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: 1/28/2026 **VisitType:** LS POI Follow Up **Arrival:** 8:45 AM **Departure:** 3:00 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: (912) 544-9793
Fax: (912) 544-9757
kaiyah.werts@decal.ga.gov

Mailing Address
Same

Quality Rated: ★

Compliance Zone Designation		
01/28/2026	LS POI Follow Up	Good Standing
11/10/2025	Incident Investigation Closure	Good Standing
09/29/2025	Incident Investigation & Follow Up	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	3	6	C	19	C	NA	NA	Breakfast,Free Play,Diapering
Main	B- 2L	One Year Olds	2	8	C	16	C	NA	NA	Circle Time
Main	C-3L	Two Year Olds	2	18	C	20	C	NA	NA	Free Play
Main	D- 1R PreK 1	Three Year Olds	3	11	C	22	C	NA	NA	Centers
Main	E- 2R PreK 2	GA PreK	2	19	C	24	C	NA	NA	Centers
Main	F- 3R PreK 3	GA PreK	3	11	C	25	C	NA	NA	Centers
Main	G- 4R	GA PreK	2	17	C	26	C	NA	NA	Centers
Main	H- Back middle	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	2	15	C	40	C	NA	NA	Centers
Main	I- Middle Cafe		0	0	C	40	C	NA	NA	
		Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 232			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					
Total # Children this Date: 105		Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 232			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					

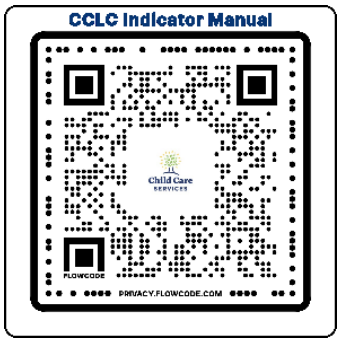
Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	A - Infant/Toddler	20	C
Main	B - Preschool	86	C
Main	C - School Age	75	C

Enrolled Children

Under 1 years	1 years	2 years	3 years	4 years	5 years (Prekonly)	5 years and older

Comments
Consultant discussed the report and address any question or concerns.

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.



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

Date: 1/28/2026 **VisitType:** LS POI Follow Up **Arrival:** 8:45 AM **Departure:** 3:00 PM

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The following information is associated with a LS POI Follow Up:

Activities and Equipment

591-1-1-.03 Activities **Met**

Comment
Age-appropriate activities observed throughout the center.

Comment
Lesson Plans were observed to be posted and reflected the current weeks activities in each classroom.

Correction Deadline: 11/10/2025

Corrected on 1/28/2026
.03(8) - Previous citation observed corrected on this date. Consultant observed staff to be attentive to children's need during the time of the visit.

591-1-1-.12 Equipment & Toys(CR) **Not 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.

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 the following hazards were present at the time of the visit:

-B-2L had a missing sink bucket in the child sized play kitchen and small rips and tears on the triangle shaped plush blocks.
-C-3L had a missing sink bucket in the child sized play kitchen.
-H-Back Middle had a missing sink bucket in the child sized play kitchen.

POI (Plan of Improvement)
The Center will ensure that equipment and furniture are used by the age-appropriate group of children.

Correction Deadline: 1/28/2026

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**

Comment
Parent agreements observed obtained/completed.

Comment
Records were observed to be complete and well organized.

Facility

591-1-1-.06 Bathrooms **Technical Assistance**

Comment
Bathrooms observed to be clean and well maintained.

Comment
Please monitor bathrooms for necessary supplies and cleanliness throughout the day.

Technical Assistance
591-1-1-.06(4) - Discussed with the Director to ensure the exhaust vents in the bathrooms are dusted regularly.

Correction Deadline: 2/27/2026

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
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 the following hazards were present:

-B-2L there were a nail clipper, Jergens Ointment and baby wipes, labeled keep out of reach of children, in the children's backpacks.
-C-3L there were Vaseline and baby wipes, labeled keep out of reach of children, in children's backpacks and a tall back tarp stored in the children's bathroom.
-D-1R there were baby wipes and vinyl gloves in the children's bathroom and baby wipes, labeled keep out of reach of children, in children's backpacks.
-H Back Middle there were sunscreen, Aquaphor Diaper Cream and baby wipes, labeled keep out of reach of children, in children's backpacks.

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: 1/28/2026

Technical Assistance
591-1-1-.25(3) - Discussed with the Director to ensure the bathroom vent in Pre-K classroom is not hanging from the ceiling and that it should be mounted. It was further discussed with the Director for the girls bathroom in the Pre-K classroom to be repaired.

