



**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:** 2/10/2026 **VisitType:** Complaint Investigation & Licensing Study **Arrival:** 9:00 AM **Departure:** 3:00 PM

**CCLC-50414**  
**Big Blue Marble - Hartley Station**  
 4901 Mount Pleasant Church Rd Macon, GA 31216 Bibb County  
 (478) 742-8865

Regional Consultant  
 Penny Svenson  
 Phone: (470) 346-1037  
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**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. |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------------------------|---------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 02/10/2026                  | Complaint Investigation & Licensing Study | Good Standing |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| 01/30/2026                  | TA Follow Up                              | NA            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| 12/09/2025                  | TA Follow Up                              | NA            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |

**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                           | A1-Infants     | Infants                            | 1                           | 4        | C    | 15                          | C            | NA         | NA                          | Transitioning, Floor Play     |
| Main                           | A2-1 year olds | One Year Olds                      | 2                           | 9        | C    | 16                          | C            | NA         | NA                          | Centers, Breakfast, Free Play |
| Main                           | A3-2 year olds | Two Year Olds                      | 1                           | 7        | C    | 20                          | C            | NA         | NA                          | Music                         |
| Main                           | A4-3 year olds |                                    | 0                           | 0        | C    | 20                          | C            | NA         | NA                          |                               |
| Main                           | A5-4 year olds | Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds | 2                           | 17       | C    | 20                          | C            | NA         | NA                          | Music, Circle Time            |
| Main                           | A6-4 year olds | GA PreK                            | 2                           | 18       | C    | 20                          | C            | NA         | NA                          | Transitioning, Outside        |
| Main                           | A7-School Age  |                                    | 0                           | 0        | C    | 20                          | C            | NA         | NA                          |                               |
| Main                           | B1-Infants     | Infants                            | 1                           | 6        | C    | 13                          | C            | NA         | NA                          | Nap, Feeding, Floor Play      |
| Main                           | B2-1 year olds |                                    | 0                           | 0        | C    | 15                          | C            | NA         | NA                          |                               |
| Main                           | B3-2 year olds | Two Year Olds                      | 1                           | 8        | C    | 19                          | C            | NA         | NA                          | Circle Time                   |
| Main                           | B4-2 year olds | Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds | 2                           | 16       | C    | 20                          | C            | NA         | NA                          | Free Play, Centers            |
| Main                           | B5-4 year olds |                                    | 0                           | 0        | C    | 19                          | C            | NA         | NA                          |                               |
| Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.:    |                |                                    | 217                         |          |      | Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: |              |            | 0                           |                               |
| Total # Children this Date: 85 |                |                                    | Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: |          |      | 217                         |              |            | Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: |                               |
|                                |                |                                    |                             |          |      |                             |              |            | 0                           |                               |

| Building | Playground               | Playground Occupancy | Playground Compliance |
|----------|--------------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|
| Main     | PA 1 3- 12 years         | 50                   | C                     |
| Main     | PA 1 Infant-2 years      | 23                   | C                     |
| Main     | PA 3 infants-2 year olds | 33                   | C                     |
| Main     | PA 4 3-12 year olds      | 47                   | C                     |
| Main     | PA 5- Back               | 21                   | C                     |

| Enrolled Children |         |         |         |         |                    |                   |
|-------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|--------------------|-------------------|
| Under 1 years     | 1 years | 2 years | 3 years | 4 years | 5 years (Prekonly) | 5 years and older |
| 9                 | 13      | 18      | 28      | 27      | 8                  | 33                |

#### Comments

February 10, 2026--The citations were discussed with the 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](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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### Summary Report

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**Study**

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The following information is associated with a Licensing Study Visit:

### Activities and Equipment

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

**Not Met**

**Correction Deadline: 11/18/2025**

**Corrected on 2/10/2026**

The previous citation was observed corrected. The Consultant discussed with the Interim Director to ensure a plan was in place for Staff Members to wipe shelves, cubbies, walls, light switches, etc., in order to maintain a safe and clean environment.

#### Finding

591-1-1-.12(8) requires toys for children under three years of age to be age-appropriate; non-toxic and lead-free; too large to be swallowed by a child and not capable of causing asphyxiation or strangulation; free of sharp pieces, edges or points; free of small parts which may be pried off by a child, free of rust; and easily cleaned with a disinfectant daily. It was determined based on observation that toys throughout classrooms were not sorted and cleaned with a disinfectant as required. Further, several classrooms did not have a variety of toys, art supplies, and other required components in Centers as required.

#### POI (Plan of Improvement)

Center staff will provide age-appropriate toys and remove any toys that are not age-appropriate in each room housing children under three years of age. The Center will implement a plan to train Staff to regularly examine toys for the listed hazards and remove toys when hazards are identified and to clean toys with a disinfectant daily.

