



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: 3/5/2025 **VisitType:** Licensing Study **Arrival:** 8:15 AM **Departure:** 11:30 AM

CCLC-16585

Little Light of Mine

303 Ty Ty Street Jesup, GA 31545 Wayne County
(912) 530-8100 cdlittlelight@gmail.com

Regional Consultant

Connie Boatright

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connie.boatright@dec.al.ga.gov

Mailing Address

Same

Quality Rated: No

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.
03/05/2025	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
07/15/2024	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
01/10/2024	Licensing Study	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 - Left	Two Year Olds	1	7	C	11	C	NA	NA	Lunch,Breakfast ,Centers
Main	B - Middle	One Year Olds	1	8	C	11	C	NA	NA	Floor Play,Circle Time,Centers,Breakfast,Lunch,Free Play
Main	C - Right	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	1	13	C	17	C	24	C	Lunch,TV,Clean Up,Breakfast
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 39			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 39							
Total # Children this Date: 28			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 39							
			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 39							

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	Playground	33	C

Enrolled Children						
Under 1 years	1 years	2 years	3 years	4 years	5 years (Prekonly)	5 years and older
0	11	11	11	6	0	0

Comments

An in person Licensing Study was conducted on this day. There is a total of six staff members with one being a new hire since the consultant's last visit.

One staff member hired March 23, 2020 CRC has expired. An affidavit and one-day-letter was left with the center director.

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



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(Findings Report)

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The following information is associated with a Licensing Study:

Activities and Equipment

Records Reviewed: 6

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 3

Staff # 1

Not Met

Date of Hire: 10/31/2024

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.14(2)-CPR missing,.14(2)-First Aid Missing

Staff # 3

Not Met

Date of Hire: 03/23/2020

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.09-Criminal Records Check Missing

Staff # 4

Not Met

Date of Hire: 06/07/2024

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.14(2)-CPR missing,.14(2)-First Aid Missing,.24(1)-Evidence of Orientation Missing

591-1-1-.03 Activities

Met

Comment

The consultant observed age appropriate activities through out the center.

Correction Deadline: 3/5/2025

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

Met

Comment

Toys and equipment were observed to be clean and in good repair.

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

Met

Comment

Center does not provide swimming activities.

Children's Records

Staff # 1 Not Met

Date of Hire: 10/31/2024

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.14(2)-CPR missing,.14(2)-First Aid Missing

Staff # 3 Not Met

Date of Hire: 03/23/2020

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.09-Criminal Records Check Missing

Staff # 4 Not Met

Date of Hire: 06/07/2024

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.14(2)-CPR missing,.14(2)-First Aid Missing,.24(1)-Evidence of Orientation Missing

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

Not Met

Finding

591-1-1-.08(6) requires the Center to maintain records of a child's daily arrival and departure for the twelve (12) preceding months that the Parent or person(s) authorized by the Parent documents, in written or electronic format, each time the Parent or authorized person drops off and picks up the child. The documentation shall include at least the date, the child's name, the arrival and departure times, and the signature or initials of the Parent or authorized person at the time of arrival and departure. These records shall be made available to the Department in printed or written form upon request. It was determined based on review of sign in and sign out sheets that thirteen three and four-year-old children were present and eight children were signed in.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will maintain arrival and departure records as required, will ensure the documentation includes all of the required information, and will provide the records to the Department when requested.

Correction Deadline: 3/5/2025

Facility

Staff # 1 Not Met

Date of Hire: 10/31/2024

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.14(2)-CPR missing,.14(2)-First Aid Missing

Staff # 3 Not Met

Date of Hire: 03/23/2020

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.09-Criminal Records Check Missing

Staff # 4 Not Met

Date of Hire: 06/07/2024

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.14(2)-CPR missing,.14(2)-First Aid Missing,.24(1)-Evidence of Orientation Missing

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 center. The consultant observed twenty-eight children to be present during this visit

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

Center appears clean and well maintained.

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

591-1-1-.26(4) requires that playgrounds be protected from traffic or other hazards by a (4) four foot high fence or other barrier approved by this Department. Fencing material shall not present a hazard to children and shall be maintained so as to prevent children from leaving the playground area by any means other than through an approved access route. Fence gates shall be kept closed except when persons are entering or exiting the area. It was determined based on observation that the following hazards were present:

---One of seven black chain link fence panels located on the far side of the older playgroud had a top bar that was not capped and secured to the support bar.

---Black chain link fence panels 1, 3 and 6 were not tight fitting, and have gapes at the bottom of the panes that were two to four inches, causing a potential escape or entrapment hazard.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will routinely check the fence to determine if it is in good repair and remains at least 4 feet high, and will repair any hazards. The Center will train Staff to identify and report any fence hazards and to keep the fence gates closed when not in use.

Correction Deadline: 3/5/2025

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 that one of three red Little Tykes Coupe Cars were missing the steering wheel leaving a whole the size of a quarter and posing a cutting and entrapment hazard. Additionally, the black ladder located on the older playground was missing one of four security handles and one of four handles was loose. Additionally, eight of eight s chains were rusting.

