



**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:** 9/21/2023    **VisitType:** Licensing Study    **Arrival:** 9:40 AM    **Departure:** 3:15 PM

**CCLC-54036**

**Cedars Preschool at McDonough**

275 Old Griffin Road McDonough, GA 30253 Henry County  
 (770) 288-3498 mcdonough@cedarspreschool.com

**Regional Consultant**

April Brown

Phone: (770) 357-5101

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april.brown@decal.ga.gov

**Mailing Address**  
 Same

**Quality Rated:** ★

| <b>Compliance Zone Designation</b> |                                   |               | <b>Compliance Zone Designation</b> - 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.<br><br><b>Good Standing</b> - Program is demonstrating an acceptable level of performance in meeting the rules.<br><b>Support</b> - Program performance is demonstrating a need for improvement in meeting rules.<br><b>Deficient</b> - Program is not demonstrating an acceptable level of performance in meeting the rules. |
|------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 09/21/2023                         | Licensing Study                   | Good Standing |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| 01/23/2023                         | Complaint Closure                 | Good Standing |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| 01/23/2023                         | 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-1 Crawler/6wk-12mo        | Infants                                   | 2     | 5        | C    | 13         | C            | NA         | NA           | Lunch                      |
| Main     | A2-Wee Toddler A-12-18 mo   | One Year Olds and Two Year Olds           | 3     | 15       | C    | 17         | C            | NA         | NA           | Transitioning              |
| Main     | A3-Toddler 2yrs             | Two Year Olds                             | 2     | 17       | C    | 23         | C            | NA         | NA           | Music                      |
| Main     | A4-3A Preschool             | Three Year Olds                           | 2     | 13       | C    | 23         | C            | NA         | NA           | Transitioning              |
| Main     | A5- 4A -Preschool - 4 years | Three Year Olds                           | 2     | 11       | C    | 23         | C            | NA         | NA           | Music, Transitioning       |
| Main     | A6-School-age               | Five Year Olds and Six Year Olds and Over | 1     | 18       | C    | 19         | C            | NA         | NA           | Art                        |
| Main     | B1-Infant 6wk-6mo           | Infants                                   | 3     | 7        | C    | 16         | C            | NA         | NA           | Diapering, Nap, Floor Play |
| Main     | B2-Wee Toddler 18-24 mo     | One Year Olds                             | 2     | 15       | C    | 20         | C            | NA         | NA           | Music                      |
| Main     | B3 - 3B - Toddler 24-30 mo  | Two Year Olds                             | 3     | 18       | C    | 23         | C            | NA         | NA           | Outside                    |
| Main     | B4 Ga Pre-K                 | Four Year Olds                            | 1     | 14       | C    | 22         | C            | NA         | NA           | Outside                    |
| Main     | B5 - Preschool 4's          | Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds        | 1     | 13       | C    | 22         | C            | NA         | NA           | Free Play                  |
| Main     | B6-4C                       | Four Year Olds                            | 1     | 12       | C    | 23         | C            | NA         | NA           | Circle Time                |

Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 244

Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0

Total # Children this Date: 158

Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 244

Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0

| Building | Playground   | Playground<br>Occupancy | Playground<br>Compliance |
|----------|--------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| Main     | A1 6wk-12mo  | 21                      | C                        |
| Main     | A2 2-12 yrs  | 28                      | C                        |
| Main     | B1 6wks-1 yr | 25                      | C                        |
| Main     | B2 2-12 yr   | 58                      | C                        |

#### Comments

The licensing study visit was completed on this date.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 09/21/2023

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](http://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](mailto:qualityrated@dec.al.ga.gov) for more information. Free technical assistance is available!**

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Jennifer Robinson, Program Official

Date

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April Brown, Regional Consultant

Date



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**(Findings Report)**

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Same

The following information is associated with a Licensing Study:

**Activities and Equipment**

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

**Met**

**Comment**

Equipment and furniture observed to be properly secured, as applicable on this date.

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

**Met**

**Comment**

Center does not provide swimming activities at this time.

**Children's Records**

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

**Met**

**Comment**

Parent authorizations obtained and completed on this date.

**Comment**

Records were observed to be complete and well organized on this date.

**Facility**

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

**Met**

**Comment**

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

**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**

Please ensure the center and surrounding premises are in good repair as required. The director reported that all boarders were scheduled to be painted to ensure chipped paint was not present throughout the center. Additionally, a cabinet in Classroom B3 and in Classroom A3 will be repaired as one was warped and the other was not on the hinge securely. Pictures will be submitted to the Department by October 5, 2023.

**Correction Deadline: 9/21/2023**

---

**591-1-1-.26 Playgrounds(CR)****Not Met****Comment**

Discussed maintenance of resilient surface. Please fluff and redistribute throughout playground areas due to rain.

**Finding**

591-1-1-.26(6) requires that playground equipment provide an opportunity for the children to engage in a variety of experiences and shall be age-appropriate. For example, toddlers shall not be permitted to swing in swings designed for School-age Children. The outdoor equipment shall be free of lead-based paint, sharp corners and shall be regularly maintained in such a way as to be free of rust and splinters that could pose significant safety hazard to the children. All equipment shall be arranged so as not to obstruct supervision of children. It was determined based on observation the following playground hazards were present:

Playground A1

\* Vines and vegetation were protruding through the fence.

