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: 7/23/2026 **VisitType:** Complaint Investigation & Monitoring Visit **Arrival:** 10:30 AM **Departure:** 2:30 PM

CCLC-62605
Big Blue Marble Academy Paulding
269 East Paulding Dr. Dallas, GA 30157 Paulding County
(770) 445-0996

Regional Consultant
Kaiyah Werts
Phone: (404) 615-2155
Fax:
kaiyah.werts@decal.ga.gov

Mailing Address
Same

Quality Rated:

Compliance Zone Designation		
07/23/2026	Complaint Investigation & Monitoring Visit	Deficient
01/28/2026	LS POI Follow Up	Good Standing
11/10/2025	Incident Investigation Closure	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

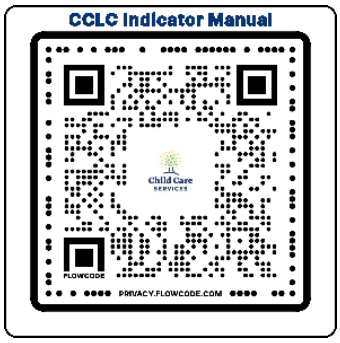
Building	Room	Age Group	Staff	Children	NC/C	Max 35 SF.	35 SF. Comp.	Max 25 SF.	25 SF. Comp.	Notes
Main	A- 1L	Infants and One Year Olds	1	4	C	19	C	NA	NA	Lunch,Free Play
Main	B- 2L	One Year Olds	1	8	C	16	C	NA	NA	Lunch
Main	C-3L	One Year Olds and Two Year Olds	2	17	C	20	C	NA	NA	Transitioning,Nap,Lunch
Main	D- 1R PreK 1	Three Year Olds	2	11	C	22	C	NA	NA	Outside
Main	E- 2R PreK 2		0	0	C	24	C	NA	NA	
Main	F- 3R PreK 3	Six Year Olds and Over	1	13	C	25	C	NA	NA	Field Trip
Main	G- 4R	Five Year Olds	1	13	C	26	C	NA	NA	Lunch,Story,Transitioning
Main	H- Back middle	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	2	21	C	40	C	NA	NA	Nap
		Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 192				Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0				
Total # Children this Date: 87		Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 192				Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0				

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	A - Infant/Toddler	20	C
Main	B - Preschool	86	C
Main	C - School Age	75	C

Enrolled Children						
Under 1 years	**1 years**	**2 years**	**3 years**	**4 years**	**5 years (Prekonly)**	**5 years and older**
9	14	20	44	12	0	15

Comments
Consultant conducted a monitoring visit and a complaint investigation. The investigative findings were not concluded on this date. Consultant also reviewed the visit report and addressed any questions and concerns.

Plan of Improvement: To Be Submitted 08/06/2026



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.



For additional information regarding the full compliance inspection results of this program or any licensed program in the state, access the Child Care Services Compliance-at-a Glance website by scanning this QR code or visiting: https://families.decal.ga.gov.

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!

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Summary Report

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The following information is associated with a Monitoring Visit:

Activities and Equipment

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

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

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

Correction Deadline: 1/28/2026

Corrected on 7/23/2026
.12(2) - The previous citation was observed corrected on this date. Consultant observed the child size kitchens in the classroom to be in good repair with the sink bucket

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

Comment
Center does not provide swimming activities.

Facility

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) **Not Met**

Comment
Please secure cleaning tools (i.e., broom, plunger) out of reach of children.

Comment
The Center appeared clean and well maintained on this date.

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 observation that following hazards were observed:

-B-2L there were lotion and baby wipes, labeled keep out of reach of children, in the children's backpacks.
-C-3L there were baby wipes, labeled keep out of reach of children, in children's backpacks.
-D-1R there were baby wipes, labeled keep out of reach of children, in children's backpacks.

Correction Deadline: 7/23/2026

Recited on 7/23/2026

Technical Assistance
591-1-1-.25(3) - Discussed with the Director to ensure there was no leaks from the toilet in the boys bathroom in classroom F-3R PreK 3.

Correction Deadline: 7/23/2026

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

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

Health and Hygiene

591-1-1-.07 Children's Health **Technical Assistance**

Technical Assistance
591-1-1-.07(5) - Discussed with the Director to ensure that children do not wear items around their necks such as necklaces.

Correction Deadline: 7/23/2026

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

Comment
Staff stated proper knowledge of diapering procedures.

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

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

Correction Deadline: 1/28/2026

Corrected on 7/23/2026
.17(7) -The previous citation was observed corrected on this date. Consultant observed children to wash their hands after their lunch time.

591-1-1-.20 Medications(CR) **Not Evaluated**

Comment
The Provider currently does not dispense or administer medication except for emergency medications.

