



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: 2/26/2025 **VisitType:** Complaint Investigation & Licensing **Arrival:** 8:55 AM **Departure:** 12:45 PM
Study POI Follow Up

CCLC-53322
Big Blue Marble Academy
2773 Hwy 81 McDonough, GA 30252 Henry County
(770) 305-7042 center40@bbmacademy.com

Regional Consultant
Brandi Mangino
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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.
02/26/2025	Complaint Investigation & Licensing Study POI Follow Up	Good Standing	
02/18/2025	TA Follow Up	NA	
01/27/2025	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	A : 1 R : Toddlers	Infants and One Year Olds	2	7	C	16	C	NA	NA	Floor Play
Main	B : 2/3 R: Infants & Toddlers		0	0	C	18	C	NA	NA	
Main	C: 4R: 2 year olds	Two Year Olds and Three Year Olds	2	12	C	17	C	NA	NA	Free Play
Main	D : 5R:	Two Year Olds and Three Year Olds	1	10	C	21	C	NA	NA	Circle Time
Main	E: 6R: Two year olds	One Year Olds	2	12	C	16	C	NA	NA	Outside
Main	F: Back: Afterschool		0	0	C	59	C	NA	NA	
Main	G: 5L: Three year olds		0	0	C	16	C	NA	NA	
Main	H : 4L: Three year olds	Three Year Olds	1	12	C	16	C	NA	NA	Free Play
Main	I: 3L : Four year olds	Four Year Olds	1	12	C	19	C	NA	NA	Centers
Main	J : 2L : Four year olds		0	0	C	19	C	NA	NA	
Main	K: 1L : Pre-K	GA PreK	2	19	C	19	C	NA	NA	Centers
		Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 216			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0			Building @35 capacity limited by Fire Marshall Limitations		
Total # Children this Date: 84		Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 216			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	A - Infants & toddlers	44	C

Main	B - Two years old	86	C
Main	C - Four - 12 years old	123	C
Main	D - Four - 12 years old	72	C
Main	E - Three years old	74	C

Comments

Plan of Improvement was developed on this date.

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 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@decgal.ga.gov for more information. Free technical assistance is available!



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(Findings Report)

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Same

The following information is associated with a Complaint Investigation & Licensing Study POI Follow Up:

Activities and Equipment

Records Reviewed: 25

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 4

Staff # 5

Not Met

Date of Hire: 08/23/2022

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(5)-10 Hrs. Annual Training

Staff # 10

Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(3)-Health & Safety Certificate

Staff # 14

Not Met

Date of Hire: 09/28/2021

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(5)-10 Hrs. Annual Training

Staff # 21

Not Met

Date of Hire: 11/26/2023

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(5)-10 Hrs. Annual Training

591-1-1-.03 Activities

Not Met

Finding

591-1-1-.03(7)(a) requires a center that operates five hours or more per day to provide at least one and one-half hours of outdoor activity per day, weather permitting, for each child who is not an infant and at least one hour daily for infants. It was determined based on a review of daily schedules that Room C and Room D were scheduled to go outside from 9:00AM until 9:45AM and the classes did not go outside. Weather was sunny and 60 degrees.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The center will develop and follow a schedule that provides the required amount of outdoor activity for all children, including infants.

Correction Deadline: 2/26/2025

Correction Deadline: 10/9/2024

Corrected on 2/26/2025

.03(8) - Citation corrected.

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)**Met****Comment**

Center does not provide swimming activities.

Facility

Records Reviewed: 25

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 4

Staff # 5

Not Met

Date of Hire: 08/23/2022

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(5)-10 Hrs. Annual Training

Staff # 10

Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(3)-Health & Safety Certificate

Staff # 14

Not Met

Date of Hire: 09/28/2021

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(5)-10 Hrs. Annual Training

Staff # 21

Not Met

Date of Hire: 11/26/2023

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(5)-10 Hrs. Annual Training

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

Consultant discussed that the restroom vent in Room I was in need of repair.

Correction Deadline: 3/28/2025

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****Technical Assistance**

Consultant discussed that hazards should be kept inaccessible to children in care. Trash bags, hand soap that reads "keep out of reach of children". and any cleaning items.

Correction Deadline: 2/26/2025

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 on observation that the walls of Room I were in need of being painted due to marks (crayon) and trash was being stored under the sink in the trash bag.

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: 2/26/2025

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

Technical Assistance

Technical Assistance

Consultant discussed the mulch needs to be fluffed and redistributed,. In addition, it must be flush with the sidewalks.

Correction Deadline: 2/26/2025

Technical Assistance

Consultant discussed the outside equipment was in need of being cleaned (pressure washed).

Correction Deadline: 2/26/2025

Food Service

Records Reviewed: 25

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 4

Staff # 5

Not Met

Date of Hire: 08/23/2022

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(5)-10 Hrs. Annual Training

Staff # 10

Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(3)-Health & Safety Certificate

Staff # 14

Not Met

Date of Hire: 09/28/2021

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(5)-10 Hrs. Annual Training

Staff # 21

Not Met

Date of Hire: 11/26/2023

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(5)-10 Hrs. Annual Training

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

Technical Assistance

Comment

Please ensure that infant feeding forms are updated regularly.