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: 3/17/2025

Food Service

Records Reviewed: 6

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 3

Staff # 1

Not Met

Date of Hire: 10/31/2024

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.14(2)-CPR missing,.14(2)-First Aid Missing

Staff # 3

Not Met

Date of Hire: 03/23/2020

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.09-Criminal Records Check Missing

Staff # 4

Not Met

Date of Hire: 06/07/2024

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.14(2)-CPR missing,.14(2)-First Aid Missing,.24(1)-Evidence of Orientation Missing

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

591-1-1-.15(5) requires that the Center provide a menu listing all meals and snacks to be served during the current week except for School-age Centers where the food may be provided by the Parent(s) by agreement between the School-age Center and the Parent(s). Substitutions shall be recorded on the posted menu and menus shall be retained at the Center for six (6) months. It was determined based on observation and review of the menu that cereal, milk, and strawberries were scheduled to be served for breakfast on March 5, 2025 and cereal, milk, sausage, and bananas were served. No substitutions were noted on the menu.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will list all of the current week's meals and snacks and all substitutions on the menu and keep past menus on file for six months and will implement a system to monitor this.

Correction Deadline: 3/5/2025**591-1-1-.18 Kitchen Operations****Met****Comment**

Kitchen appears clean and well organized.

Health and Hygiene

Staff # 1

Not Met

Date of Hire: 10/31/2024

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.14(2)-CPR missing,.14(2)-First Aid Missing

Staff # 3

Not Met

Date of Hire: 03/23/2020

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.09-Criminal Records Check Missing

Staff # 4

Not Met

Date of Hire: 06/07/2024

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

Records Reviewed: 6**Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 3**

.14(2)-CPR missing,.14(2)-First Aid Missing,.24(1)-Evidence of Orientation Missing

591-1-1-.10 Diapering Areas & Practices(CR)**Not Met****Comment**

Proper diapering procedures observed.

Finding

591-1-1-.10(4) requires that if diapers are changed on a diaper changing surface, the surface shall be smooth, nonporous, and equipped with a guard or rails to prevent falls. Between each diaper change, the diaper changing surface shall be cleaned with a disinfectant and dried with a single-use disposable towel. It was determined based on observation that the diaper changing surface had been ripped, had a hole, and not smooth as required. The consultant observed staff to change the diaper of a two-year-old child on this changing surface during the visit.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will ensure there is a smooth, nonporous changing surface that has a guard or rails for safety in each classroom that houses children wearing diapers. Center Staff will be trained and have adequate supplies to properly clean the diaper changing surface between each diaper change.

Correction Deadline: 3/17/2025

591-1-1-.17 Hygiene(CR)**Met****Comment**

Proper hand washing observed throughout the center.

Comment

Staff were observed to remind children to wash hands.

591-1-1-.20 Medications(CR)**Met****Comment**

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

Policies and Procedures

Records Reviewed: 6**Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 3**

Staff # 1

Not Met

Date of Hire: 10/31/2024

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.14(2)-CPR missing,.14(2)-First Aid Missing

Staff # 3

Not Met

Date of Hire: 03/23/2020

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.09-Criminal Records Check Missing

Staff # 4

Not Met

Date of Hire: 06/07/2024

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.14(2)-CPR missing,.14(2)-First Aid Missing,.24(1)-Evidence of Orientation Missing

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

Program observed complete emergency drills

591-1-1-.22 Parental Access**Not Met**

Finding

591-1-1-.22 requires the Center to permit the custodial Parent(s) of the child access to all child care areas of the Center at any time the child is in attendance. The custodial Parent(s) shall make his or her presence known to Center Staff prior to removing the child from the Center. It was determined based on observation that the parental access notice was not posted as required.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will permit unlimited parental access.

Correction Deadline: 3/5/2025

591-1-1-.27 Posted Notices**Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.27 requires each Center to post in a designated area for public viewing near the front entrance the following: the Center's current License or Permit; a copy of these rules; a copy of the current communicable disease chart; a statement allowing Parent(s) access to all child care areas upon notifying any staff member of his or her presence; names of persons responsible for the administration of the Center in the administrator's absence; the dated current week's menu for meals and snacks; emergency plans for severe weather, fire, and other emergency situations; a statement requiring visitors to check in with Staff when entering the Center; no smoking signs; and a notice provided by the Department which advises Parents of their right to review a copy of the Center's most recent licensure evaluation report upon request to the Center Director. The Center shall provide any Parent with a copy of this evaluation report upon request. It was determined based on observation that the parental access, visitor statement, director designee, and consumer products notice was not posted as required.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will post the notices as required and ensure they remain posted.

Correction Deadline: 3/17/2025

Comment

Please make sure that the communicable disease chart is current to include COVID-19.

591-1-1-.29 Required Reporting**Met****Comment**

Thank you for reporting as required.

