



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: 2/10/2025 **VisitType:** Licensing Study

Arrival: 9:30 AM **Departure:** 1:15 PM

CCLC-14757

Donna's Loving Care Child Care and Learning Center
6854 Main Street Lithonia, GA 30058 DeKalb County
(678) 323-8087 donnaslovingcarellc@gmail.com

Regional Consultant
Evon Hewitt
Phone: ()
Fax:
evon.hewitt@decal.ga.gov
Joint with: Rebekah Mullinax

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.
02/10/2025	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
11/20/2024	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
07/24/2024	Complaint Investigation by Phone	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
Bldg 2	Room 1		0	0	C	4	C	NA	NA	
Bldg 2	Room 2		0	0	C	6	C	NA	NA	
Bldg 2	Room 3		0	0	C	21	C	NA	NA	
Bldg 2	Room 4		0	0	C	4	C	NA	NA	
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 25					Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0		Building @35 capacity limited by Insufficient Toilets/Sinks			
Main	A- 1st Right	Two Year Olds	1	7	C	7	C	NA	NA	Music
Main	B-2nd Rt-2 y/o	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	1	8	NC	7	NC	NA	NA	Centers
Main	C- End of hall-0-12 mos	Infants	2	5	C	10	C	NA	NA	Feeding,Floor Play
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 24					Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					
Total # Children this Date: 20					Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 49		Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0			

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	Playground A	7	C
Main	Playground B	15	C

Enrolled Children						
Under 1 years	1 years	2 years	3 years	4 years	5 years (Prekonly)	5 years and older
4	2	5	8	2	0	12

Comments

The purpose of this visit was 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.decga.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@decga.gov for more information. Free technical assistance is available!



(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)

Not Met

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 on observation that the following potential hazards existed:

- Classroom A First Right
The yellow and blue vinyl couch had multiple tears
- Classroom B 2nd-Right
The gray/blue vinyl couch had a hole in the back rest.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

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

Correction Deadline: 2/17/2025

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

Technical Assistance

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.08(1) - requires the Center Staff to maintain a file for each child while such child is in care and for one year after that child is no longer enrolled. In order for the file to be complete, the file shall contain the following: child's name, birth date, sex, address, living arrangement, name of school if applicable; names of both Parents, home and work addresses, and home and work telephone numbers; name(s) and addresses of the person(s) to whom the child may be released including address, telephone numbers, relationship to child and to Parent(s), and other identifying information; name(s) and telephone number(s) of person(s) to contact in emergencies when the Parent cannot be reached; name and telephone number of the child's primary source of health care; and a statement regarding known allergies, physical problems, mental health disorders, intellectual disabilities or developmental disabilities which limit the child's participation in the program. Please ensure that all enrollment forms are completed in their entirety.

591-1-1-.06 Bathrooms**Technical Assistance****Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.06(4) - requires a Center first licensed after March 1, 1991, and Centers that remodel or add to existing plumbing facilities, to have the bathroom area fully enclosed and ventilated to the outside of the building with either an open screened window or functioning exhaust fan and duct system and requires Centers without fully enclosed bathrooms to ensure there is adequate ventilation to control odors and adequate sanitation measures to prevent the spread of contagious diseases.

Please ensure that the children's bathroom have a functioning exhaust fan as required.

Correction Deadline: 3/12/2025

591-1-1-.19 License Capacity(CR)**Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.19(1) requires a Center to provide 35 square feet of usable space per child, which will determine the Center's License capacity. It was determined based on observation that the center cared for eight children in classroom B -2nd Right which was licensed for seven children.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will limit the number of children in this space to the licensed capacity.

Correction Deadline: 2/10/2025

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

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. On this date the Consultant observed an open trash can on the entrance of the playground. Please ensure that playground is free of debris as required.

Correction Deadline: 2/10/2025

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 upon observation that the wooden fencing at the front left side of Playground B had a four inch gap from the ground to the fence causing a potential entrapment hazard. It was further determined that the wooden fencing at the middle left side of Playground B had a five and one half inch gap from the ground to the fence causing a potential entrapment hazard. It was also determined that the chain link fencing on the back left side of Playground A was leaning and not secure.

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: 3/10/2025

Recited on 2/10/2025

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 on playground A:

- The red steering wheel on the blue car had a large crack.
- The lid of the plastic container was observed to have multiple cracks on the lid.

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: 2/20/2025

Food Service**591-1-1-.15 Food Service & Nutrition****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://decalfga.gov/CACFP/Handbook.aspx>

USDA

<http://www.fns.usda.gov/cacfp/cacfp-handbooks>

591-1-1-.18 Kitchen Operations**Met****Comment**

Kitchen appears clean and well organized.

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

Proper diapering procedures observed.

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

Correction Deadline: 11/20/2024

Corrected on 2/10/2025

.17(7) - Previous citation corrected in that the staff in classroom C- End of Hall assisted an infant with proper hand washing immediately after diapering as required.

Correction Deadline: 11/20/2024

Corrected on 2/10/2025

.17(8) - Previous citation corrected in that staff in classroom C- End of Hall washed their hands with liquid soap and warm running water after diapering as required.

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

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

591-1-1-.21 Operational Policies & Procedures

Not Met

Finding

591-1-1-.21(3) requires that the Center conduct drills for fire, tornado and other emergency situations. The fire drills will be conducted monthly and tornado and other emergency situation drills will be conducted every six months. The Center shall maintain documentation of the dates and times of these drills for two years. It was determined based on a review of records that the Center did not maintain documentation of the dates and times emergency drills as required.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will hold the drills as required and keep the documentation of the drills on file for two years.

Correction Deadline: 2/15/2025

Safety

591-1-1-.05 Animals

Met

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-.36 Transportation(CR)

N/A

Comment

Center does not provide routine transportation.

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

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

Technical Assistance

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.30(1)(a)3 - requires that each crib shall have only an individual, tight-fitting sheet which is changed daily or more often as needed and prior to a change of occupant. Please ensure that all crib sheets are tight-fitting as required.

Correction Deadline: 2/10/2025

Staff Records

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

Met

Correction Deadline: 11/20/2024

Corrected on 2/10/2025

.09(1)(j) - Previous citation corrected in that Staff #2 and Staff #3 have a satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination letter on file.

591-1-1-.09 Criminal Records Check(CR)

Met

Comment

Criminal records checks were observed to be complete.

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

Met

Comment

Evidence observed of 100% of center staff certified in First Aid and CPR.

Finding

91-1-1-.33(5) requires that every calendar year after the first year of employment, all supervisory and caregiver Personnel, except independent contractors, Students-in-Training and volunteers shall attend ten (10) clock hours of diverse training which is task-focused in on-going health, safety and early childhood or child development related topics and which is offered by an accredited college, university or vocational program or other Department-approved source. The annual ten (10) clock hours of training shall be chosen from the following fields: child development, including discipline, guidance, nutrition, injury control and safety; health, including sanitation, disease control, cleanliness, detection and disposition of illness; child abuse and neglect, including identification and reporting, and meeting the needs of abused and/or neglected children; and business related topics, including parental communication, recordkeeping, etc.; provided however that such business related training shall be limited to no more than two (2) of the required ten (10) clock hours of training. Records of completion of such training shall be maintained, as required by these rules. It was determined based on a review of records that Staff # 2 and Staff # 4 did not have (10) clock hours of annual training for 2024.

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: 3/12/2025

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**

Adequate supervision observed on this date.