

Comment

Center does not provide swimming activities. No pool on site.

Facility

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

Met

Comment

Room capacities were observed met during the visit.

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 following was present:

Room C: one of two wall heating units was rusty, had chipping paint and the slats along the front were broken and loose. The other wall heating unit was missing at least one slat, creating a gap where a child could reach down into the unit. In addition, a sticky substance was present on 2 tables and the top of 3 wooden shelving units left behind by tape. Paint was chipping on the door, and on the wall near the circle area and small holes were present in the wall to the left of the sink.

Room D: one wall a/c unit had broken slats along the top, creating an area that a child could reach into the unit. A sticky substance left behind by tape was present on one round table.

Room F: one wall a/c unit had slats along the front and top, creating an area that a child could reach into the unit.

Room G: The wires around the computer should be secured so they are not accessible to children, and the power strip should be secured to the wall, making it safe and not accessible in the play area.

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.

Correction Deadline: 1/4/2019**Technical Assistance**

Cubbies should be accessible to children in rooms that house children one-year-old and older. Cubbies that are higher on the wall should be moved lower or replaced so that children can access their personal belongings. Staff will monitor to ensure that hazardous items are not placed in cubbies once they are made accessible to children.

Correction Deadline: 1/17/2019**Technical Assistance**

Doors to rooms, closets, etc. that children should not have access to should be locked/latched.

Correction Deadline: 12/18/2018

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

Discussed that the large wooden climbing unit on Playground A had many hazards accessible to children, that also compromised the integrity of the equipment. The director stated the piece of equipment has not been used by children is several weeks, and should therefore be removed from the playground. The equipment will be removed immediately, but no later than January 18, 2019.

Technical Assistance

The wires for the cable box (Playground B) should be secured to the building.

Finding

591-1-1-.26(4) requires that playgrounds be protected from traffic or other hazards by a (4) four foot high fence or other barrier approved by this Department. Fencing material shall not present a hazard to children and shall be maintained so as to prevent children from leaving the playground area by any means other than through an approved access route. Fence gates shall be kept closed except when persons are entering or exiting the area. It was determined based on observation that several bolts were protruding from the corners of all chain link fencing on both playgrounds. In addition, much of the metal material along the top of the fence on Playground A was loose and could easily be pushed out from the fence. A portion of the fence along the back center on Playground A was loose and the links were protruding towards the playground.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will routinely check the fence to determine if it is in good repair and remains at least 4 feet high, and will repair any hazards. The Center will train Staff to identify and report any fence hazards and to keep the fence gates closed when not in use.

Correction Deadline: 1/4/2019

Finding

591-1-1-.26(8) requires climbing and swinging equipment to have a resilient surface beneath the equipment and the fall zone from such equipment must be adequately maintained by the Center to assure continuing resiliency. It was determined based on observation that there was not adequate resilient material around the merry-go-round on Playground A when there was barely 1-2 inches of dirt present.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will add additional resilient surfacing to the fall zones where needed and check daily, adding resilient surfacing as needed to maintain adequate resiliency. Due to the lack of required resilient material, the bottom anchoring of the merry-go-round was exposed. In discussing the piece of equipment with the director, it was suggested that it be removed from the playground. Potential hazards existed from not only the lack of required resilient surface, but also from the piece being close to the fence. In addition, a potential hazard is presented with it being metal, allowing for it to become too hot on a day when in direct sunlight.

Correction Deadline: 1/4/2019

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 the following was observed on the playground:

-Playground A: several large roots were present along the right side of the playground and presented a tripping hazard. A thorny vine was present near the back center of the playground near the fence. In addition, two cement pads near entrance doors were not level with the ground and posed a tripping hazard.

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: 1/4/2019

Food Service

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) **Met**

Comment

Staff were observed to follow proper procedures, and all diapering areas and rules were observed met during the visit.

591-1-1-.17 Hygiene(CR) **Not Met**

Finding

591-1-1-.17(8) requires staff to wash their hands with liquid soap and warm running water upon arrival for the day, when moving from one child care group to another, upon re-entering the child care area after outside play, before and after diapering each child, dispensing medication, applying topical medications, handling and preparing food, eating, drinking, preparing bottles, feeding each child, assisting children with eating and drinking, after toileting or assisting children with toileting, using tobacco products, handling garbage and organic waste, touching animals or pets, handling bodily fluids and after contamination by any means. It was determined based on observation that a staff member in Room B did not wash her hands with liquid soap and warm running water after wiping a child's nose after sneezing.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will ensure liquid soap and warm running water are available for handwashing, train Staff on the handwashing requirements, review the requirements with Staff periodically, and monitor handwashing. In this instance, a child's hands should also be washed after sneezing.

Correction Deadline: 12/18/2018

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

Met

Comment

Documentation for medication dispensing observed complete.

Safety

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

Met

Comment

Age-appropriate discussion and/or redirection observed.

591-1-1-.13 Field Trips(CR)

Met

Comment

Center has not participated in field trips since June 2018.

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

Technical Assistance

Comment

A current/completed inspection was observed for all vehicles used in transporting children this date. The MFSAB used to routinely transport children to/from school, was observed clean and in good condition, with a working fire extinguisher and first aid kit. The director stated this is the only vehicle used to transport children at this time.

Technical Assistance

Discussed that the transportation safety training for the director and staff involved in transportation should be obtained biennially.

Correction Deadline: 12/28/2018

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

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

Technical Assistance

Technical Assistance

Mats that are beginning to tear along the edges in Rooms B and C should be replaced. Most rooms were observed to have new mats.

Comment

Cribs in Room A were observed in compliance with Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) and American Society of Testing and Materials International (ASTM) safety standards, and were observed in good condition.

Correction Deadline: 12/28/2018

Staff Records

Records Reviewed: 17

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 0

Staff # 1

Met

Date of Hire: 07/31/2018

Staff # 2

Met

Date of Hire: 10/16/2017

Staff # 3 Date of Hire: 06/13/2018	Met
Staff # 4 Date of Hire: 09/27/2018	Met
Staff # 5 Date of Hire: 02/29/2016	Met
Staff # 6 Date of Hire: 09/17/2023	Met <u>Reminder - Health & Safety training is required within 90 calendar days of hired</u>
Staff # 7 Date of Hire: 09/04/2018	Met
Staff # 8 Date of Hire: 08/14/2017	Met
Staff # 9 Date of Hire: 02/13/2018	Met
Staff # 10 Date of Hire: 02/29/2016	Met
Staff # 11 Date of Hire: 09/18/2018	Met
Staff # 12 Date of Hire: 11/06/2018	Met
Staff # 13 Date of Hire: 09/04/2018	Met
Staff # 14 Date of Hire: 08/02/2017	Met
Staff # 15 Date of Hire: 09/17/2018	Met
Staff # 16 Date of Hire: 03/16/2018	Met
Staff # 17 Date of Hire: 07/16/2018	Met

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

Met

Comment

Satisfactory comprehensive criminal record check letters were observed to be complete for 17 current staff.

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

Met

Comment

Staff observed to be compliant with applicable laws and regulations.
All applicable staff had CPR/First Aid and Health and Safety Orientation training.

Staffing and Supervision

591-1-1-.32 Staff:Child Ratios and Group Size(CR)

Met

Comment

Center observed to maintain appropriate staff:child ratios during the visit.

591-1-1-.32 Supervision(CR)

Met

Comment

Adequate supervision observed on this date. A supervision plan was developed this day for hall restroom use, and for rooms and playgrounds.