



**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:** 2/20/2019 **VisitType:** Initial Licensing Study **Arrival:** 10:00 AM **Departure:** 2:45 PM

**CCLC-50426**

**Bright Start Preschool #1**

109 South Forrest Street Valdosta, GA 31601 Lowndes County  
 (229) 333-0018 bspvaldosta1@yahoo.com

**Mailing Address**

P.O. Box 4706  
 Valdosta, GA 31604-4706

**Regional Consultant**

Angela Byrd

Phone: (678) 920-3975

Fax:

angela.byrd@decal.ga.gov

Joint with: Jessica Grant

**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.
Date	Visit Type	Compliance Zone	
02/20/2019	Initial Licensing Study	Good Standing	

**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
Bld 2-rm	Rm 8 infant-1 yr	Infants	3	11	C	22	C	NA	NA	Free Play,Nap,Feeding
Bld 2-rm	Rm 9 1 & 2 yrs	One Year Olds	2	16	C	20	C	NA	NA	Transitioning
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 42			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 159							
Main	Rm 1-1's room	Three Year Olds	1	15	C	16	C	NA	NA	Centers
Main	Rm 2	Three Year Olds	1	14	C	14	C	20	C	Centers
Main	Rm 3	PreK	2	22	C	22	C	30	C	Centers
Main	Rm 4	PreK	2	20	C	24	C	33	C	Music
Main	Rm 5	Two Year Olds	2	17	C	17	C	NA	NA	Outside
Main	Rm 6	Two Year Olds	2	16	C	17	C	NA	NA	Outside
Main	Rm 7		0	0	C	7	C	NA	NA	Outside
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 117			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 159							
Total # Children this Date: 131			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 159			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 159				

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Bld 2-rm 8 infant-1 yr	playground 3	16	C
Main	Playground A	65	C
Main	Playground B	18	C

### Comments

This center has been issued a tempoary licensed due to verification of fire report.

This licensed facility does not carry liability insurance. A sign is posted on the posted notice board.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 02/20/2019

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/ChildCare/ProgramsAndRegulations.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.state.ga.us/ChildCare/ProgramsAndRegulations.aspx> 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.

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#### 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.

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**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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Shelbra McKnight, Program Official

Date

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Angela Byrd, Consultant

Date

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Jessica Grant, Consultant

Date



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### Findings Report

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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**

On this date, Consultant observed equipment, furniture and toys throughout the Center, to be non - hazardous, fully - secured, and not able to cause injury from tipping, falling, or being pulled or pushed over.

**Correction Deadline: 2/20/2019**

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

**Met**

**Comment**

On this date, the Center Director/Administrator stated that the program will not participate in Swimming/water activities, in water measuring two (2) feet in depth or greater. Consultant discussed Swimming/water requirements with Center Director/Administrator, prior to the visit and on this date. Consultant also stated to Center Director/Administrator that prior to participating in Swimming/water activities, in any type of equipment holding water two (2) feet in depth or greater, the Center is required to contact the assigned Bright from the Start: Regional Consultant, to discuss and review Swimming/water activity Rules.

### Facility

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

**Not Met**

**Finding**

591-1-1-.06(4) requires a Center first licensed after March 1, 1991, and Centers that remodel or add to existing plumbing facilities, to have the bathroom area fully enclosed and ventilated to the outside of the building with either an open screened window or functioning exhaust fan and duct system and requires Centers without fully enclosed bathrooms to ensure there is adequate ventilation to control odors and adequate sanitation measures to prevent the spread of contagious diseases. It was determined based on Consultant observation and tissue test that bathrooms in classrooms one, two, three, and five were not operable.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center will fully enclose and ventilate bathroom areas, as required, and will provide adequate ventilation and sanitation in bathrooms that are not fully enclosed.

**Correction Deadline: 3/22/2019**

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

This licensed program has a capacity of 194.

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**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 Consultant's observation that in the main building hazardous were accessible to children in Classrooms one, two, three, four, and five. Classroom one was observed to have soft soaps and sanitizing solution accessible to the children on a shelf in the bathroom. Classroom two was observed to have cleaning supplies accessible to the children on a shelf in the bathroom. Classroom three was observed to have clorox wipes and fish food accessible to the children in a drawer underneath the sink. Classroom four was observed to have clorox wipes accessible the children in a drawer underneath the sink. Classroom five was observed to have clorox wipes, hand sanitizer, and sanitizing solution accessible to the children in the cabinet above the sink area.

**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. Center will add locks on the cabinets.

**Correction Deadline: 2/20/2019**

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

591-1-1-.26(4) - Please ensure a gate is added between Playground A and B to prevent children from mixing ages.

**Correction Deadline: 2/20/2019****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 consultant's observation on Playground A, near the gates there are bolts measuring over two (2) threads posing a hazard to the children in care.

