



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: 2/13/2026 **VisitType:** Licensing Study

Arrival: 7:50 AM **Departure:** 1:30 PM

CCLC-53322
Big Blue Marble Academy
 2773 Hwy 81 McDonough, GA 30252 Henry County
 (770) 305-7042

Regional Consultant
 Dyneshia Lynn
 Phone: ()
 Fax:
 dyneshia.lynn@dec.al.ga.gov
 Joint with: Yolanda Marable

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.
02/13/2026	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
01/28/2026	TA Follow Up	NA	
12/04/2025	Initial-TA	NA	

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 : 1 R : Toddlers	Infants and One Year Olds	1	6	C	16	C	NA	NA	Free Play
Main	B : 2/3 R: Infants & Toddlers		0	0	C	18	C	NA	NA	
Main	C: 4R: 2 year olds	Two Year Olds	1	3	C	17	C	NA	NA	Transitioning, Breakfast
Main	D : 5R:	Two Year Olds	1	4	C	21	C	NA	NA	Breakfast
Main	E: 6R: Two year olds	One Year Olds	1	6	C	16	C	NA	NA	Breakfast, Transitioning
Main	F: Back: Afterschool		0	0	C	59	C	NA	NA	
Main	G: 5L: Three year olds	Three Year Olds	1	13	C	16	C	NA	NA	Centers
Main	H : 4L: Three year olds		0	0	C	16	C	NA	NA	
Main	I: 3L : Four year olds	Four Year Olds and Five Year Olds	2	12	C	19	C	NA	NA	Breakfast, Centers
Main	J : 2L : Four year olds		0	0	C	19	C	NA	NA	
Main	K: 1L : Pre-K	GA PreK	2	13	C	19	C	NA	NA	Breakfast, Centers
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 216			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0		Building @35 capacity limited by Fire Marshall Limitations					
Total # Children this Date: 57			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 216		Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					

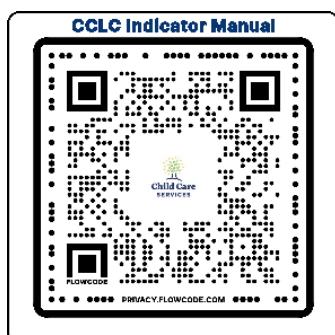
Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	A - Infants & toddlers	44	C
Main	B - Two years old	86	C
Main	C - Four - 12 years old	123	C
Main	D - Four - 12 years old	72	C
Main	E - Three years old	74	C

Enrolled Children						
Under 1 years	1 years	2 years	3 years	4 years	5 years (Prekonly)	5 years and older
6	10	17	28	6	14	39

Comments

The exit conference discussed the licensing visit.

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>.

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

You have received permission to operate and the form received with this report is intended to serve as a temporary license which is **valid for thirty(30) days**. Your actual license/ will be emailed to you upon receipt of the licensing fee. You may pay the licensing fee either online at <http://www.decal.ga.gov/> or by certified check or money order mailed to: Bright from the Start, 2 Martin Luther King Jr. Drive SE, Suite 670 East Tower, Atlanta, GA 30334

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!



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

Summary Report

Date: 2/13/2026 **VisitType:** Licensing Study

Arrival: 7:50 AM **Departure:** 1:30 PM

CCLC-53322

Big Blue Marble Academy

2773 Hwy 81 McDonough, GA 30252 Henry County
(770) 305-7042

Regional Consultant

Dyneshia Lynn

Phone: ()

Fax:

dyneshia.lynn@decal.ga.gov

Joint with: Yolanda Marable

Mailing Address

Same

The following information is associated with a Licensing Study:

Activities and Equipment

591-1-1-.03 Activities

Not Met

Finding

591-1-1-.03(7)(a) requires a center that operates five hours or more per day to provide at least one and one-half hours of outdoor activity per day, weather permitting, for each child who is not an infant and at least one hour daily for infants. It was determined based on a review of records that Room C and Room D were scheduled to go outside from 9 a.m. until 9:45 a.m. as of 10:15 a.m. the classes had not gone outside, and no changes were made to the schedule for the morning outside time as the classes did not go outside during the duration of the visit.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The center will develop and follow a schedule that provides the required amount of outdoor activity for all children, including infants.

Correction Deadline: 2/13/2026

Recited on 2/13/2026

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

Not Met

Technical Assistance

The Consultant discussed with the Provider to ensure the green pillow in room I is repaired.

Correction Deadline: 2/13/2026

Finding

591-1-1-.12(6) requires that a variety of age-appropriate toys and play materials be available, stored on low, open shelves accessible to children in each room or assigned area. It was determined based on observation that Room C, E, and F had empty shelves without play material. It was further determined that Room E bookshelf was empty.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center director will ensure there is a variety of age-appropriate toys and play materials in each room for each age group. that are stored on low, open shelves accessible to children.

Correction Deadline: 3/15/2026

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

N/A

Comment

Pool not in use at this time, gates observed locked.

Children's Records

591-1-1-.08 Children's Records**Met****Comment**

Parent agreements observed obtained/completed.

Comment

Parent authorizations obtained/completed.

Comment

Records were observed to be complete and well organized.

Facility**591-1-1-.06 Bathrooms****Met****Comment**

Bathrooms observed to be clean and well maintained.

591-1-1-.19 License Capacity(CR)**Met****Comment**

Licensed capacity observed to be routinely met by the center on this date.

591-1-1-.25 Physical Plant - Safe Environment(CR)**Not Met****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 room 1 back toilet top was missing and in need of 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: 2/28/2026

Recited on 2/13/2026

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

Discussed maintenance of resilient surface. Please fluff and redistribute.

