



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: 3/4/2025 **VisitType:** Monitoring Visit

Arrival: 9:10 AM **Departure:** 11:20 AM

CCLC-33780
Glad Tidings Academy
16603 US Hwy 19 N Thomasville, GA 31792 Thomas County
(229) 236-6005 gwelch1965@yahoo.com

Regional Consultant
Angela Williams-Jackson
Phone: (404) 710-3984
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angela.williams-jackson@decal.ga.gov

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.
03/04/2025	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
09/26/2024	Complaint Closure	Good Standing	
09/19/2024	Complaint Investigation & Monitoring Visit	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
One Bldg.	A	Infants	2	5	C	14	C	NA	NA	Feeding, Floor Play
One Bldg.	B	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	2	10	C	24	C	NA	NA	Art
One Bldg.	Back D	Two Year Olds	2	11	C	13	C	NA	NA	Art
One Bldg.	C		0	0	C	20	C	NA	NA	
One Bldg.	Classroom G	Two Year Olds and Three Year Olds	2	9	C	10	C	NA	NA	Outside
One Bldg.	Classroom H		0	0	C	12	C	NA	NA	
One Bldg.	E		0	0	C	10	C	NA	NA	
One Bldg.	F	One Year Olds	1	7	C	10	C	NA	NA	Free Play, Diapering
One Bldg.	Front D	One Year Olds	1	6	C	11	C	NA	NA	Free Play
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 124					Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					
Total # Children this Date: 48					Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
One Bldg.	Playground A-Infant	16	C

One Bldg.	Playground B-Lg. Plgr.	20	C
One Bldg.	Playground C School-age	41	C

Enrolled Children						
Under 1 years	1 years	2 years	3 years	4 years	5 years (Prekonly)	5 years and older
5	14	16	14	12	0	43

Comments

The purpose of this visit was to conduct a monitoring visit.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date

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/CCS/Regulations.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@dec.al.ga.gov for more information. Free technical assistance is available!



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(Findings Report)

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The following information is associated with a Monitoring Visit:

Activities and Equipment

591-1-1.12 Equipment & Toys(CR)

Not Met

Finding

591-1-1.12(2) requires that all equipment and furniture be free from hazardous conditions such as, but not limited to, sharp rough edges or toxic paint; and be kept clean. It was determined based on observation that in classroom Back D there were two black cozy chairs and two ottomans with tears on the arm rest of each chair and around the edges of each ottoman that posed a hazard to children.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will ensure that equipment and furniture are used by the age-appropriate group of children.

Correction Deadline: 3/4/2025

Finding

591-1-1.12(4) requires that equipment and furniture is secured if it is of a weight or mass that could cause injury from tipping, falling, or being pulled or pushed over. It was determined based on observation that in classroom Back D there was a brown shelf in the science area that was not secured and posed a tipping hazard to children.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will ensure that the identified equipment or furniture and any other such existing or future items are secured adequately and will have a system for checking these for stability.

Correction Deadline: 3/4/2025

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 the center.

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 the following were accessible to children and posed a hazard:

Classroom B

- A box of vinyl gloves, a roll of small trash bags, and a grocery bag on top of a low cubby near the art paint.

Classroom C

- A grocery bag hanging from a hook on the back wall.

- On a shelf behind a black curtain were three bottles of cleaning solution, one marked "bleach" and two boxes of vinyl gloves.

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.

Correction Deadline: 3/4/2025

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 there were 12 stained ceiling tiles in classroom H over the back of the classroom that needed repair.

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: 3/11/2025

Correction Deadline: 9/19/2024

Corrected on 3/4/2025

The citation was observed to be corrected on this date.

591-1-1-.25 Physical Plant-Structural/Mechanical

Met

Correction Deadline: 9/19/2024

Corrected on 3/4/2025

The citation was observed to be corrected on this date.

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

Met

Correction Deadline: 9/19/2024

Corrected on 3/4/2025

The citation was observed to be corrected on this date.

Health and Hygiene

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.

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

N/A

Comment

The Provider currently does not dispense or administer medication at this time.

Safety

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

Age-appropriate discussion and redirection observed.

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

A current and completed inspection was observed for the vehicle with license plate number RNJ1018 used in transporting children on this date. The vehicle with license plate number AJN7676 was not in use.

Comment

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

Correction Deadline: 9/19/2024

Corrected on 3/4/2025

The citation was observed to be corrected on this date.

Finding

591-1-1-.36(7)(d)3. requires that if a second designated Staff person is not available to conduct a second check of the vehicle the driver will check the vehicle by physically walking through the entire vehicle; visually inspecting all seat surfaces, under all seats and in all compartments or recesses in the vehicle's interior; and signing the passenger transportation checklist(s), indicating all of the children have exited the vehicle, and then report by phone to the Director or designated Staff person that the check has been completed and no children remain on the vehicle. The time and verification of such telephone contact shall be immediately documented and signed on the passenger transportation checklist(s) by the driver. It was determined based on a review of records that the second check was not documented for the week of February 17, 2025, to February 21, 2025, and February 24, 2025 to February 28, 2025 as required.

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, properly complete transportation documentation and reporting via phone verification. The Center will review and monitor.

Correction Deadline: 3/5/2025

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

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

Discussed SIDS and infant sleeping position.

Staff Records

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

Correction Deadline: 9/19/2024

Corrected on 3/4/2025

The citation was observed to be corrected on this date.

Correction Deadline: 9/19/2024

Corrected on 3/4/2025

The citation was observed to be corrected on this date.

Correction Deadline: 9/19/2024

Corrected on 3/4/2025

The citation was observed to be corrected on this date.

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

Staff observed to be compliant with applicable laws and regulations.

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)**Technical Assistance****Comment**

Adequate supervision observed on this date.

Technical Assistance

The consultant discussed with the director to ensure Staff are attentive and seated within an arm's length away from children 36 months of age and younger. Additionally, the consultant discussed ensuring that children do not have excessive amounts of food in their mouths while eating and are chewing their food appropriately to prevent instances of choking. Children must always be seated when eating and shall not be allowed to lie down or be put to sleep while food is present in their mouths.

Correction Deadline: 3/4/2025