Playground B2

\* Rust was present on the metal triangular pieces which were connected to the swings. Rust was present on the "U" hooks and "O" hooks at the top of the swings.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center will provide a variety of age-appropriate equipment that is arranged so as not to obstruct supervision of children. Staff will check the equipment daily to ensure that the equipment is free of hazards, rust and splinters.

**Correction Deadline: 10/1/2023**

**Technical Assistance**

Please ensure climbing and swinging equipment to have a resilient surface beneath the equipment and the fall zone from such equipment must be adequately maintained by the Center to assure continuing resiliency as required.

**Correction Deadline: 10/1/2023**

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**Food Service**

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**591-1-1-.15 Food Service & Nutrition****Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.15(2) requires that a signed written feeding plan for children less than one (1) year of age shall be obtained from Parent(s) and that instructions from the Parent(s) shall be updated regularly as new foods are added or other dietary changes are made. The feeding plan shall be posted in the child's assigned room and must include the child's feeding schedule, the amount of formula or breast milk to be given, instructions for the introduction of solid foods, the amount of food to be given and notation of any type(s) of commercially premixed formula which may not be used in an emergency because of food allergies. It was determined based on a review of records 7 out of 21 infant feeding plans were incomplete as they did not contain instructions for the introduction of solid foods as required.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center Director will develop and implement a plan to obtain and post the completed feeding plan as part of the enrollment process and to have parents update the plans on a regular basis that will include center staff involved with enrollment and those working in the infant classrooms.

**Correction Deadline: 9/25/2023**

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|                                       |            |
|---------------------------------------|------------|
| <b>591-1-1-.18 Kitchen Operations</b> | <b>Met</b> |
|---------------------------------------|------------|

**Comment**

Kitchen appears clean and well organized. on this date.

|                           |
|---------------------------|
| <b>Health and Hygiene</b> |
|---------------------------|

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|                                                        |            |
|--------------------------------------------------------|------------|
| <b>591-1-1-.10 Diapering Areas &amp; Practices(CR)</b> | <b>Met</b> |
|--------------------------------------------------------|------------|

**Comment**

Staff stated proper knowledge of diapering procedures on this date.

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|                                |            |
|--------------------------------|------------|
| <b>591-1-1-.17 Hygiene(CR)</b> | <b>Met</b> |
|--------------------------------|------------|

**Comment**

Proper hand washing observed throughout the center on this date.

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|                                    |            |
|------------------------------------|------------|
| <b>591-1-1-.20 Medications(CR)</b> | <b>N/A</b> |
|------------------------------------|------------|

**Comment**

The center currently does not dispense or administer medication at this time.

|                                |
|--------------------------------|
| <b>Policies and Procedures</b> |
|--------------------------------|

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|                                                          |            |
|----------------------------------------------------------|------------|
| <b>591-1-1-.21 Operational Policies &amp; Procedures</b> | <b>Met</b> |
|----------------------------------------------------------|------------|

**Comment**

Program observed o have completed emergency drills as required on this date.

|               |
|---------------|
| <b>Safety</b> |
|---------------|

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|                            |            |
|----------------------------|------------|
| <b>591-1-1-.05 Animals</b> | <b>N/A</b> |
|----------------------------|------------|

**Comment**

Center does not keep animals on premises.

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|                                   |            |
|-----------------------------------|------------|
| <b>591-1-1-.11 Discipline(CR)</b> | <b>Met</b> |
|-----------------------------------|------------|

**Comment**

Age-appropriate discussion and redirection observed on this date.

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|                                    |            |
|------------------------------------|------------|
| <b>591-1-1-.13 Field Trips(CR)</b> | <b>Met</b> |
|------------------------------------|------------|

**Comment**

Field trip documentation observed to be complete. The last field trip was conducted on July 13, 2023 to Denny Dobbs Park.

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|                                       |            |
|---------------------------------------|------------|
| <b>591-1-1-.36 Transportation(CR)</b> | <b>Met</b> |
|---------------------------------------|------------|

**Comment**

A current and completed inspection was observed for all vehicles used in transporting children on this date. Vehicles with tag numbers ending in UZ227 was completed on July 18, 2023. Vehicle with tag number ending in C1570 was completed on July 19, 2023. Vehicles with tag numbers ending in A1764 and UZ226 was not in use at this time.

**Comment**

Complete documentation of transportation observed on this date.

**Comment**

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

|                                         |
|-----------------------------------------|
| <b>Sleeping &amp; Resting Equipment</b> |
|-----------------------------------------|

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

Discussed SIDS and infant sleeping position with infant staff members and the director on this date.

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**Staff Records**

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

Criminal record checks were observed to be complete on this date.

**Comment**

Director provided 11 file(s) for employees hired since the last visit which was completed on January 23, 2023.

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**591-1-1-.14 First Aid & CPR****Met****Comment**

Evidence observed of 50% of center staff certified in First Aid and CPR on this date.

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

Documentation observed of required annual staff training for 2022 on this date.

**Comment**

Please ensure completed orientation checklists are documented and signed as required.

**Comment**

Discussed: Health and Safety Training is required for each staff member with direct care responsibilities within 90 calendar days of their hire date.

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**591-1-1-.31 Staff(CR)****Met****Comment**

Staff observed to be compliant with applicable laws and regulations on this date.

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**Staffing and Supervision**

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**591-1-1-.32 Staff:Child Ratios and Group Size(CR)****Met****Comment**

Center observed to maintain appropriate staff:child ratios on this date.

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**591-1-1-.32 Supervision(CR)****Met****Comment**

Adequate supervision observed on this date.