



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: 8/19/2025 **VisitType:** Monitoring Visit

Arrival: 10:00 AM **Departure:** 1:00 PM

CCLC-26288

A Brighter Beginning Childcare Center

3423-C Deans Bridge Road Augusta, GA 30906 Richmond County
(706) 793-9776 holdeneric6@gmail.com

Regional Consultant

April Christian

Phone: ()

Fax:

april.christian@decal.ga.gov

Joint with: Christina Jennings

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.
08/19/2025	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
05/14/2025	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
09/23/2024	Monitoring Visit	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
Building 1	Building 1	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	2	14	C	18	C	NA	NA	Outside
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 18			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 67							
Building 3	Building 3	Two Year Olds and Three Year Olds	2	14	C	18	C	25	C	Outside
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 18			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 67							
Main	Front	One Year Olds	2	12	C	13	C	NA	NA	Free Play
Main	Left	Infants	1	5	C	6	C	NA	NA	Free Play
Main	Middle		0	0	C	5	C	NA	NA	
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 24			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 67							
Total # Children this Date: 45			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 60			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 67				

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	Large Rear-Play	87	C
Main	Left-Play	16	C

Enrolled Children						
Under 1 years	1 years	2 years	3 years	4 years	5 years (Prekonly)	5 years and older
5	13	16	15	0	0	0

Comments

The findings of this report were reviewed with the Director on this date. All Core Rules were observed 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.dec.al.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@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 MV:

Activities and Equipment

591-1-1.12 Equipment & Toys(CR)

Met

Comment

Equipment and furniture observed to be properly secured, as applicable.

591-1-1.35 Swimming Pools & Water-related Activities(CR)

Met

Comment

Center does not provide swimming activities.

Evening Care

591-1-1.32 Staffing/Supervision(CR)

Met

Comment

No evening care hours provided

Facility

591-1-1.06 Bathrooms

Not Met

Finding

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. It was determined based on observation that the exhaust fans were not clean and free of dust as required in the children's bathroom in Building 1 and in Building 3.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will fully enclose and ventilate bathroom areas, as required, and will provide adequate ventilation and sanitation in bathrooms that are not fully enclosed.

Correction Deadline: 9/19/2025

Prior Visits: 03/27/2024

Recited on 8/19/2025

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

Licensed capacity observed to be routinely met by center on this date.

591-1-1-.25 Physical Plant - Safe Environment(CR)	Not Met
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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 bottom of the closet door was cracked causing a potential pinching hazard in the Left classroom in Building 3.

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: 9/19/2025

Prior Visits: 03/29/2023

Recited on 8/19/2025

591-1-1-.26 Playgrounds(CR)	Technical Assistance
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Comment

Discussed maintenance of resilient surface. Please fluff and redistribute.

Technical Assistance

The Consultant and the Provider discussed ensuring that the fence was in good repair and the fence was free from hazards. Please ensure the fence is 4 feet as required and uses appropriate approved material.

Correction Deadline: 8/19/2025

Prior Visits: 03/29/2023

Health and Hygiene

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

Proper diapering procedures observed.

Comment

Staff stated proper knowledge of diapering procedures.

591-1-1-.17 Hygiene(CR)	Met
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Correction Deadline: 5/14/2025

Prior Visits: 05/14/2025

Corrected on 8/19/2025

.17(10) - The Previous citation was corrected in that the two out of two potty chairs were emptied in the two year old classroom in Building 1

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

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

Safety

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

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

591-1-1-.36 Transportation(CR)	Met
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Comment

Complete documentation of transportation observed on this date.

Comment

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

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

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

Met

Comment

Discussed SIDS and infant sleeping position.

Staff Records

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(CR)

Met

Comment

Evidence observed of 50% of center Staff certified in First Aid and CPR.

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

Correction Deadline: 5/14/2025

Prior Visits: 03/29/2023, 10/20/2022

Corrected on 8/19/2025

.32(1) - The previous citation was corrected in that the two year old classroom in Building 1 was observed with ratio 2:14

591-1-1-.32 Supervision(CR)

Met

Comment

Adequate supervision observed on this date.

Comment

Center observed to maintain appropriate staff:child ratios.