



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: 4/9/2025 **VisitType:** Licensing Study

Arrival: 10:00 AM **Departure:** 3:40 PM

CCLC-17180

Sandy's Sandbox

2771 Lanier Heights Road Macon, GA 31217 Bibb County
 (478) 745-6006 sandysandbox1@yahoo.com

Child Care Services Manager

Candace Gilbert

Phone: (866) 371-4935

Fax: (866) 371-7713

candace.gilbert@decal.ga.gov

Joint with: Jennifer Waters

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.
04/09/2025	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
03/24/2025	Complaint Closure	Good Standing	
03/24/2025	Complaint Investigation & Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
			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.

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	First Left	GA PreK	1	9	C	24	C	NA	NA	Centers
Main	First Right		0	0	C	15	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Main	Middle		0	0	C	16	C	NA	NA	
Main	Middle Back	One Year Olds	2	8	C	16	C	NA	NA	Snack
Main	Second Left	Three Year Olds	3	0	C	38	C	NA	NA	Free Play
Main	Second Right	Two Year Olds and Three Year Olds	2	8	C	24	C	NA	NA	Music
Main	Third Right	Infants	1	6	C	11	C	NA	NA	Feeding, Floor Play, Nap, Diapering
			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 144			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0				
Total # Children this Date: 31			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 144			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0				

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	A- Preschool- School Age	168	C
Main	B- Preschool	29	C
Main	C-Infants	64	C
Main	Trike Track	40	C

Enrolled Children						
Under 1 years	1 years	2 years	3 years	4 years	5 years (Prekonly)	5 years and older
7	9	10	12	2	20	0

Comments

The purpose of this visit was to conduct a licensing study.

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.dec.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:

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 CAPS/ QR Provisional Status, allowing for scholarships while working toward an initial star rating. Provisional Status eligibility will be determined at the time of CAPS enrollment as part of the CAPS application process.

Contact the Quality Rated help desk at 855-800-7747 or qualityrated@dec.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: 10

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 1

Staff # 7

Not Met

Date of Hire: 03/23/2023

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

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

591-1-1-.03 Activities

Technical Assistance

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.03(2) - Please ensure that lesson plans are dated and up to date. Consultant conducted visit during Spring Break.

Correction Deadline: 4/9/2025

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

Not Met

Comment

Consultant discussed with provider using equipment in safe manner even during children's individual therapy session.

Finding

591-1-1-.12(2) requires that all equipment and furniture be free from hazardous conditions such as, but not limited to, sharp rough edges or toxic paint; and be kept clean. It was determined based upon consultant observation that one bookshelf in the Second Left classroom had a hole in the back of a bookshelf, and the Middle Classroom had a kitchen set with broken handles.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will ensure that equipment and furniture are used by the age-appropriate group of children.

Correction Deadline: 4/9/2025

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.12(4) - Consultant discussed with provider to secure cubbies in Middle Classroom. Classroom not in use.

Correction Deadline: 4/9/2025

Comment

Center does not provide swimming activities.

Children's Records

Records Reviewed: 10

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 1

Staff # 7

Not Met

Date of Hire: 03/23/2023

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

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

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

Met

Comment

Records were observed to be complete and well organized. Consultant discussed with provider about updating one file for a five-year-old child. Infant safe sleep forms were located in the infant room.

Facility

Records Reviewed: 10

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 1

Staff # 7

Not Met

Date of Hire: 03/23/2023

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

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

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

Met

Comment

Licensed capacity observed to be routinely met by center.

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

Not Met

Finding

591-1-1-.25(13) requires that potentially hazardous equipment, materials and supplies be stored in a locked area inaccessible to children. It was determined based upon consultant observation that in Second Left Classroom that there was deodorant in a child's purse in a child's cubbie, Vaseline in a child's cubbie in the Middle Back Classroom and PreK Classroom, and wipes that said keep out of reach of children accessible to children in the PreK classroom.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will identify all hazardous items and keep them in a locked area inaccessible to children. The Center will inform all Staff about hazardous items and the safe storage of those items.

Correction Deadline: 4/9/2025

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 upon consultant observation that there was a roach in the kitchen cupboard of the dramatic play area in the Second Left Classroom, the toilet location in the right upper bathroom was not working (flushing), the vents in Second Left, and Third Right classrooms had an accumulation of dust, and in the Second Left, and Third Right classrooms there were exposed bolts on the base of the toilets.

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: 4/9/2025

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

Technical Assistance

Comment

Consultant discussed with provider standing water on Preschool-School age playground and Preschool playground. Children have not been on playground.

Comment

Discussed maintenance of resilient surface. Please fluff and redistribute. Discussed with provider about checking playground equipment.

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.26(4) - Consultant discussed with a provider an interior fence that was open and needed repair that enclosed the gas meter on the Preschool Playground. Children were not present on playground and staff fixed the fence while Consultant was on site.

Correction Deadline: 4/9/2025

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.26(9) - Roofing nails from the inclement weather were located on the Preschool Playground, no children were present or had been on the playground. Staff cleaned and checked the playground for additional nails at the time of the visit.

Correction Deadline: 4/9/2025

Food Service

Records Reviewed: 10

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 1

Staff # 7

Not Met

Date of Hire: 03/23/2023

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

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

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

Met

Comment

Center menu meets USDA guidelines. Observed proper portioning. Modified diet information was observed to be complete and in compliance.

