



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: 2/12/2025 **VisitType:** Complaint Investigation & Licensing Study **Arrival:** 8:30 AM **Departure:** 11:45 AM

CCLC-57498

Woods Academy

293 Knight Trail Thomaston, GA 30286 Upson County
(706) 648-6353 woodsacademy1@gmail.com

Regional Consultant

Brandi Mangino

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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.
02/12/2025	Complaint Investigation & Licensing Study	Good Standing	
12/19/2024	Complaint Closure	Support	
12/16/2024	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-School Age		0	0	C	15	C	NA	NA	
Main	B-2 year		0	0	C	20	C	NA	NA	
Main	C-1 year	Infants and One Year Olds	2	7	C	18	C	NA	NA	Breakfast,Floor Play
Main	D-Infants		0	0	C	20	C	NA	NA	
Main	E-Infants		0	0	C	13	C	NA	NA	
Main	F-4 Years	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	1	16	C	18	C	NA	NA	Centers
Main	G-3 Years	Three Year Olds	1	9	C	18	C	NA	NA	Diapering,Free Play
Main	H-School Age		0	0	C	19	C	NA	NA	
		Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 125			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0		Building @35 capacity limited by Insufficient Toilets/Sinks			
Total # Children this Date: 32		Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 125			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	A	35	C
Main	B	17	C
Main	C	115	C

Enrolled Children						
Under 1 years	1 years	2 years	3 years	4 years	5 years (Prekonly)	5 years and older
3	4	4	10	18	0	22

Comments

Plan of Improvement developed on this date.

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.decga.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@decga.gov for more information. Free technical assistance is available!



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(Findings Report)

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Study

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The following information is associated with a Licensing Study Visit:

Activities and Equipment

591-1-1-.03 Activities

Not Met

Finding

591-1-1-.03(9) requires center staff to refrain from engaging in, or allowing children or other adults to engage in, activities that could be detrimental to a child's health or well-being, such as but not limited to, horse play, rough play, wrestling, and picking up a child in a manner that could cause injury. It was determined based on observation that in Room C a staff member pulled up into their arms using one arm and did not pick up under the arms.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will review requirements with Staff to ensure that appropriate activities are conducted with children.

Correction Deadline: 2/12/2025

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

Technical Assistance

Technical Assistance

Consultant discussed the crock pots in Room B and C need to be secured prior to use. Both were not in use on this date.

The green shelf in Room H and the Orange shelf in E need to be secured due to a falling hazard. The rooms were not in use at the time of the visit.

Correction Deadline: 2/12/2025

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

Met

Comment

Center does not provide swimming activities.

Facility

591-1-1-.06 Bathrooms

Technical Assistance

Technical Assistance

Consultant discussed the vent in the restroom of Room H was in need of repair as it was not working on this date.

Correction Deadline: 3/14/2025

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

Consultant discussed the window seal in Room H was chipping paint and in need of repair,

Please ensure that all plug in have covers.

Correction Deadline: 3/14/2025

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

Consultant discussed the green tractor was chipping paint and in need of repair.

Correction Deadline: 2/12/2025

Food Service

591-1-1-.15 Food Service & Nutrition**Met****Technical Assistance**

Please ensure the infant feeding plans are posted within the classroom.

Correction Deadline: 2/12/2025

Technical Assistance

Consultant discussed that blueberries should not be served to children under the age of four due to choking hazards.

Correction Deadline: 2/12/2025

Health and Hygiene

591-1-1-.10 Diapering Areas & Practices(CR)**Not Met****Technical Assistance**

Consultant discussed that the center cook, if covering a classroom should not be assigned to a diapering classroom to help while having to perform kitchen duties for the day.

Correction Deadline: 2/12/2025

Finding

591-1-1-.10(9) requires Center Staff to not use the area used for diapering for food preparation and to keep the diapering area clear of formulas, food, food utensils and food preparation items. It was determined based on observation that three used baby bottles were placed beside the diaper changing pad.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

Center staff will be trained, specified areas will be available for food preparation and placement of food-related items, and the director will monitor.

Correction Deadline: 2/12/2025

591-1-1-.17 Hygiene(CR)**Not Met****Comment**

Please ensure lids remain on trash containing organic waste.

Finding

591-1-1-.17(8) requires staff to wash their hands with liquid soap and warm running water upon arrival for the day, when moving from one child care group to another, upon re-entering the child care area after outside play, before and after diapering each child, dispensing medication, applying topical medications, handling and preparing food, eating, drinking, preparing bottles, feeding each child, assisting children with eating and drinking, after toileting or assisting children with toileting, using tobacco products, handling garbage and organic waste, touching animals or pets, handling bodily fluids and after contamination by any means. It was determined based on observation that in Room C a staff member cleaned a child's nose and did not wash hands after.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will ensure liquid soap and warm running water are available for handwashing, train Staff on the handwashing requirements, review the requirements with Staff periodically, and monitor handwashing.

Correction Deadline: 2/12/2025

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

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

Safety

591-1-1-.05 Animals**Not Evaluated****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)**Not Evaluated****Comment**

Center does not participate in field trips at this time.

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

Center does not provide routine transportation.

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****Comment**

Criminal record checks were observed to be complete.

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

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 in Room G a center staff member was diapering a three-year-old children on the diapering station located in the room and the staff member had their back to the classroom. No other staff was present in the room.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will train Staff and monitor to ensure they are providing supervision and watchful oversight to the children at all times.

Correction Deadline: 2/12/2025

Recited on 2/12/2025

The following information is associated with a Complaint Investigation Visit:

	Staffing and Supervision
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Correction Deadline: 12/16/2024

Corrected on 2/12/2025

.32(1) - Citation corrected.

Correction Deadline: 12/16/2024

Corrected on 2/12/2025

.32(2) - Citation corrected.