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://dec.al.ga.gov/CACFP/Handbook.aspx>

USDA

<http://www.fns.usda.gov/cacfp/cacfp-handbooks>

Correction Deadline: 9/29/2025

Corrected on 2/13/2026

The previous citation was observed corrected on this date. There were no infants present in room B.

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

Correction Deadline: 9/29/2025

Corrected on 2/13/2026

The previous citation was corrected on this date. The frozen items were labeled in its original container.

Health and Hygiene

591-1-1-.07 Children's Health

Met

Correction Deadline: 9/29/2025

Corrected on 2/13/2026

The previous citation was observed corrected on this date. There were no infants present in room B.

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

Met

Comment

Staff stated proper knowledge of diapering procedures.

Correction Deadline: 9/29/2025

Corrected on 2/13/2026

The previous citation was observed corrected on this date. Room C diapering station was adjacent to the sink.

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

Met

Comment

Proper hand washing observed throughout the center on this date.

Correction Deadline: 9/29/2025

Corrected on 2/13/2026

The previous citation was observed corrected on this date. 1-year-old classroom completed hand washing throughout the day.

Correction Deadline: 9/29/2025

Corrected on 2/13/2026

The previous citation was observed corrected on this date. Room B and J completed hand washing throughout the day.

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

Met

Comment

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

Policies and Procedures

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

Met

Comment

Program observed complete emergency drills

591-1-1-.27 Posted Notices

Met

Comment

Observed all required posted notices.

591-1-1-.29 Required Reporting

Met

Comment

Discussed reporting requirements.

Safety

591-1-1-.05 Animals

Met

Comment

Center does not keep animals on premises.

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

Met

Comment

Age-appropriate discussion and/or redirection observed.

Comment

Staff were observed to maintain a positive learning environment on this date.

591-1-1-.13 Field Trips(CR)**Met****Comment**

Center does not participate in field trips at this time.

591-1-1-.36 Transportation(CR)**Technical Assistance****Comment**

A current and completed inspection was observed for van tag #R2M5840 and EHP573 used in transporting children on this date. Transportation was observed on this date. Bus tag#43A345D is not operable.

Comment

Complete documentation of transportation observed on this date.

Comment

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

Technical Assistance

The Consultant discussed with the provider to ensure bus tag# EHP573 last seat on the right side had a small whole in need of repair.

Correction Deadline: 2/14/2026

Correction Deadline: 9/30/2025

Corrected on 2/13/2026

The previous citation was observed corrected on this date. Times were listed for afternoon transportation to New Hope.

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

Discussed SIDS and infant sleeping position.

Staff Records**Records Reviewed: 20****Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 7**

Staff # 3

Not Met

Date of Hire: 09/29/2020

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(6)-Training Documentation Missing

Staff # 10

Not Met

Date of Hire: 10/31/2022

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.14(2)-First Aid Missing,.14(2)-CPR missing,.33(6)-Training Documentation Missing

Staff # 11

Not Met

Date of Hire: 09/28/2021

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(6)-Training Documentation Missing

Staff # 12

Not Met

Date of Hire: 09/12/2020

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(6)-Training Documentation Missing

Staff # 18

Not Met

Date of Hire: 09/12/2022

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(6)-Training Documentation Missing

Staff # 19

Not Met

Date of Hire: 11/26/2023

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(6)-Training Documentation Missing

Staff # 20

Not Met

Date of Hire: 01/30/2023

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(6)-Training Documentation Missing

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

Met

Comment

Director provided eight files for employees hired since the last visit.

591-1-1-.09 Criminal Records Check(CR)

Met

Comment

Director provided eight files for employees hired since the last visit.

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

Not Met

Correction Deadline: 10/29/2025

Corrected on 2/13/2026

.14(1) - The previous citation was observed corrected on this date. Staff #12 had evidence of an completed CPR/First Aid certification.

Finding

591-1-1-.14(2)(b) requires that there must always be one staff person present in each classroom where children are present that has current and valid pediatric cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and pediatric first aid training.. It was determined based on observation that Staff #10 CPR and First Aid had expired on January 25,2026. .

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Director will schedule and/or position caregiver Staff throughout the Center to ensure at least one currently pediatric CPR and First Aid trained Staff person is present in each classroom where children are present.

Correction Deadline: 2/13/2026

591-1-1-.33 Staff Training

Not Met

Correction Deadline: 10/6/2025

Corrected on 2/13/2026

The previous citation was observed corrected on this date. staff members (#1, #9, #11, #12 and #18) completed the 10 hour health and safety.

Correction Deadline: 3/28/2025

Corrected on 2/13/2026

The previous citation was observed corrected on this date.

Finding

591-1-1-.33(5)(b)1. requires the annual ten (10) clock hours of training shall include at least two (2) hours in evidence based, developmentally appropriate language and literacy practices. It was determined based on observation that staff #3,10,11,12,18,19 and 20 did not have the two hours for literacy and language training for 2025. .

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will plan and schedule the required 10 hours of annual training each year to include a least two (2) hours in evidence based, developmentally appropriate language and literacy practices and follow up to ensure the training is completed.

Correction Deadline: 3/15/2026

591-1-1-.31 Staff(CR)

Not Met

Finding

591-1-1-.31(2)(c) requires the Center to maintain a copy and/or written verification of the credential or degree awarded to the lead teacher that is required by these rules in the lead teacher's file, to make the document available for inspection and to provide the document to Department staff upon request. It was determined based on a review of records that two of nine classrooms did not have a lead teacher.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will review lead teacher records to ensure the required documentation is on file and will obtain and file it if not found.

Correction Deadline: 5/31/2026

Recited on 2/13/2026

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

Correction Deadline: 9/29/2025

Corrected on 2/13/2026

The previous citation was observed corrected on this date. There were no infants present in room B.