591-1-1-.18 Kitchen Operations

Met

Comment

Kitchen and food storage were labeled and in compliance.

Health and Hygiene

Records Reviewed: 10

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 1

Staff # 7

Not Met

Date of Hire: 03/23/2023

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

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

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

Met

Comment

Proper diapering procedures observed.

Finding

591-1-1-17(7) requires that children wash their hands with liquid soap and warm running water upon arrival for care, when moving from one child care group to another, upon re-entering the child care area after outside play, before and after eating meals and snacks, handling or touching food, playing in water; after toileting and diapering, playing in sand, touching animals or pets, and contact with bodily fluids and after contamination by any other means. It was determined based upon consultant observation that one child did not wash their hands after touching bodily fluids.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will train Staff on required handwashing for children and Staff will ensure children's hands are washed when required. The Director will monitor for compliance.

Correction Deadline: 4/9/2025

Finding

591-1-1-.17(8) requires staff to wash their hands with liquid soap and warm running water upon arrival for the day, when moving from one child care group to another, upon re-entering the child care area after outside play, before and after diapering each child, dispensing medication, applying topical medications, handling and preparing food, eating, drinking, preparing bottles, feeding each child, assisting children with eating and drinking, after toileting or assisting children with toileting, using tobacco products, handling garbage and organic waste, touching animals or pets, handling bodily fluids and after contamination by any means. It was determined based upon consultant observation that one teacher did not wash their hands after cleaning. Staff member was wearing gloves.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will ensure liquid soap and warm running water are available for handwashing, train Staff on the handwashing requirements, review the requirements with Staff periodically, and monitor handwashing.

Correction Deadline: 4/9/2025

591-1-1-.20 Medications(CR)**Not Evaluated****Comment**

The Provider stated that they currently do not dispense/administer medication and have no emergency medication.

Policies and Procedures**Records Reviewed: 10****Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 1**

Staff # 7

Not Met

Date of Hire: 03/23/2023

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

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

591-1-1-.27 Posted Notices**Met****Comment**

Observed all required posted notices.

Safety**Records Reviewed: 10****Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 1**

Staff # 7

Not Met

Date of Hire: 03/23/2023

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

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

591-1-1-.05 Animals**N/A****Comment**

Center does not keep animals on premises.

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

Age-appropriate discussion and/or redirection observed.

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)**Not Met****Comment**

A current/completed inspection was observed for all vehicles used in transporting children this date.

Comment

Complete documentation of transportation observed.

Comment

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

Finding

591-1-1-.36(3)(a-b) requires any Center that provides any type of transportation to obtain two (2) hours of state-approved or state-accepted transportation training, biannually, for the Director and for each person responsible for or who participates in the transportation of children. The training shall include, but is not limited to, a review of the transportation rules, a review of approved transportation forms and procedures, and instruction on the usage and completion of the forms and procedures. This training may be counted as part of the annual training requirements for Staff. It was determined based upon consultant's review of records that transportation training was expired for the two staff members that participated in transportation for the current and previous week. Staff member's transportation training had expired in 2024 and in March 2025. At least one staff members completed the transportation training while consultant was present.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will ensure that the Director, Center Staff, and any person responsible for the transportation of children has completed the required transportation training.

Correction Deadline: 4/19/2025

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

Records Reviewed: 10

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 1

Staff # 7

Not Met

Date of Hire: 03/23/2023

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

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

591-1-1-.30 Safe Sleeping and Resting Requirements(CR)**Not Met****Comment**

Discussed SIDS and infant sleeping position.

Finding

591-1-1-.30(4). requires that if cots and mats are stored in the children's activity room or area, they shall be stored to prevent children's access to them and to allow maximum use of play space. When storage is available and used for the storage of cots and mats that allows the cots, mats and any bedding to be stored without touching any other cots, mats or bedding, the bedding may be left on the cot or mat. When such storage is not available for the cots and mats, each child's bedding shall be kept separate from other children's bedding and stored in containers marked for individual use, such as, but not limited to, bins, cubbies, or bags. It was determined based upon consultant observation that the cot coverings in the second right classroom were touching each other while stored.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will store cots and mats so children do not have access to them and they don't take up play space and will store them so each child's bedding is separate from the others.

Correction Deadline: 4/9/2025

Staff Records

Records Reviewed: 10	Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 1
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Staff # 7

Not Met

Date of Hire: 03/23/2023

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

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

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

Met

Comment

Criminal record checks were observed to be complete. Consultant observed Criminal Background Checks for two contract therapy providers in addition to employee Criminal Background Checks.

591-1-1-.14 First Aid & CPR

Not Met

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 upon a consultant's review of records that Staff #7 had expired CPR and First Aid certification as of April 2025.

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: 5/9/2025

591-1-1-.33 Staff Training

Met

Comment

Documentation observed of required staff training.

Comment

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

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

Met

Comment

Staff observed to be compliant with applicable laws and regulations.

Staffing and Supervision

Records Reviewed: 10	Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 1
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Staff # 7

Not Met

Date of Hire: 03/23/2023

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

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

Comment

Center observed to maintain appropriate staff:child ratios.

591-1-1-.32 Supervision(CR)**Technical Assistance****Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.32(7) - Consultant discussed with provider ensuring staff are sitting and within arms reach of children 36 months and younger during meal and snack times.

Correction Deadline: 4/9/2025