



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: 5/15/2025 **VisitType:** Monitoring Visit

Arrival: 10:10 AM **Departure:** 12:30 PM

CCLC-54297

Cozy West Childcare & Learning Center

1263 Augusta West Pky Augusta, GA 30909 Richmond County
(706) 650-0232 cozywestcenter@gmail.com

Regional Consultant

Kajora McCoy

Phone: (678) 239-9361

Fax:

kajora.mccoy@decal.ga.gov

Joint with: April Christian

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.
05/15/2025	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
04/08/2025	Complaint Closure	Good Standing	
02/28/2025	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-First Left 2's	Two Year Olds and Three Year Olds	1	10	C	28	C	NA	NA	Outside
Main	B-Second Left 3's	Three Year Olds	2	15	C	32	C	NA	NA	Outside
Main	C-Back PreK	GA PreK	1	12	C	38	C	NA	NA	Transitioning, Clean Up
Main	D-Second Right 1's	One Year Olds	2	5	C	22	C	NA	NA	Diapering, Transitioning
Main	E- First Right- Infants	Infants	1	5	C	11	C	NA	NA	Nap, Feeding
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 131			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0							
Total # Children this Date: 47			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0							

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	Play A	48	C
Main	Play B	128	C
Main	Play C	57	C

Enrolled Children						
Under 1 years	1 years	2 years	3 years	4 years	5 years (Prekonly)	5 years and older
6	7	12	11	10	13	1

Comments

Consultant reviewed medication documentation 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:

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 CAPS/ QR Provisional Status, allowing for scholarships while working toward an initial star rating. Provisional Status eligibility will be determined at the time of CAPS enrollment as part of the CAPS application process.

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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Joint with: April Christian

Mailing Address

Same

The following information is associated with a Monitoring Visit:

Activities and Equipment

Records Reviewed: 12

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 5

Staff # 1

Not Met

Date of Hire: 03/03/2025

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

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.24(1)-Evidence of Orientation Missing

Staff # 3

Not Met

Date of Hire: 05/05/2025

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

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.24(1)-Evidence of Orientation Missing

Staff # 4

Not Met

Date of Hire: 03/24/2025

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

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.24(1)-Evidence of Orientation Missing

Staff # 10

Not Met

Date of Hire: 03/11/2025

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

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.24(1)-Evidence of Orientation Missing

Staff # 12

Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.24(1)-Evidence of Orientation Missing

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.12(2) - Please ensure that bathroom cabinets do not pose a potential hazard to the children.

Correction Deadline: 5/15/2025

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 the classroom door the Pre-K classroom was not properly secured and posed a potential hazard to the 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: 5/15/2025

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

N/A

Comment

Center does not provide swimming activities.

Facility

Records Reviewed: 12

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 5

Staff # 1

Not Met

Date of Hire: 03/03/2025

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

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.24(1)-Evidence of Orientation Missing

Staff # 3

Not Met

Date of Hire: 05/05/2025

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

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.24(1)-Evidence of Orientation Missing

Staff # 4

Not Met

Date of Hire: 03/24/2025

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

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.24(1)-Evidence of Orientation Missing

Staff # 10

Not Met

Date of Hire: 03/11/2025

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

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.24(1)-Evidence of Orientation Missing

Staff # 12

Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.24(1)-Evidence of Orientation Missing

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

Met

Comment

Licensed capacity observed to be routinely met by center.

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.25(11) - Please ensure that classroom flooring is smooth and clean.

Correction Deadline: 6/14/2025

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 potential hazards were accessible to the children:

B- Second Left:

- There was a plunger and toilet brush in the bathroom in an unlocked cabinet.
- There was a black trash bag hanging on a empty trashcan.

C-Back Prek

- There was a broom and dust pan next to the children's cubby.
- There was a bottle of bleach spray solution on top of the cubbies.
- There was a bucket that contained push pins and adult scissors on the teachers desk.
- There was an unlocked storage closet with a vacuum.
- There was a stapler on top of a shelf at the back right of the classroom.
- There was a bag on the shelf next to the back door that contained two bottles of Germ-X, a bottle of Cutter insect repellent, and empty ziploc bags.
- There was a toilet bowl brush in the bathroom.

D- Second Right

- There were two pairs of adult scissors and two staplers on the teachers desk.
- There was a broom and dust pan behind the entrance door.

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: 5/15/2025

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 was a leaking pipe in an unlocked bathroom cabinet in classroom C-Back PreK that dripped into the wood causing damage and into a bowl under the sink. It was further determined that the water had mold and a bad smell.

