



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: 10/20/2025 **VisitType:** Licensing Study

Arrival: 9:30 AM **Departure:** 1:10 PM

CCLC-62582

Big Blue Marble Academy Woodstock

12055 GA Highway 92 Woodstock, GA 30188 Cherokee County
(770) 926-5544

Regional Consultant

Randy Gaytan

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Mailing Address

Same

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.
10/20/2025	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
06/20/2025	Complaint Closure	Good Standing	
05/22/2025	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	A-1st Lt Infants	Infants and One Year Olds	2	9	C	19	C	NA	NA	Feeding,Floor Play
Main	B-2nd Lt. Beginners	One Year Olds	2	16	C	18	C	NA	NA	Music,Diapering
Main	C-3rd Lt. Toddlers		0	0	C	22	C	NA	NA	
Main	Cafeteria		0	0	C	45	C	NA	NA	
Main	D:1st Rt. Two's	Two Year Olds and Three Year Olds	2	11	C	20	C	NA	NA	Centers
Main	E: 2nd Rt. Pre-k	GA PreK	2	15	C	26	C	NA	NA	Circle Time
Main	F- 3rd Rt. Pre-K		0	0	C	21	C	NA	NA	
Main	G: 4th Right Pre-K		0	0	C	29	C	NA	NA	
Main	H- Back Three's	Three Year Olds	2	24	C	36	C	NA	NA	Music
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 236			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0							
Total # Children this Date: 75			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0							

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	A (left side)	23	C
Main	B (Left Rear)	80	C
Main	C (Right side and Rear)	82	C

Enrolled Children						
Under 1 years	1 years	2 years	3 years	4 years	5 years (Prekonly)	5 years and older
12	22	16	28	57	0	2

Comments

The purpose of this visit was to conduct a Licensing Study.

Consultant emailed the 2- and 3-year-old letters to the Director.

Consultant left a one-day criminal records check letter on this date.

Consultant left the Affidavit Verifying Completion of Background Check Video Units on this date which must be completed by a Owner or Officer and returned within five business days (October 27, 2025).

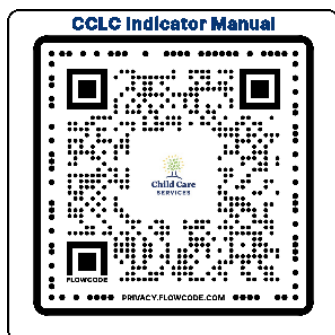
Discussed updating the Center's policies and procedures to include the program's practices regarding the expulsion and suspension of children enrolled for care within the description of behavior management and discipline actions used by the Center. Also discussed to ensure a description of the practices followed by the Center to prevent shaken baby syndrome and abusive head trauma in children up to five years of age that includes the following information: how to recognize, respond to, and report the signs and symptoms of shaken baby syndrome and abusive head trauma; strategies to assist staff members in understanding how to care for infants and how to cope with a crying, fussing, or distraught child; strategies to ensure staff members understand the brain development of children up to five years of age; and a list of prohibited behaviors when dealing with children. Additional information can be found in the CCLC Indicator Manual found on DECAL's website at: <https://www.decal.ga.gov/CCS/RulesAndRegulations.aspx> or through the Center on Shaken Baby Syndrome found at: <https://dontshake.org/>.

Discussed that all Employees, including volunteers, independent contractors, students-in-training, etc. should have a completed initial program orientation form on file.

Discussed that effective July 1, 2025, all staff are required to obtain at least two hours in evidence based, developmentally appropriate language and literacy practices and at least two hours in on-going child development and health and safety related topics as part of their 10 hours of annual training.

The CCS Consultant discussed and left a copy of the updated Child Care Weather Watch Chart with the program today. Weather does not permit outdoor play when there is active precipitation or when weather advisories are in effect. Consult the Child Care Weather Watch Chart resource for further guidance, considering specific weather conditions.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date



For additional information regarding any licensing topics discussed during this visit, please consult the Rules and Regulations Indicator Manual. This manual provides comprehensive clarification of each rule, including evaluation indicators, related best practices, and relevant considerations to support your program's continued and sustained compliance.

To access the Indicator Manual, please scan the QR code below or visit our website at <https://www.decal.ga.gov/CCS/RulesAndRegulations.aspx>.

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), do the following:

- 1) Log into DECAL KOALA www.decalkoala.com with the userid for your program
- 2) On the home page scroll down to the Inspection Reports and select 'Refute Citation' for the visit report in dispute
- 3) Select the specific rule number(s) that you are refuting, add the reason for disagreement regarding the rule citation, and upload supporting documentation
- 4) Submit the refutation in DECAL KOALA to Child Care Services (CCS) within 10 business days of the completion date.

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 Quality Rated/CAPS Update:

As January 1, 2022, child care providers must be Quality Rated to receive Childcare and Parent Services (CAPS). Newly licensed, or new to CAPS providers may be eligible for the new CAPS/QR Provisional Status, allowing for scholarships while working toward a star rating.

Contact the Quality Rated help desk at 855-800-7747 or qualityrated@decal.ga.gov for more information. Free technical assistance is available!



Summary Report

Date: 10/20/2025 **VisitType:** Licensing Study

Arrival: 9:30 AM **Departure:** 1:10 PM

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The following information is associated with a Licensing Study:

Activities and Equipment

591-1-1-.03 Activities

Met

Comment

Discussed enhancing daily schedule with planned activities.