Correction Deadline: 1/28/2026

Corrected on 7/23/2026
.20(4) - The previous citation was observed corrected on this date. Consultant observed all medications to be stored in the office inaccessible to children.

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
Field trip documentation observed to be complete on this date.

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

Defer
591-1-1-.36(4)(a)- The previous citation was deferred on this date. The center had a field trip scheduled and the transportation book was not available during the visit. Vehicle inspection was not evaluated at this time.

Correction Deadline: 2/2/2026

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

591-1-1-.30 Safe Sleeping and Resting Requirements(CR) **Not Met**

Comment
Discussed SIDS and infant sleeping position.

Technical Assistance
591-1-1-.30(1)(a) - Discussed with the Director to ensure all cribs had the safety compliance label attached to the crib or was available at the center. Consultant observed that 2 of 12 cribs were missing evidence of the compliance label.

Correction Deadline: 8/2/2026

Finding
591-1-1-.30(1)(a)3 requires that each crib shall have only an individual, tight-fitting sheet which is changed daily or more often as needed and prior to a change of occupant. It was determined based on observation that in classroom A-1L 1 of 12 cribs had a loose fitted sheet at the time of the visit.

Correction Deadline: 7/23/2026

Staff Records

Records Reviewed: 23 | **Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 2**

Staff # 8 — Not Met

Date of Hire: 06/01/2026

Reminder - Health & Safety training is required within 90 calendar days of hired

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.24(1)-Evidence of Orientation Missing

Staff # 20 — Not Met

Date of Hire: 04/15/2026

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(3)-Health & Safety Certificate,.24(1)-Evidence of Orientation Missing

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

Comment
Criminal record checks were observed to be complete.

Comment
Director provided five files for employees hired since last visit.

591-1-1-.14 First Aid & CPR(CR) — **Met**

Comment
Complete first aid kits observed in center and on vehicles on this date.

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

Comment
Please replace or add missing or expired items in first aid kits such as thermometers.

591-1-1-.33 Staff Training — **Not Met**

Finding
591-1-1-.33(1) requires all Employees and Provisional Employees to receive Initial Center orientation prior to assignment to children or task. It was determined based on a review or records that 2 of 21 staff were missing their Evidence of Orientation, that included their hire date, at the time of the visit.

Correction Deadline: 7/23/2026

Finding
591-1-1-.33(3)(a)-(k) requires each Staff member with direct care responsibilities to complete health and safety orientation training within the first 90 days of employment. The state-approved training hours obtained will count toward required first year training hours. The training must address the following health and safety topics: a)prevention and control of infectious diseases (including immunizations); b) prevention of sudden infant death syndrome and use of safe sleeping practices; c) administration of medication, consistent with standards for parental consent; d) prevention of and response to emergencies due to food and allergic reactions; e) building and physical premises safety, including identification of and protection from hazards that can cause bodily injury such as electrical hazards, bodies of water, and vehicular traffic; f) prevention of shaken baby syndrome, abusive head trauma and child maltreatment; g) emergency preparedness and response planning for emergencies resulting from a natural disaster or a human-caused event (such as violence at a child care facility); h) handling and storage of hazardous materials and the appropriate disposal of bio contaminants; i) precautions in transporting children; j) recognition and reporting of child abuse and neglect; and k) child development to include all major domains:cognitive; social and emotional; physical development and motor skills; communication, language, and literacy; and approaches to play and learning. It was determined based on a review of records that 1 of 21 staff members were missing evidence of their completed 10 hour Health and Safety Orientation at the time of the visit.

Correction Deadline: 8/22/2026

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) **Not Met**

Finding
591-1-1-.32(7) requires that children be supervised at all times appropriate to the individual age, needs and capabilities of each child. Such supervision must include, but not be limited to, indoor and outdoor activities, mealtimes, naptime, transportation, field trips, and transitions between activities. "Supervision" means that the appropriate number of Staff members are physically present in the area where children are being cared for and are providing watchful oversight to the children, volunteers and Students-in-Training. The persons supervising in the child care area must be alert, positioned to maximize their ability to hear and see the children at all times, and able to respond promptly to the needs and actions of the children being supervised, as well as the actions of the volunteers and Students-in-Training, and provide timely attention to the children's actions and needs. Staff shall be attentive and participating with all children during mealtimes and shall be seated within an arm’s length away from children thirty-six (36) months of age and younger. It was determined based on observation that a staff member was sitting down, in a chair near the door of the classroom, while on the playground with ten 3-year-old children. It was further observed that the staff member did not adequately supervise all of the children the playground.

Correction Deadline: 7/23/2026