Correction Deadline: 1/28/2026

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
CACFP Meal Pattern Requirements effective October 1, 2017 will be implemented October 1, 2018: 3 Components for breakfast: Grains, Vegetables, Fruits or both, Milk
5 Components for lunch – Grains, Meat/Meat alternates, Fruits, Vegetable, and Milk OR Grains, Meat/Meat alternates, 2 different types of vegetables, and Milk
2 of 5 Components for snack

Provided Updated CACFP Infant Meal pattern and Child/Adult Meal pattern flyers.

The Crediting Handbook for the CACFP can be located on DECAL and USDA's website:
DECAL
http://decal.ga.gov/CACFP/Handbook.aspx
USDA
http://www.fns.usda.gov/cacfp/cacfp-handbooks

591-1-1-.18 Kitchen Operations **Met**

Comment
Kitchen appeared clean and well organized 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) **Not Met**

Finding
591-1-1-17(7) requires that children wash their hands with liquid soap and warm running water upon arrival for care, when moving from one child care group to another, upon re-entering the child care area after outside play, before and after eating meals and snacks, handling or touching food, playing in water; after toileting and diapering, playing in sand, touching animals or pets, and contact with bodily fluids and after contamination by any other means. It was determined based on observation a child in classroom C-3L failed to wash their hands upon arrival on this date.

POI (Plan of Improvement)
The Center will train Staff on required handwashing for children and Staff will ensure children's hands are washed when required. The Director will monitor for compliance.

Correction Deadline: 1/28/2026

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

Comment
Documentation for medication dispensing observed completed on this date.

Finding
591-1-1-.20(4) requires the Center to keep medication in a cabinet or container that is locked or otherwise not accessible to the children and to be stored separate from cleaning chemicals, supplies or poisons. Medications requiring refrigeration shall be placed in a leak-proof container in a refrigerator that is not accessible to the children. It was determined based on observation, classroom H-Back Middle had Children's Tylenol in a child's backpack at the time of the visit.

POI (Plan of Improvement)
The Center will train Staff on the safe and proper storage of medication and monitor to ensure that the rule is met.

Correction Deadline: 1/28/2026

Technical Assistance
591-1-1-.20(5) - Discussed with the Director to ensure medication, no longer being used, be returned back to the family after the medication end date. It was further discussed that over the counter medication is required to have a reason for dispensing the medication, a start date, an end date and the medication form would need to be updated every 14 days as required.

Correction Deadline: 1/28/2026

Policies and Procedures

591-1-1-.21 Operational Policies & Procedures **Met**

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) **Not Evaluated**

Comment
Center does not participate in field trips at this time.

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

Comment
Complete documentation of transportation observed on this date.

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

Finding
591-1-1-.36(4)(a) requires an annual safety check for each vehicle. The annual safety check, completed by a trained individual, should include a check of the: tires, headlights, horn, taillights, turn signals, brake lights, brakes, suspension, exhaust system, steering, windows, windshields and windshield wipers. A copy of the annual safety check will be kept in the Center or on the vehicle and should include evidence of any repairs and/or replacements that were identified as needed on the inspection report. It was determined based on review of records that both buses used to transport children had expired vehicle inspections at the time of the visit.

POI (Plan of Improvement)
The Center will obtain the annual vehicle inspection.

Correction Deadline: 2/2/2026

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

591-1-1-.30 Safe Sleeping and Resting Requirements(CR) **Technical Assistance**

Comment
Discussed SIDS and infant sleeping position.

Technical Assistance
591-1-1-.30(4) - Discussed with the Director to ensure cots are covered and inaccessible to children, if stored in the classrooms

Correction Deadline: 1/28/2026

Staff Records

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

Comment
Criminal record checks were observed to be complete.

Comment
Director provided 16 files for employees hired since last visit.

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

Comment
At least one staff person with current and valid pediatric first aid and pediatric CPR observed in each classroom where children were present.

Comment
Complete first aid kits observed in center 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.

591-1-1-.33 Staff Training **Met**

Comment
Health and Safety Orientation Training completed as required for each staff member with direct care responsibilities within 90 calendar days of their hire date.

Correction Deadline: 4/9/2025

Corrected on 1/28/2026
.33(5) - Previous citation observed corrected on this date. Consultant observed all required annual training for the year of 2025.

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
Staff observed to provide direct supervision and be attentive to children's needs.

Correction Deadline: 11/10/2025

Corrected on 1/28/2026
.32(7) - Previous citation observed corrected on this date. Consultant observed staff to be attentive to children during the time of the visit.