



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: 3/12/2020 **VisitType:** Licensing Study **Arrival:** 10:00 AM **Departure:** 2:30 PM

CCLC-50426

Bright Start Preschool #1

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

Regional Consultant

Beth Houtz

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Mailing Address

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

Quality Rated: ★ ★

Compliance Zone Designation			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.
03/12/2020	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
07/25/2019	Complaint Closure	Good Standing	
07/09/2019	Complaint Closure	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
Bld 2-rm 8 infant- 1 yr	Rm 1 - 1's	One Year Olds	2	8	C	20	C	NA	NA	Story
Bld 2-rm 8 infant- 1 yr	Rm 2 older infants and 1's	Infants and One Year Olds	2	11	C	15	C	NA	NA	Circle Time
Bld 2-rm 8 infant- 1 yr	Rm 3 - infants	Infants	1	2	C	6	C	NA	NA	Floor Play
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 41			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 220							
Main	Rm 1	Three Year Olds	2	13	C	16	C	NA	NA	Centers
Main	Rm 2	Three Year Olds	1	12	C	14	C	20	C	Centers
Main	Rm 3	PreK	2	18	C	22	C	30	C	Circle Time
Main	Rm 4	PreK	2	17	C	24	C	33	C	Music
Main	Rm 5	Two Year Olds	2	13	C	17	C	NA	NA	Centers
Main	Rm 6	Two Year Olds	2	14	C	17	C	NA	NA	Transitioning
Main	Rm 7 afterschool room		0	0	C	33	C	46	C	
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 143			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 156							
Total # Children this Date: 108			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 184			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 220				

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

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 03/12/2020

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

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.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

Shelbra McKnight, Program Official

Date

Beth Houtz, Consultant

Date



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Findings Report

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The following information is associated with a Licensing Study:

Activities and Equipment

591-1-1-.03 Activities

Technical Assistance

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.03(2) - Please date lesson plans and ensure the current lesson plans are posted in each classroom.

Correction Deadline: 3/12/2020

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****Comment**

Records were observed to be complete and well organized.

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)**Met****Comment**

Licensed capacity observed to be routinely met by center.

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

Please be mindful to keep items that pose a hazard inaccessible to children.

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.25(11) - The consultant observed the vinyl flooring in the school age classroom to have ripples. The consultant discussed with the center about repairing or replacing the flooring to ensure it does not pose a tripping hazard to children in care.

Correction Deadline: 4/11/2020

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

591-1-1-.26(4) - The consultant discussed with the center about securing the bottom of the fence that goes between the playground and building 2.

Correction Deadline: 3/12/2020

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)**Met****Comment**

Staff state proper knowledge of diapering procedures.

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**

Program observed complete emergency drills

Safety

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

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

591-1-1-.36 Transportation(CR)**Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.36(4)(a) requires an annual safety check for each vehicle. The annual safety check, completed by a trained individual, should include a check of the: tires, headlights, horn, taillights, turn signals, brake lights, brakes, suspension, exhaust system, steering, windows, windshields and windshield wipers. A copy of the annual safety check will be kept in the Center or on the vehicle and should include evidence of any repairs and/or replacements that were identified as needed on the inspection report. It was determined based on director's statement that copies of the annual vehicle inspections were not available.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will obtain the annual vehicle inspection.

Correction Deadline: 3/17/2020

Finding

591-1-1-.36(4)(f)1. requires that all transported children be secured in a child passenger restraining system or seat safety belt in accordance with current state and federal laws and regulations and according to manufacturer's directions. It was determined based on observation that on the white bus with the tag ending with 9622, the last passenger seat on the buss the seat belts would not latch and become locked in the buckle as required.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will ensure that manufacturer directions and state and federal laws are met when using child passenger restraining systems and seat safety belts. the director stated that the bus is not full and that those seats would not be used.

Correction Deadline: 3/13/2020

Finding

591-1-1-.36(7)(a) requires that each vehicle contains current information including: the full names of all children to be transported, each child's pick-up location, pick-up time, delivery location, alternate delivery location if a Parent is not at home and name of person authorized to receive each child. In addition, the vehicle shall contain current information identifying the Center's name, telephone number and the name of the driver of the vehicle. It was determined based on a review of records that on the January 28, 2020 home transportation sheet that there was no drop off address listed for one of the four children transported that day. Additionally, on March 5, 2020, March 6, 2020, March 9, 2020, March 10, 2020, and March 12, 2020 on the home transportation sheet there was no pick up or drop off address listed for a child transported on that day.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will ensure that the Center's information and the children's information is included on each vehicle.

