



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: 3/20/2026 VisitType: Monitoring Visit

Arrival: 9:40 AM Departure: 11:05 AM

CCLC-53959

Dottie's Totties Childcare Center

996 Mt. Zion Rd Morrow, GA 30260 Clayton County
(678) 568-9141

Regional Consultant

Nadia Bernard

Phone: (404) 670-9398

Fax: (706) 434-7710

nadia.bernard@dec.al.ga.gov

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.
03/20/2026	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
10/17/2025	Complaint Closure	Good Standing	
08/26/2025	Complaint Investigation Follow Up	Support	

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 - 1L - 3's and 4's	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	1	10	C	10	C	NA	NA	Centers,Story
Main	B - 1R - 1's and 2's	One Year Olds and Two Year Olds	1	6	C	6	C	NA	NA	Story
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 16			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0							
Total # Children this Date: 16			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 16							
			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0							

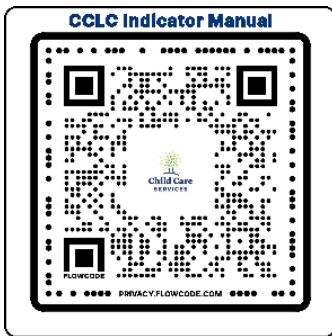
Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	Playground	26	C

Enrolled Children						
Under 1 years	1 years	2 years	3 years	4 years	5 years (Prekonly)	5 years and older
0	2	4	6	4	0	0

Comments

Playground resources were left with the staff on this date.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date



For additional information regarding any licensing topics discussed during this visit, please consult the Rules and Regulations Indicator Manual. This manual provides comprehensive clarification of each rule, including evaluation indicators, related best practices, and relevant considerations to support your program's continued and sustained compliance.

To access the Indicator Manual, please scan the QR code below or visit our website at <https://www.decal.ga.gov/CCS/RulesAndRegulations.aspx>.

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.decal.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

You have received permission to operate and the form received with this report is intended to serve as a temporary license which is **valid for thirty(30) days**. Your actual license/ will be emailed to you upon receipt of the licensing fee. You may pay the licensing fee either online at <http://www.decal.ga.gov/> or by certified check or money order mailed to: Bright from the Start, 2 Martin Luther King Jr. Drive SE, Suite 670 East Tower, Atlanta, GA 30334

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



Summary Report

Date: 3/20/2026 **VisitType:** Monitoring Visit

Arrival: 9:40 AM **Departure:** 11:05 AM

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The following information is associated with a Monitoring Visit:

Activities and Equipment

591-1-1-.03 Activities

Met

Correction Deadline: 8/26/2025

Corrected on 3/20/2026

.03(2) - The Consultant observed the citation to be corrected on this date. Current lesson plans were observed posted in Room B.

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

Not Met

Finding

591-1-1-.12(4) requires that equipment and furniture is secured if it is of a weight or mass that could cause injury from tipping, falling, or being pulled or pushed over. It was determined based on observation that in Room B a white shelf near the window was unstable causing a potential tipping hazard.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will ensure that the identified equipment or furniture and any other such existing or future items are secured adequately and will have a system for checking these for stability.

Correction Deadline: 3/27/2026

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

N/A

Comment

Center does not provide swimming activities.

Facility

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

Met

Correction Deadline: 8/26/2025

Corrected on 3/20/2026

.19(1) - The Consultant observed the citation to be corrected on this date. Room A was observed to be within their license capacity of 10 children.

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

Not Met

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 roofing had a large hole and pieces of wood hanging over the children's play area.

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: 4/30/2026

Recited on 3/20/2026

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 on observation that the Playground fencing in the back middle had a 6 inch gap with sharp 3 inch nails protruding out.

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: 4/10/2026

Recited on 3/20/2026

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 the following hazards were observed on the playground:.

* The wooden barrier fence on the playground had exposed protruding nails on multiple wooden planks.

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: 4/10/2026

Recited on 3/20/2026

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**

Proper hand washing observed throughout the center on this date.

591-1-1-.20 Medications(CR)**N/A****Comment**

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

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

Age-appropriate discussion and/or redirection observed.

Comment

Center does not provide routine transportation.

Correction Deadline: 9/5/2025

Corrected on 3/20/2026

.36(3)(a-b) - The Consultant observed the citation to be corrected on this date. The center stated that they do not provide transportation at this time.

Correction Deadline: 8/31/2025

Corrected on 3/20/2026

.36(4)(a) - The Consultant observed the citation to be corrected on this date. The center stated that they do not provide transportation at this time.

Correction Deadline: 8/27/2025

Corrected on 3/20/2026

.36(6) - The Consultant observed the citation to be corrected on this date. The center stated that they do not provide transportation at this time.

Correction Deadline: 8/27/2025

Corrected on 3/20/2026

.36(7)(c) - The Consultant observed the citation to be corrected on this date. The center stated that they do not provide transportation at this time.

Correction Deadline: 8/27/2025

Corrected on 3/20/2026

.36(7)(c)2. - The Consultant observed the citation to be corrected on this date. The center stated that they do not provide transportation at this time.

Correction Deadline: 8/27/2025

Corrected on 3/20/2026

.36(7)(c)3. - The Consultant observed the citation to be corrected on this date. The center stated that they do not provide transportation at this time.

Correction Deadline: 8/27/2025

Corrected on 3/20/2026

.36(7)(d)1. - The Consultant observed the citation to be corrected on this date. The center stated that they do not provide transportation at this time.

Correction Deadline: 8/26/2025

Corrected on 3/20/2026

.36(7)(d)2. - The Consultant observed the citation to be corrected on this date. The center stated that they do not provide transportation at this time.

Correction Deadline: 8/27/2025

Corrected on 3/20/2026

.36(7)(d)3 - The Consultant observed the citation to be corrected on this date. The center stated that they do not provide transportation at this time.

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

Met

Correction Deadline: 8/26/2025

Corrected on 3/20/2026

.30(1)(a)3 - The Consultant observed the citation to be corrected on this date. No infants were enrolled at this time. The Consultant observed a tight fitting sheet for the crib mattress.

Staff Records

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

Consultant requested to view all Criminal Record checks for employees hired after last visit. Director stated that there have been no new hires since last visit

Comment

Criminal record checks were observed to be complete.

591-1-1-.14 First Aid & CPR(CR)**Met****Comment**

At least one staff person with current and valid pediatric first aid and pediatric CPR observed in each classroom where children were present.

Comment

Evidence observed of 100% of center Staff certified in First Aid and CPR containing emergency care for infants and children on this date.

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**

Correction Deadline: 8/26/2025

Corrected on 3/20/2026

.32(7) - The Consultant observed the citation to be corrected on this date. The Consultant observed appropriate supervision in Room A-1L.