



**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:** 9/25/2024 **VisitType:** Licensing Study

**Arrival:** 10:30 AM **Departure:** 3:05 PM

**CCLC-46220**

**The Goddard School**

310 Prominence Point Parkway Canton, GA 30114 Cherokee  
County  
(770) 720-3003 dcanton2ga2@goddardschools.com

Enforcement Unit Consultant

Colleen Covey

Phone: (706) 256-7245

Fax: (706) 256-7244

colleen.covey@decal.ga.gov

Joint with: Kay Holiday

**Mailing Address**

Same

**Quality Rated:** ★ ★

| Compliance Zone Designation |                 |               | <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. |
|-----------------------------|-----------------|---------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 09/25/2024                  | Licensing Study | Good Standing |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| 05/02/2024                  | Licensing Study | Good Standing |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| 02/20/2023                  | 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 6w-12m           | Infants and One Year Olds          | 4     | 8        | C                             | 12         | C            | NA         | NA           | Floor Play, Diapering   |
| Main                            | B 12-18m           | One Year Olds                      | 3     | 9        | C                             | 11         | C            | NA         | NA           | Clean Up, Transitioning |
| Main                            | C 18-24m           | One Year Olds and Two Year Olds    | 3     | 1        | C                             | 10         | C            | NA         | NA           | Clean Up, Transitioning |
| Main                            | D 24-30m Turtles   | Two Year Olds                      | 3     | 13       | C                             | 17         | C            | NA         | NA           | Transitioning, Clean Up |
| Main                            | E 30-36m Ducklings | Two Year Olds and Three Year Olds  | 3     | 14       | C                             | 17         | C            | NA         | NA           | Floor Play, Circle Time |
| Main                            | F Young 3's        | Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds | 2     | 15       | C                             | 21         | C            | NA         | NA           | Centers                 |
| Main                            | G 3 and 4 years    |                                    | 0     | 0        | C                             | 21         | C            | NA         | NA           |                         |
| Main                            | H 3-5 years        | Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds | 2     | 15       | C                             | 21         | C            | NA         | NA           | Transitioning, Story    |
| Main                            | I - 5 years        | Four Year Olds and Five Year Olds  | 2     | 15       | C                             | 20         | C            | NA         | NA           | Story, Circle Time      |
| Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 150 |                    |                                    |       |          | Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0 |            |              |            |              |                         |
| Total # Children this Date: 90  |                    |                                    |       |          | Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0 |            |              |            |              |                         |

| Building | Playground                  | Playground<br>Occupancy | Playground<br>Compliance |
|----------|-----------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| Main     | Playground A Back           | 103                     | C                        |
| Main     | Playground B- Right<br>Side | 35                      | C                        |

| Enrolled Children |         |         |         |         |                    |                   |
|-------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|--------------------|-------------------|
| Under 1 years     | 1 years | 2 years | 3 years | 4 years | 5 years (Prekonly) | 5 years and older |
| 11                | 21      | 33      | 34      | 23      | 0                  | 3                 |

#### Comments

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

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 09/25/2024

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](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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**(Findings Report)**

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The following information is associated with a Licensing Study:

**Activities and Equipment**

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

**Met**

**Comment**

A variety of equipment and toys were observed throughout the center.

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

**N/A**

**Comment**

Center does not provide swimming activities.

**Children's Records**

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

**Met**

**Comment**

Records were observed to be complete and well organized.

**Facility**

**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.

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

**Met**

**Comment**

Please be mindful to keep items that pose a hazard inaccessible to children. Reminded staff to ensure that items placed on higher selves are placed to the far back of the shelf.

**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 on playground A, on the left side gate between play areas a five to eight inch gap was measured.

**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: 9/25/2024**

|                     |
|---------------------|
| <b>Food Service</b> |
|---------------------|

## 591-1-1-.15 Food Service &amp; Nutrition

Met

**Comment**

Center menu meets USDA guidelines.

## 591-1-1-.18 Kitchen Operations

Met

**Comment**

Kitchen appears clean and well organized.

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

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

Met

**Comment**

Proper diapering procedures observed.

## 591-1-1-.17 Hygiene(CR)

Met

**Correction Deadline: 5/2/2024**

**Corrected on 9/25/2024**

**.17(7) - Staff stated proper knowledge**

## 591-1-1-.20 Medications(CR)

Met

**Comment**

Discussed proper medication documentation and procedures.

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

## 591-1-1-.27 Posted Notices

Met

**Comment**

Observed all required posted notices.

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

## 591-1-1-.05 Animals

N/A

**Comment**

Center does not keep animals on premises.

## 591-1-1-.11 Discipline(CR)

Met

**Comment**

Staff were observed to maintain a positive learning environment on this date.

**591-1-1-.13 Field Trips(CR)****N/A****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****591-1-1-.30 Safe Sleeping and Resting Requirements(CR)****Met**

**Correction Deadline: 5/2/2024**

**Corrected on 9/25/2024**

**.30(2) - Children were observed sleeping in approved equipment on this date.**

**Staff Records****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 observation that two photographers were present with children and unsupervised by a staff member with a comprehensive criminal records check. The two photographers had satisfactory criminal records checks however they were not ported to the center and were past the portability period. One photographer was observed present and alone with the children that was within the portability period, however they were not ported to the center.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

IMMEDIATE CORRECTION - The Center will 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 ensure the CRC rules are maintained.

**Correction Deadline: 9/25/2024**

**591-1-1-.33 Staff Training****Defer****Defer**

591-1-1-.33(5)-Staff have time to complete the training for the 2024 year. This will reviewed on the next visit.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center will plan and schedule the required 10 hours of annual training each year and follow up to ensure the training is completed.

**Correction Deadline: 6/1/2024**

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

Staff observed to be compliant with applicable laws and regulations.

**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.

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

Adequate supervision observed on this date.