**Correction Deadline: 2/17/2026**

**Recited on 2/10/2026**

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

**Met**

#### Comment

Pool not in use at this time, gates observed locked.

### Children's Records

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

**Technical Assistance**

#### Technical Assistance

The Consultant discussed with the Director to ensure each form required was present in children's records.

**Correction Deadline: 2/10/2026**

**591-1-1-.06 Bathrooms****Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.06(7) requires Center Staff to ensure bathrooms are cleaned daily with a disinfectant. It was determined based on observation that there were several bathrooms with urine on toilets and around toilets, as well as on the bathroom floor.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center will develop and implement a plan to ensure that bathrooms are cleaned and disinfected daily and that this is monitored daily.

**Correction Deadline: 2/10/2026**

**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**

**Correction Deadline: 11/18/2025**

**Corrected on 2/10/2026**

The previous citation was observed corrected. Ceiling vent were clean on this date. The Consultant discussed with the Director to ensure crayon and tape residue continue to be monitored and removed from walls or furniture as needed.

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

The Consultant discussed with the Director to monitor playground equipment for chipped paint or rust present and to sand and paint as needed.

**Correction Deadline: 2/20/2026**

**Finding**

591-1-1-.26(9) requires the playground to be kept clean, free from litter and free of hazards, such as but not limited to rocks, exposed tree roots and exposed sharp edges of concrete. It was determined based on observation that there were areas of chipped concrete throughout different play areas and sharp areas were present.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center will remove any litter and fix or remove hazards from the playground and will routinely monitor the playground and remove litter and hazards. The concrete will be filled in and sanded so that no sharp areas are present or covered by artificial turf.

**Correction Deadline: 2/20/2026**

**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://decal.ga.gov/CACFP/Handbook.aspx>

USDA

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

**Finding**

591-1-1-.18(8) requires that containers of food be stored above the floor on clean surfaces protected from splash and other contamination. Containers for food storage other than the original container or package in which the food was obtained shall be impervious and non-absorbent, have tight-fitting lids or covers and labeled as to contents. It was determined based on observation that a can of beans and cans of tomato soup were not stored above the floor as required.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center will designate an appropriate area for the storage of containers of food, will make available containers, lids, and covers, and will train Staff on proper storage and labeling.

**Correction Deadline: 2/10/2026**

**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**

Please ensure lids remain on trash containing organic waste.

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

Met

**Comment**

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

**Policies and Procedures****591-1-1-.29 Required Reporting**

Met

**Comment**

Discussed reporting requirements.

**Safety****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.

**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

**Correction Deadline: 11/23/2025**

**Corrected on 2/10/2026**

The previous citation was observed corrected. Current vehicle inspections were observed and deficiencies were observed repaired.

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

Met

**Comment**

Pleasant naptime environment observed.

**Staff Records**

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |            |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|
| <b>591-1-1-.09 Criminal Records and Comprehensive Background Checks(CR)</b>                                                                                                                                                      | <b>Met</b> |
| <b>Comment</b><br>Criminal record checks were observed to be complete.                                                                                                                                                           |            |
| <b>591-1-1-.09 Criminal Records Check(CR)</b>                                                                                                                                                                                    | <b>Met</b> |
| <b>Comment</b><br>Criminal records checks were observed to be complete.                                                                                                                                                          |            |
| <b>591-1-1-.14 First Aid &amp; CPR(CR)</b>                                                                                                                                                                                       | <b>Met</b> |
| <b>Correction Deadline: 12/18/2025</b>                                                                                                                                                                                           |            |
| <b>Corrected on 2/10/2026</b><br><b>The previous citation was observed corrected.</b>                                                                                                                                            |            |
| <b>Correction Deadline: 11/18/2025</b>                                                                                                                                                                                           |            |
| <b>Corrected on 2/10/2026</b><br><b>The previous citation was observed corrected. Each Staff Member that was observed alone in a classroom supervising children was observed to have current first aid and CPR on this date.</b> |            |
| <b>591-1-1-.33 Staff Training</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                | <b>Met</b> |
| <b>Comment</b><br>Please ensure completed orientation checklists are documented and signed.                                                                                                                                      |            |
| <b>591-1-1-.31 Staff(CR)</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                     | <b>Met</b> |
| <b>Comment</b><br>Staff observed to be compliant with applicable laws and regulations.                                                                                                                                           |            |
| <b>Staffing and Supervision</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                  |            |
| <b>591-1-1-.32 Staff:Child Ratios and Group Size(CR)</b>                                                                                                                                                                         | <b>Met</b> |
| <b>Comment</b><br>Center observed to maintain appropriate staff:child ratios.                                                                                                                                                    |            |
| <b>591-1-1-.32 Supervision(CR)</b>                                                                                                                                                                                               | <b>Met</b> |
| <b>Comment</b><br>Adequate supervision observed on this date.                                                                                                                                                                    |            |