



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: 12/18/2025 **VisitType:** POI Follow Up

Arrival: 10:40 AM **Departure:** 12:00 PM

CCLC-56441

Watch Me Grow Learning Place

500 E. Martin Luther King Jr Drive Valdosta, GA 31601 Lowndes
County
(229) 262-2967

Regional Consultant

Kayla Coats

Phone: (470) 676-8185

Fax:

kayla.coats@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.
12/18/2025	POI Follow Up	Good Standing	
11/12/2025	Licensing Study	Support	
06/24/2025	POI 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	Room A	Four Year Olds	1	4	C	17	C	NA	NA	Nap,Floor Play,Feeding
Main	Room B	Two Year Olds	1	10	C	10	C	NA	NA	Centers,Free Play
Main	Room C	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	2	14	C	11	NC	NA	NA	Circle Time,Story
Main	Room D	One Year Olds	1	7	C	28	C	NA	NA	Story,Free Play
Main	Room E		0	0	C	26	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 92			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0							
Total # Children this Date: 35			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0							

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	Playground A	72	C

Comments

A copy of the visit report was left with the Provider on this date.

Plan of Improvement: No Plan Developed

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



Summary Report

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The following information is associated with a POI Follow Up:

Activities and Equipment

591-1-1-.03 Activities

Met

Correction Deadline: 11/12/2025

Corrected on 12/18/2025

.03(2) - The previous citation was observed corrected on this date. All classroom had current lesson plans posted.

Facility

591-1-1-.25 Physical Plant - Safe Environment(CR)

Met

Correction Deadline: 11/12/2025

Corrected on 12/18/2025

.25(13) - - The previous citation was observed corrected on this date. All potentially hazardous equipment and materials were stored in locked cabinets or on shelves located out of the reach of children.

Correction Deadline: 11/19/2025

Corrected on 12/18/2025

.25(3) - The previous citation was observed corrected on this date. The chipped paint on the walls in Main Room B had been sanded and repainted.

Correction Deadline: 11/12/2025

Corrected on 12/18/2025

.25(8) - - The previous citation was observed corrected on this date. All electrical outlets located within the reach of children were covered with protective caps.

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

Met

Correction Deadline: 11/12/2025

Corrected on 12/18/2025

.26(4) - - The previous citation was observed corrected on this date. The gap in the fence located on the far left playground had been closed with the addition of extra fence boards.

Correction Deadline: 11/12/2025

Corrected on 12/18/2025

.26(6) - - The previous citation was observed corrected on this date. All four bolts located under the picnic table on the right playground had been cut down and covered with tight fitting caps.

Correction Deadline: 11/12/2025

Corrected on 12/18/2025

.26(9) - - The previous citation was observed corrected on this date. Additional mulch was added underneath all play structures which covered all previously exposed landscape fabric.

Food Service

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

Met

Correction Deadline: 11/12/2025

Corrected on 12/18/2025

.15(2) - - The previous citation was observed corrected on this date. Feeding plans were posted on a designated board on the wall located in infant classroom Main Room A.

Correction Deadline: 11/12/2025

Corrected on 12/18/2025

.15(3) - - The previous citation was observed corrected on this date. All infant bottles were labeled with each child's name and prepared in appropriate containers.

Health and Hygiene

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

Met

Correction Deadline: 11/12/2025

Corrected on 12/18/2025

.10(6) - - The previous citation was observed corrected on this date. All wipes and latex gloves were appropriately stored in locked cabinets or shelves located out of the reach of children.

Safety

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

Met

Correction Deadline: 11/22/2025

Corrected on 12/18/2025

.36(3)(a-b) - - The previous citation was observed corrected on this date. All transportation drivers had current and up to date training on file.

Correction Deadline: 11/17/2025

Corrected on 12/18/2025

.36(4)(a) - - The previous citation was observed corrected on this date. A current vehicle inspection form, dated December 1, 2025, was on file for each transportation vehicle currently in use by the center.

Correction Deadline: 11/13/2025

Corrected on 12/18/2025

.36(4)(b) - - The previous citation was observed corrected on this date. Transportation vehicle Tag #SCS4593 is no longer in use per Director's statement. Transportation vehicle Tag #TES9490 was equipped with usable seat belt straps on all rows of the vehicle.

Correction Deadline: 11/13/2025

Corrected on 12/18/2025

.36(6) - - The previous citation was observed corrected on this date. All children transported during the previous two weeks of transportation had current written parental authorization forms on file at the center.

Correction Deadline: 11/13/2025

Corrected on 12/18/2025

.36(7)(b) - - The previous citation was observed corrected on this date. All children transported to and from the center had current emergency medical information on file. Additionally, the medical facility used by the center was listed on medical emergency forms.

Correction Deadline: 11/13/2025

Corrected on 12/18/2025

.36(7)(c)2. - - The previous citation was observed corrected on this date. A review of current transportation records showed all children accounted for with a check mark upon loading and unloading the vehicle.

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

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

Met

Correction Deadline: 11/12/2025

Corrected on 12/18/2025

.30(4) - - The previous citation was observed corrected on this date. Cots stored in Main Rooms B, C, and D all had large blankets over them which prevented children's access.

Staff Records

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

Met

Correction Deadline: 11/22/2025

Corrected on 12/18/2025

.14(3) - - The previous citation was observed corrected on this date. All transportation vehicles contained complete first aid kits on board.