Technical Assistance

Food Service and Nutrition Feeding of Infants and Children 591-1-1-.15(2)(g) The Consultant discussed with the Director that center Personnel shall ensure that children do not have excessive amounts of food in their mouths while eating and are chewing their food appropriately to prevent instances of choking. Children shall always be seated when eating and shall not be allowed to lie down or be put to sleep while food is present in their mouths.

Food Service and Nutrition Restrictions 591-1-1-.15(7) The Consultant discussed with the Director that food shall be served according to manufacturer's instructions and recommendations. Foods that are associated with young children's choking incidents, such as, but not limited to, peanuts, hot dogs, raw carrots, popcorn, fish with bones, cheese cubes, grapes, and any other food that is of similar shape and size of the trachea/windpipe shall not be served to the children less than four (4) years of age. Children older than four (4) years of age may be served these foods provided that the foods are cut in such a way as to minimize choking. Food shall not be accessible or served to children until it has been chopped, diced, cut or mashed and is appropriate for each child's age and individual eating, chewing and swallowing ability.

Correction Deadline: 2/26/2025

591-1-1-.18 Kitchen Operations**Not Met****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 frozen items in the pantry refrigerator were not in the original container and not labeled.

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: 2/26/2025

Health and Hygiene**Records Reviewed: 25****Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 4**

Staff # 5

Not Met

Date of Hire: 08/23/2022

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(5)-10 Hrs. Annual Training

Staff # 10

Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(3)-Health & Safety Certificate

Staff # 14

Not Met

Date of Hire: 09/28/2021

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(5)-10 Hrs. Annual Training

Staff # 21

Not Met

Date of Hire: 11/26/2023

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(5)-10 Hrs. Annual Training

591-1-1-.10 Diapering Areas & Practices(CR)**Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.10(2) requires Centers first licensed after March 1, 1991, and Centers that renovate existing plumbing facilities, to have a hand washing sink with running heated water located adjacent to the diapering area. Flush sinks shall not be used for hand washing. Cleansing procedures in other facilities shall be approved by the Department. It was determined based on observation that Room C added a new diapering station that is across the room from the original and no diapering sink was adjacent.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will ensure that a hand washing sink is located adjacent to each diapering area, that flush sinks are not used for handwashing, and that the department has approved cleansing procedures in other facilities, if applicable.

Correction Deadline: 2/26/2025**591-1-1-.17 Hygiene(CR)****Met****Comment**

Please ensure lids remain on trash containing organic waste.

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

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

Safety**Records Reviewed: 25****Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 4**

Staff # 5

Not Met

Date of Hire: 08/23/2022

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(5)-10 Hrs. Annual Training

Staff # 10

Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(3)-Health & Safety Certificate

Staff # 14

Not Met

Date of Hire: 09/28/2021

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(5)-10 Hrs. Annual Training

Staff # 21

Not Met

Date of Hire: 11/26/2023

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(5)-10 Hrs. Annual Training

591-1-1-.05 Animals**Met****Comment**

Center does not keep animals on premises.

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

Please be mindful of voice tone in redirecting children.

591-1-1-.13 Field Trips(CR)**Met****Comment**

Center does not participate in field trips at this time.

Finding

591-1-1-.36(7)(d)2. requires that the second designated Staff person conduct a check of the vehicle immediately upon the completion of the first check of the vehicle. The responsible person shall physically walk through the entire vehicle; visually inspect all seat surfaces, under all seats and in all compartments or recesses in the vehicle's interior; and sign the passenger transportation checklist(s), indicating all of the children have exited the vehicle. There shall be continuous watchful oversight of the vehicle between the first check and second check. It was determined based on a review of records that on February 7, 2025 a second check was not completed when the center bus returned from Rock Springs Elementary.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will train Staff who are or may be involved in transporting children in how to thoroughly inspect a vehicle and properly complete transportation documentation. The Center will review and monitor.

Correction Deadline: 2/26/2025

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

Records Reviewed: 25	Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 4
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Staff # 5

Not Met

Date of Hire: 08/23/2022

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(5)-10 Hrs. Annual Training

Staff # 10

Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(3)-Health & Safety Certificate

Staff # 14

Not Met

Date of Hire: 09/28/2021

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(5)-10 Hrs. Annual Training

Staff # 21

Not Met

Date of Hire: 11/26/2023

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(5)-10 Hrs. Annual Training

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

Not Met

Comment

The correct number of mats, sheets and blankets were observed on this date. Cleaning and disinfecting of mats was discussed with the director on this date.