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

Met

Comment

A variety of equipment and toys were observed throughout the center on this date.

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

N/A

Comment

Center does not provide swimming activities.

Children's Records

591-1-1-.08 Children's Records

Met

Correction Deadline: 5/22/2025

Corrected on 10/20/2025

.08(1) - The previous citation was observed to be corrected on this date. The five children's files that were reviewed, were observed to be complete.

Facility

591-1-1-.06 Bathrooms

Met

Comment

Bathrooms observed to be clean and well maintained.

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

Met

Comment

Licensed capacity observed to be routinely met by center on this date.

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

Met

Comment

No hazards observed accessible to children on this date.

Comment

The Center appeared clean and well maintained on this date.

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

Playground observed to be clean and in good repair on this date.

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 on this date.

Health and Hygiene**591-1-1-.07 Children's Health****Met**

Correction Deadline: 5/22/2025

Corrected on 10/20/2025

.07(2) - The previous citation was observed to be corrected on this date. Parental notification was observed.

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

Proper diapering procedures observed.

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

Proper hand washing observed throughout the center on this date.

591-1-1-.20 Medications(CR)**Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.20(1) requires Personnel to obtain specific written authorization from the child's physician or parent in order to dispense prescription or non-prescription medications, except for first aid. Such authorization will include when applicable, date; full name of the child; name of the medication; prescription number, if any; dosage; the dates to be given; the time of day to be dispensed; and signature of parent. It was determined based on a review of records that two out of five medications did not have a medication authorization form accompanying it.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will train Staff to obtain and review parental authorizations to ensure the authorization contains complete information. The designated person(s) will monitor daily.

Correction Deadline: 10/20/2025

Finding

591-1-1-.20(2) requires that written authorization to dispense medication is limited to two weeks unless otherwise prescribed by a physician or authorized under Georgia law. Medication shall only be dispensed out of its original container which must be labeled with the child's name or as authorized under Georgia law. It was determined based on observation that two out of five medications were not in their original container.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will train all Staff on the medication requirements. The designated person(s) will monitor the dispensing of medications.

Correction Deadline: 10/20/2025

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.20(5) - Spoke to Director regarding contacting parent and properly disposing of medication.

Correction Deadline: 10/20/2025

Policies and Procedures

Comment

Program observed complete emergency drills

Safety**591-1-1-.05 Animals**

N/A

Comment

Center does not keep animals on premises.

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

Met

Comment

Age-appropriate discussion and/or redirection observed.

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

N/A

Comment

Center does not participate in field trips at this time.

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

Not Met

Comment

A current/completed inspection was observed for all vehicles used in transporting children this date.

Comment

The vehicle had an approved fire extinguisher and first aid kit on this date.

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 Friday, October 3, and October 17, 2025, two out of two children were not marked as unloaded.

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: 10/20/2025

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 Friday, October 3, 2025, there was no second check documented.

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: 10/20/2025

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

Met

Comment

Discussed SIDS and infant sleeping position.

Comment

Please ensure that cribs/cots are labeled for individual use.

Comment

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.

Staff Records**Records Reviewed: 21****Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 1**

Staff # 4

Not Met

Date of Hire: 07/01/2025

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.09-Criminal Records Check Missing

591-1-1-.09 Criminal Records and Comprehensive Background Checks(CR)**Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.09(1)(j) requires that for portability for Directors, Employees and Provisional Employees, excluding Students-in-Training, only the most recently issued determination letter is eligible for portability and must be ported electronically. A Center may accept a satisfactory Fingerprint Records Check Determination letter or a satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination letter issued by the Department if the Records Check Clearance Date is within the preceding 12 months from the hire date, the individual has not had a lapse of employment from the child care industry that lasted for 180 days (6 months) or longer, and the Center does not know or reasonably should not know that the individual's satisfactory status has changed. It was determined based on a review of records that staff #3, an independent contractor who was last at the facility on September 25, 2025, had a satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination letter with an expiration date of July 10, 2030 was not ported onto this license number.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

IMMEDIATE CORRECTION - The Center will routinely review all staff, therapists, and independent contractor Criminal Record Checks to ensure that only the most recently issued determination letter is electronically ported for Directors, Employees and Provisional Employees, excluding Students-in-Training. A Center may accept a satisfactory Fingerprint Records Check Determination letter or a satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination letter issued by the Department if the Records Check Clearance Date is within the preceding 12 months from the hire date, the individual has not had a lapse of employment from the child care industry that lasted for 180 days (6 months) or longer, and the Center does not know or reasonably should not know that the individual's satisfactory status has changed. The program's owner or an officer/member of the corporation must view the A to Z Background Check video units pertaining to this records check rule and return the signed affidavit within one week from this visit date. The Center will follow the protocols presented in the training videos to ensure CRC rules are maintained.

Correction Deadline: 10/20/2025**591-1-1-.14 First Aid & CPR(CR)****Met****Comment**

Evidence observed of 100% of center Staff certified in First Aid and CPR containing emergency care for infants and children on this date.

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

Staff observed to be compliant with applicable laws and regulations.

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****Comment**

Adequate supervision observed on this date.