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: 5/15/2025

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

Playground observed to be clean and in good repair.

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.26(9) - Please ensure that there are no thorny vines on the playground.

Correction Deadline: 5/15/2025

Food Service**Records Reviewed: 12****Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 5**

Staff # 1

Not Met

Date of Hire: 03/03/2025

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

Records Reviewed: 12

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 5

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.24(1)-Evidence of Orientation Missing

Staff # 3

Not Met

Date of Hire: 05/05/2025

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

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.24(1)-Evidence of Orientation Missing

Staff # 4

Not Met

Date of Hire: 03/24/2025

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

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.24(1)-Evidence of Orientation Missing

Staff # 10

Not Met

Date of Hire: 03/11/2025

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

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.24(1)-Evidence of Orientation Missing

Staff # 12

Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.24(1)-Evidence of Orientation Missing

591-1-1-.15 Food Service & Nutrition

Not Met

Finding

591-1-1-.15(2)(c) requires age-appropriate solid foods (including cereal) not be given to infants or children less than one (1) year of age until recommended as developmentally appropriate by the child's primary care physician and indicated in writing by the Parent(s) and requires a child to be fed from individual spoons and individual containers or dishes as soon as the feeding plan indicates that a child is ready for solid foods. A child shall not be fed directly from the original baby food container if the contents are to be fed to the child at more than one (1) meal or to more than one (1) child. It was determined based on observation that three infants were being served solid foods from the same bowl.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will ensure that age-appropriate solid foods are given only as recommended by the child's physician and upon written instruction by the Parent(s). The Center will provide a sufficient number of spoons and dishes/containers and will train staff on proper feeding practices, review the procedures regularly and monitor to ensure procedures are followed.

Correction Deadline: 5/15/2025

Health and Hygiene

Records Reviewed: 12

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 5

Staff # 1

Not Met

Date of Hire: 03/03/2025

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

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.24(1)-Evidence of Orientation Missing

Staff # 3

Not Met

Records Reviewed: 12**Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 5**

Date of Hire: 05/05/2025

Reminder - Health & Safety training is required within 90 calendar days of hired"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.24(1)-Evidence of Orientation Missing

Staff # 4

Not Met

Date of Hire: 03/24/2025

Reminder - Health & Safety training is required within 90 calendar days of hired"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.24(1)-Evidence of Orientation Missing

Staff # 10

Not Met

Date of Hire: 03/11/2025

Reminder - Health & Safety training is required within 90 calendar days of hired"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.24(1)-Evidence of Orientation Missing

Staff # 12

Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.24(1)-Evidence of Orientation Missing

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

Hand washing requirements for diapering were discussed with the director on this date.

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

591-1-1-.17(10) - Please ensure that potty chairs are emptied and sanitized between each use.

Correction Deadline: 5/15/2025**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 staff did not wash hands after diapering in the 2R classroom as required.

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: 5/15/2025

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

Please document N/A or none if no adverse reaction is observed.

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 there was one of one incomplete medication authorization when the authorization did not contain the prescription number as required.

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: 5/15/2025

Safety

Records Reviewed: 12

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 5

Staff # 1	Not Met
Date of Hire: 03/03/2025	<u>Reminder - Health & Safety training is required within 90 calendar days of hired</u>
<u>"Missing/Incomplete Components"</u>	
.24(1)-Evidence of Orientation Missing	
Staff # 3	Not Met
Date of Hire: 05/05/2025	<u>Reminder - Health & Safety training is required within 90 calendar days of hired</u>
<u>"Missing/Incomplete Components"</u>	
.24(1)-Evidence of Orientation Missing	
Staff # 4	Not Met
Date of Hire: 03/24/2025	<u>Reminder - Health & Safety training is required within 90 calendar days of hired</u>
<u>"Missing/Incomplete Components"</u>	
.24(1)-Evidence of Orientation Missing	
Staff # 10	Not Met
Date of Hire: 03/11/2025	<u>Reminder - Health & Safety training is required within 90 calendar days of hired</u>
<u>"Missing/Incomplete Components"</u>	
.24(1)-Evidence of Orientation Missing	
Staff # 12	Not Met
<u>"Missing/Incomplete Components"</u>	
.24(1)-Evidence of Orientation Missing	

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

Met

Comment

Age-appropriate discussion and/or redirection observed.

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

N/A

Comment

Center does not provide routine transportation.