Correction Deadline: 3/13/2020

Finding

591-1-1-.36(7)(b) requires that an emergency medical information record be maintained in the vehicle for each child being transported. The emergency medical information record for each child shall include a listing of the child's full name, date of birth, allergies, special medical needs and conditions, current prescribed medications that the child is required to take on a daily basis for a chronic condition, the name and telephone number of the child's doctor, the local medical facility that the Center uses in the area where the Center is located and the telephone numbers where the Parents can be reached. It was determined based on a review of records that three of five records reviewed did not have information for the children's allergies, special medical needs and conditions, current prescribed medications that the child is required to take on a daily basis for a chronic condition. Additionally, one out of five records reviewed did not have any of the required information.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will obtain a complete emergency medical information record for each child that is transported and maintain a copy on the vehicle.

Correction Deadline: 3/13/2020

Finding

591-1-1-.36(7)(c)2. requires that the driver or other designated person shall immediately document in writing, with a check or other mark/symbol to account for each child listed on the passenger transportation checklist each time a child enters and exits the vehicle. The driver or other designated staff person shall document in writing with a different mark/symbol to account for each child listed on the passenger transportation checklist who was not present on the vehicle for any reason. An explanation shall be documented in writing whenever a child is transported to a field trip site but is not present on the return trip to the Center. It was determined based on a review of records that on the following dates children were not accounted for with a mark or symbol documenting if they loaded, unloaded, or were absent as required.

- March 9, 2020 on the J.L. Lomax A.M. route.
- March 5, 2020 on the J L Newbern P.M. route
- Week of March 2 - 6 W.G. Nunn P.M. route

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The driver/other designated person will immediately document in writing with a check/mark/symbol each time a child gets on and off the vehicle.

Correction Deadline: 3/13/2020

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 a home transportation form dated March 12, 2020 there was no second signature documented for the A.M. route.

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: 3/12/2020

Recited on 3/12/2020

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

Comment

Discussed SIDS and infant sleeping position.

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.30(4) - The consultant discussed with the center about covering the rest cots stored in the hallway and bathroom.

Correction Deadline: 3/12/2020

Staff Records**Records Reviewed: 20****Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 0**

Staff # 1	Met
Date of Hire: 09/26/2016	
Staff # 2	Met
Date of Hire: 12/16/2019	
Staff # 3	Met
Date of Hire: 01/04/2018	
Staff # 4	Met
Date of Hire: 02/18/2020	
Staff # 5	Met
Date of Hire: 06/01/2011	
Staff # 6	Met
Date of Hire: 12/01/2016	
Staff # 7	Met
Date of Hire: 04/08/2016	
Staff # 8	Met
Date of Hire: 08/26/2019	
Staff # 9	Met
Date of Hire: 08/06/2016	
Staff # 10	Met
Date of Hire: 01/29/2018	
Staff # 11	Met
Date of Hire: 06/01/2011	
Staff # 12	Met
Date of Hire: 01/24/2020	

Records Reviewed: 20**Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 0**

Staff # 13 Date of Hire: 10/09/2019	Met
Staff # 14 Date of Hire: 06/04/2011	Met
Staff # 15 Date of Hire: 01/29/2018	Met
Staff # 16 Date of Hire: 10/30/2019	Met
Staff # 17 Date of Hire: 02/01/2016	Met
Staff # 18 Date of Hire: 12/01/2013	Met
Staff # 19 Date of Hire: 01/10/2018	Met
Staff # 20 Date of Hire: 02/18/2013	Met

Staff Credentials Reviewed: 5**591-1-1-.09 Criminal Records and Comprehensive Background Checks(CR)** **Met****Comment**

Criminal record checks were observed to be complete.

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.

Comment

Discussed: Health and Safety Training is required for each staff member with direct care responsibilities within 90 calendar days of their hire 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**

Center observed to maintain appropriate staff:child ratios.

591-1-1-.32 Supervision(CR)**Met****Correction Deadline: 7/1/2019****Corrected on 3/12/2020**

.32(7) - This citation was observed to be corrected on this date. Proper supervision was observed throughout.