Finding

591-1-1-.30(2) requires the Center to provide a safe sleep environment in accordance with American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP), Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) and American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM) recommendations as listed in these rules for all infants. Center Staff shall place an infant to sleep on the infant's back in a crib unless the Center has been provided a physician's written statement authorizing another sleep position for that particular infant that includes how the infant shall be placed to sleep and a time frame that the instructions are to be followed. When an infant can easily turn over from back to front and back again, Staff shall continue to put the infant to sleep initially on the infant's back but allow the infant to roll over into his or her preferred position and not re-position the infant. Sleepers, sleep sacks and wearable blankets that fit according to the commercial manufacturer's guidelines and will not slide up around the infant's face may be used when necessary for the comfort of the sleeping infant. Swaddling shall not be used unless the Center has been provided a physician's written statement authorizing its use for a particular infant that includes instructions and a time frame for swaddling the infant. Center Staff shall not place objects or allow objects to be placed in or on the crib with an infant such as but not limited to toys, pillows, quilts, comforters, bumper pads, sheepskins, stuffed toys, or other soft items and shall not attach objects or allow objects to be attached to a crib with a sleeping infant, such as, but not limited to, crib gyms, toys, mirrors and mobiles. It was determined based on staff statement in Room A when asked "how are children placed in cribs" that certain children were placed on their backs, but if the child preferred their stomach that child was placed in the crib on their stomach.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will take all steps necessary to provide a safe sleep environment for infants as listed in these rules; will train Staff to follow these rules; and will monitor for compliance.

Correction Deadline: 2/26/2025

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 on observation that Room G cots were not covered and Room H cots were stored next to an activity shelf that caused children to want to climb on them.

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: 2/26/2025

Staff Records	
Records Reviewed: 25	Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 4
Staff # 5	Not Met
Date of Hire: 08/23/2022	
<u>"Missing/Incomplete Components"</u>	
.33(5)-10 Hrs. Annual Training	
Staff # 10	Not Met
<u>"Missing/Incomplete Components"</u>	
.33(3)-Health & Safety Certificate	
Staff # 14	Not Met
Date of Hire: 09/28/2021	
<u>"Missing/Incomplete Components"</u>	
.33(5)-10 Hrs. Annual Training	

Staff # 21

Not Met

Date of Hire: 11/26/2023

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(5)-10 Hrs. Annual Training

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

Criminal record checks were observed to be complete.

591-1-1-.14 First Aid & CPR**Met****Correction Deadline: 10/12/2024****Corrected on 2/26/2025****.14(2) - Citation corrected.****591-1-1-.33 Staff Training****Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.33(3) requires each Staff member with direct care responsibilities to complete health and safety orientation training within the first 90 days of employment. The state-approved training hours obtained will count toward required first year training hours. The training must address the following health and safety topics: prevention and control of infectious diseases (including immunizations); prevention of sudden infant death syndrome and use of safe sleeping practices; administration of medication, consistent with standards for parental consent; prevention of and response to emergencies due to food and allergic reactions; building and physical premises safety, including identification of and protection from hazards that can cause bodily injury such as electrical hazards, bodies of water, and vehicular traffic; prevention of shaken baby syndrome, abusive head trauma and child maltreatment; emergency preparedness and response planning for emergencies resulting from a natural disaster or a human-caused event (such as violence at a child care facility); handling and storage of hazardous materials and the appropriate disposal of bio contaminants; precautions in transporting children; recognition and reporting of child abuse and neglect; and child development. It was determined based on a review of records one staff member (#10) did not complete the 10 hour health and safety training within the first 90 days of employment as required.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will develop and implement a plan to schedule and track this training for all employees based on their hire dates and will ensure that the training includes all required components as required.

Correction Deadline: 3/5/2025**Recited on 2/26/2025****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 members #5, 14 and 21 did not have 10 hours of annual training for the 2024 year.

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: 3/28/2025**591-1-1-.31 Staff(CR)****Met**

Comment

Discussed that all lead staff must enroll in an approved education program within 6 months of hire and complete degree within 18 months.

Staffing and Supervision**Records Reviewed: 25****Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 4**

Staff # 5 Not Met

Date of Hire: 08/23/2022

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(5)-10 Hrs. Annual Training

Staff # 10 Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(3)-Health & Safety Certificate

Staff # 14 Not Met

Date of Hire: 09/28/2021

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(5)-10 Hrs. Annual Training

Staff # 21 Not Met

Date of Hire: 11/26/2023

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(5)-10 Hrs. Annual Training

591-1-1-.32 Staff:Child Ratios and Group Size(CR)**Met****Comment**

Discussed combining children of mixed ages.

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

Discussed proper supervision: responding promptly, bathrooms and playgrounds.

Correction Deadline: 10/9/2024

Corrected on 2/26/2025

.32(7) - Citation corrected.

Technical Assistance

Supervision 591-1-1-.32(7) The Consultant discussed with the Director that children shall be supervised at all times appropriate to the individual age, needs and capabilities of each child. Such supervision must include, but not be limited to, indoor and outdoor activities, mealtimes, naptime, transportation, field trips, and transitions between activities. "Supervision" means that the appropriate number of Staff members are physically present in the area where children are being cared for and are providing watchful oversight to the children, volunteers and Students-in-Training. The persons supervising in the child care area must be alert, positioned to maximize their ability to hear and see the children at all times, and able to respond promptly to the needs and actions of the children being supervised, as well as the actions of the volunteers and Students-in-Training, and provide timely attention to the children's actions and needs. Staff shall be attentive and participating with all children during mealtimes and shall be seated within an arm's length away from children thirty-six (36) months of age and younger.

Correction Deadline: 2/26/2025