Safety**Records Reviewed: 6****Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 3**

Staff # 1

Not Met

Date of Hire: 10/31/2024

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.14(2)-CPR missing,.14(2)-First Aid Missing

Staff # 3

Not Met

Date of Hire: 03/23/2020

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.09-Criminal Records Check Missing

Staff # 4

Not Met

Date of Hire: 06/07/2024

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.14(2)-CPR missing,.14(2)-First Aid Missing,.24(1)-Evidence of Orientation Missing

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)**Met****Comment**

Center does not provide routine transportation.

Sleeping & Resting Equipment**Records Reviewed: 6****Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 3**

Staff # 1

Not Met

Date of Hire: 10/31/2024

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.14(2)-CPR missing,.14(2)-First Aid Missing

Staff # 3

Not Met

Date of Hire: 03/23/2020

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.09-Criminal Records Check Missing

Staff # 4

Not Met

Date of Hire: 06/07/2024

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.14(2)-CPR missing,.14(2)-First Aid Missing,.24(1)-Evidence of Orientation Missing

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

The correct number of mats, sheets and blankets were observed on this date. Cleaning and disinfecting of mats was discussed with the director on this date.

Comment

No infants are enrolled.

Correction Deadline: 3/5/2025**Comment**

Reminder that mats are to be kept fully covered when stored in the child classroom, child bathroom, or in a path way that has walk through traffic and accessible.

Correction Deadline: 3/5/2025**Staff Records****Records Reviewed: 6****Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 3**

Staff # 1

Not Met

Date of Hire: 10/31/2024

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.14(2)-CPR missing,.14(2)-First Aid Missing

Staff # 3

Not Met

Date of Hire: 03/23/2020

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.09-Criminal Records Check Missing

Staff # 4

Not Met

Date of Hire: 06/07/2024

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.14(2)-CPR missing,.14(2)-First Aid Missing,.24(1)-Evidence of Orientation Missing

591-1-1-.09 Criminal Records and Comprehensive Background Checks(CR)**Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.09(1)(c) requires the Center to ensure that every Employee has a valid and current satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination on file prior to being present at the Center while any child is present for care or before an individual age 17 or older resides in the Center. The Comprehensive Records Check Determination must have a Records Check Clearance Date that is no older than the preceding 12 months of the hire date; provided, however, if the Employee has had a lapse of employment from the child care industry that lasted for 180 days (6 months) or longer, a new satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination is required. It was determined based on a review of records that staff #3 did not have a current satisfactory Comprehensive Records check on file prior to being present at the center while children were present.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

IMMEDIATE CORRECTION - The Center will immediately ensure that every Employee has a valid and current satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination on file prior to being present at the Center while any child is present for care or before an individual age 17 or older resides in the Center. The Comprehensive Records Check Determination must have a Records Check Clearance Date that is no older than the preceding 12 months of the hire date; provided, however, if the Employee has had a lapse of employment from the child care industry that lasted for 180 days (6 months) or longer, a new satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination is required. The program's owner or an officer/member of the corporation must view the A to Z Background Check video units pertaining to this records check rule and return the signed affidavit within one week from this visit date. The center will immediately ensure the CRC rules are maintained.

Correction Deadline: 3/5/2025**Finding**

591-1-1-.09(1)(l)3. requires the Center to immediately require a new Comprehensive Records Check Determination for a Director, Employee or Provisional Employee at least once every five years. It was determined based on a review of records that staff #3 was observed to be present and had a criminal records check that expired on March 2, 2025.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

IMMEDIATE CORRECTION - The Center will immediately ensure that each Director, Employee and Provisional Employee has a Comprehensive Records Check Determination on file that has been issued within the past five years. The program's owner or an officer/member of the corporation must view the A to Z Background Check video units pertaining to this records check rule and return the signed affidavit within one week from this visit date. The Center will immediately ensure CRC rules are maintained.

Correction Deadline: 3/5/2025**591-1-1-.14 First Aid & CPR****Not Met****Comment**

Complete first aid kits observed in center and on vehicles.

Comment

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

Finding

591-1-1-.14(2) requires a Staff member who is trained in CPR and first aid to be on the premises and on any field trip whenever any child is present. In addition, Staff who provide direct care to children must satisfactorily obtain certification in first aid and CPR by December 29, 2016 if employed prior to September 30, 2016 and within 90 days of their hire date if employed after September 30, 2016. It was determined based on review of staff files that staff # 1 and 4 have been hired over 90 days and have not completed first aid and CPR as required.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will develop a schedule to ensure there is always a staff person with current first aid and CPR training present and will develop and implement a plan to ensure all staff members have satisfactorily completed first aid and CPR training by the specified date.

Correction Deadline: 4/4/2025

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 review of staff files that staff # 4 did not have an orientation form on file.

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: 3/5/2025

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

Staff observed to be compliant with applicable laws and regulations.

Staffing and Supervision**Records Reviewed: 6****Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 3**

Staff # 1

Not Met

Date of Hire: 10/31/2024

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.14(2)-CPR missing,.14(2)-First Aid Missing

Staff # 3

Not Met

Date of Hire: 03/23/2020

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.09-Criminal Records Check Missing

Staff # 4

Not Met

Date of Hire: 06/07/2024

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.14(2)-CPR missing,.14(2)-First Aid Missing,.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**

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