**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: 2/20/2019****Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.26(6) - Please be mindful of chipping paint on the blue and gold house on Playground A.

**Correction Deadline: 3/2/2019**

<b>Food Service</b>
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**591-1-1-.15 Food Service & Nutrition****Met****Comment**

CACFP Meal Pattern Requirements effective October 1, 2017 will be implemented October 1, 2018: 3 Components for breakfast: Grains, Vegetables, Fruits or both, Milk  
5 Components for lunch – Grains, Meat/Meat alternates, Fruits, Vegetable, and Milk OR Grains, Meat/Meat alternates, 2 different types of vegetables, and Milk  
2 of 5 Components for snack

Provided Updated CACFP Infant Meal pattern and Child/Adult Meal pattern flyers.

The Crediting Handbook for the CACFP can be located on DECAL and USDA's website:

DECAL

<http://dec.al.ga.gov/CACFP/Handbook.aspx>

USDA

<http://www.fns.usda.gov/cacfp/cacfp-handbooks>

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**Health and Hygiene**

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

Staff state proper knowledge of diapering procedures on this date.

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

Staff were observed to remind children to wash hands on this date.

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

Consultant discussed Medication requirements with Center Director and Owner, prior to the visit and on this date.

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**Safety**

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

The Center Director and Owner stated that the Center will not provide routine Transportation and Field Trips at this time. Consultant discussed with Center Director and Owner, all requirements needed in order to transport and conduct field trips with children. Consultant also stated to Center Director and Owner that prior to providing Transportation and/or Field Trips, the Center is required to complete and maintain documentation of current CPR and First - Aid Training, as well as two (2) clock hours of Transportation Training, regarding the Center Director and all Center Staff participating in any aspect of Transportation, and ensure all Transportation/Field Trip checklists/forms and vehicle requirements are met. Further, Consultant stated to Center Director and Owner, that prior to providing Transportation and/or Field Trips, the Center is required to contact the assigned Bright from the Start: Regional Consultant, to discuss and review all Transportation and Field Trip requirements.

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**Sleeping & Resting Equipment**

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**Comment**

On this date, Consultant observed 11 of 11 cribs used for sleeping and resting, to meet Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) and American Society for Testing and Materials International (ASTM) safety standards. Consultant also discussed all Infant Safe Sleeping and Resting requirements with Center Director, prior to the visit and on this date. Further, Consultant observed a pleasant nap time environment, and discussed cot and mat disinfecting requirements with Center Director and Owner on this date.

**Correction Deadline: 3/2/2019**

<b>Staff Records</b>
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<b>Records Reviewed: 22</b>	<b>Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 0</b>
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Staff # 1	Met
Date of Hire: 12/01/2016	
Staff # 2	Met
Date of Hire: 06/01/2011	
Staff # 3	Met
Date of Hire: 09/25/2017	
Staff # 4	Met
Date of Hire: 01/29/2018	
Staff # 5	Met
Date of Hire: 01/10/2018	
Staff # 6	Met
Date of Hire: 09/26/2016	
Staff # 7	Met
Date of Hire: 12/11/2017	
Staff # 8	Met
Date of Hire: 01/04/2018	
Staff # 9	Met
Date of Hire: 09/18/2017	
Staff # 10	Met
Date of Hire: 06/01/2011	
Staff # 11	Met
Date of Hire: 07/31/2018	
Staff # 12	Met
Date of Hire: 08/06/2016	

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

Staff # 13	Met
Date of Hire: 01/22/2018	
Staff # 14	Met
Date of Hire: 09/19/2016	
Staff # 15	Met
Date of Hire: 01/16/2018	
Staff # 16	Met
Date of Hire: 02/18/2013	
Staff # 17	Met
Date of Hire: 07/29/2016	
Staff # 18	Met
Date of Hire: 08/01/2016	
Staff # 19	Met
Date of Hire: 04/08/2016	
Staff # 20	Met
Date of Hire: 02/01/2016	
Staff # 21	Met
Date of Hire: 11/13/2015	
Staff # 22	Met
Date of Hire: 06/13/2016	

**Staff Credentials Reviewed: 22****591-1-1-.09 Criminal Records and Comprehensive Background Checks(CR)****Met****Comment**

On this date, Consultant observed a Satisfactory Gelmato COGENT Criminal Records Check Determination letter, regarding 22 of 22 Center Employees. Consultant also discussed all Gelmato COGENT Criminal Records Check requirements with Center Owner, prior to the visit and on this date.

**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**

Staff observed to provide direct supervision and be attentive to children's needs on this date.

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**591-1-1-.32 Supervision(CR)****Met****Comment**

Center observed to maintain appropriate staff:child ratios on this date.