



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: 8/28/2025 VisitType: Monitoring Visit

Arrival: 12:45 PM Departure: 3:05 PM

CCLC-38999

Bells Ferry Learning Center

3639 Canton Road Marietta, GA 30066 Cobb County
(770) 635-7720 sharon@bellsferrylc.com

Regional Consultant

Kaiyah Werts

Phone: (912) 544-9793

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kaiyah.werts@dec.al.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.
08/28/2025	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
01/28/2025	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
08/26/2024	Monitoring Visit	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
Front Main	A-1R	One Year Olds	2	13	C	15	C	NA	NA	Nap
Front Main	B-2R	Infants	1	6	C	11	C	NA	NA	Nap,Free Play
Front Main	C-3R	One Year Olds and Two Year Olds	2	11	C	15	C	NA	NA	Nap
Front Main	D-2L	Three Year Olds	1	11	C	15	C	NA	NA	Nap
Front Main	E-1L	Three Year Olds	1	6	C	15	C	NA	NA	Nap
Front Main	F-Middle		0	0	C	27	C	NA	NA	
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 98					Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					
Left Front Building	Classrom H	GA PreK	2	20	C	25	C	NA	NA	Circle Time
Left Front Building	Classrom G	GA PreK	2	20	C	23	C	NA	NA	Circle Time
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 48					Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					
Total # Children this Date: 87			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 146			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0				

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Front Main	A-Infant/Toddler	27	C

Front Main	B-Preschool/School Age	194	C
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Enrolled Children						
Under 1 years	1 years	2 years	3 years	4 years	5 years (Prekonly)	5 years and older
9	11	11	18	40	0	7

Comments

Consultant discussed the new rule changed effective July 1, 2025.

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.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@dec.al.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 MV:

Activities and Equipment

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

Technical Assistance

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.

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.12(2) - Discussed with the Director to please ensure the doors and drawers to the children's kitchen equipment are in good repair.

Correction Deadline: 8/28/2025

Prior Visits: 08/26/2024

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

N/A

Comment

Center does not provide swimming activities.

Facility

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)

Met

Comment

No hazards observed accessible to children on this date.

Comment

Please secure cleaning tools (i.e., broom, plunger) out of reach of children.

Comment

The Center appeared clean and well maintained on this date.

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

Playground observed to be clean and in good repair on this date.

Correction Deadline: 9/19/2024**Prior Visits: 01/18/2023****Corrected on 8/28/2025**

.26(8) - Previous citation observed corrected on this date, Consultant observe 6 inches of mulch as required and the Director provided the ASTM documentation.

Health and Hygiene**591-1-1-.10 Diapering Areas & Practices(CR)****Met****Comment**

Staff stated proper knowledge of diapering procedures.

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

Staff stated the proper hand washing procedures throughout center on this date.

591-1-1-.20 Medications(CR)**N/A****Comment**

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

Safety**591-1-1-.11 Discipline(CR)****Met****Comment**

Age-appropriate discussion and/or redirection observed.

591-1-1-.36 Transportation(CR)**Met****Comment**

Complete documentation of transportation observed on this date.

Comment

The vehicle was not present at the center at the time of the visit due to the afternoon bus route.

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(1)(b)1 - Discussed with the Director to please ensure the mats do not have any rips or tears in the corners and measure 2 inches thick.

Correction Deadline: 8/28/2025**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 seven files for employees hired since last visit.

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

Evidence observed of 100% of center Staff, outside of their 45 days, were certified in First Aid and CPR containing emergency care for infants and children on this date.

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.