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

Records Reviewed: 12

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 5

Staff # 1	Not Met
Date of Hire: 03/03/2025	<u>Reminder - Health & Safety training is required within 90 calendar days of hired</u>
<u>"Missing/Incomplete Components"</u>	
.24(1)-Evidence of Orientation Missing	

Staff # 3	Not Met
Date of Hire: 05/05/2025	<u>Reminder - Health & Safety training is required within 90 calendar days of hired</u>
<u>"Missing/Incomplete Components"</u>	
.24(1)-Evidence of Orientation Missing	
Staff # 4	Not Met
Date of Hire: 03/24/2025	<u>Reminder - Health & Safety training is required within 90 calendar days of hired</u>
<u>"Missing/Incomplete Components"</u>	
.24(1)-Evidence of Orientation Missing	
Staff # 10	Not Met
Date of Hire: 03/11/2025	<u>Reminder - Health & Safety training is required within 90 calendar days of hired</u>
<u>"Missing/Incomplete Components"</u>	
.24(1)-Evidence of Orientation Missing	
Staff # 12	Not Met
<u>"Missing/Incomplete Components"</u>	
.24(1)-Evidence of Orientation Missing	

591-1-1-.30 Safe Sleeping and Resting Requirements(CR)**Not Met****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 there was one of five crib sheets not tight-fitting as required.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The center will ensure that each crib has an individual, tight-fitting sheet which is changed daily or more often as needed and prior to a change of occupant.

Correction Deadline: 5/15/2025**Finding**

591-1-1-.30(2)(c) requires that infants shall not sleep in equipment other than safety-approved cribs, such as, but not limited to, a car safety seat, bouncy seat, highchair, or swing. Infants who arrive at the Center asleep or fall asleep in such equipment, on the floor or elsewhere, shall be transferred to a safety-approved crib. It was determined based on observation that there were two infant asleep in a bouncer.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will only place infants in safe cribs to sleep and will transfer them to a safe crib when the infants are asleep in other equipment.

Correction Deadline: 5/15/2025**Staff Records**

Staff # 1	Not Met
Date of Hire: 03/03/2025	<u>Reminder - Health & Safety training is required within 90 calendar days of hired</u>
<u>"Missing/Incomplete Components"</u>	
.24(1)-Evidence of Orientation Missing	

Staff # 3	Not Met
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Records Reviewed: 12**Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 5**

Date of Hire: 05/05/2025

Reminder - Health & Safety training is required within 90 calendar days of hired"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.24(1)-Evidence of Orientation Missing

Staff # 4

Not Met

Date of Hire: 03/24/2025

Reminder - Health & Safety training is required within 90 calendar days of hired"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.24(1)-Evidence of Orientation Missing

Staff # 10

Not Met

Date of Hire: 03/11/2025

Reminder - Health & Safety training is required within 90 calendar days of hired"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.24(1)-Evidence of Orientation Missing

Staff # 12

Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.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.

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 of records that the following staff were did not have documentation of orientation:

- Staff #1 hired on March 3, 2025.
- Staff #3 hired on May 5, 2025.
- Staff #4 hired on March 24, 2025.
- Staff #10 hired on March 11, 2025.
- Staff #12 hired on February 21, 2025.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will develop and provide orientation for all new Staff prior to their staff's assignment to children or task.

Correction Deadline: 5/15/2025**591-1-1-.31 Staff(CR)****Met****Comment**

Staff observed to be compliant with applicable laws and regulations.

Staffing and Supervision**Records Reviewed: 12****Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 5**

Staff # 1

Not Met

Date of Hire: 03/03/2025

Reminder - Health & Safety training is required within 90 calendar days of hired"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.24(1)-Evidence of Orientation Missing

Staff # 3	Not Met
Date of Hire: 05/05/2025	<u>Reminder - Health & Safety training is required within 90 calendar days of hired</u>
<u>"Missing/Incomplete Components"</u>	
.24(1)-Evidence of Orientation Missing	
Staff # 4	Not Met
Date of Hire: 03/24/2025	<u>Reminder - Health & Safety training is required within 90 calendar days of hired</u>
<u>"Missing/Incomplete Components"</u>	
.24(1)-Evidence of Orientation Missing	
Staff # 10	Not Met
Date of Hire: 03/11/2025	<u>Reminder - Health & Safety training is required within 90 calendar days of hired</u>
<u>"Missing/Incomplete Components"</u>	
.24(1)-Evidence of Orientation Missing	
Staff # 12	Not Met
<u>"Missing/Incomplete Components"</u>	
.24(1)-Evidence of Orientation Missing	

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.