



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: 7/16/2025 **VisitType:** Monitoring Visit

Arrival: 10:15 AM **Departure:** 3:00 PM

CCLC-39267

Childcare of Excellence

3350 Old Louisville Road Augusta, GA 30906 Richmond County
(706) 284-8455 al2007evon@yahoo.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.
07/16/2025	Monitoring Visit	Deficient	
03/05/2025	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
08/07/2024	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
Main	Main	Infants and Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	1	9	C	12	C	NA	NA	Circle Time
Main	Upstairs	Six Year Olds and Over	1	11	C	10	NC	NA	NA	Circle Time
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 22			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0							
Total # Children this Date: 20			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0							

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	Main-Play Yard	73	C

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

Comments

The findings of this report were reviewed with the Director/Provider on this date. All Core Rules and follow up to previous rule violations were observed on this date.

Plan of Improvement: To Be Submitted 07/30/2025

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

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 user id 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!



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(Findings Report)

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The following information is associated with a MV:

Activities and Equipment

Records Reviewed: 4

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 1

Staff # 2

Not Met

Date of Hire: 06/10/2025

Reminder - Health & Safety training is required within 90
calendar days of hired

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.09-Criminal Records Check Missing

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 the following tipping hazards were accessible to children on this date:

- There was an unsecured white wooden bookshelf on the front right side of the Main Classroom
- There were two baby activity walkers stacked in the far right corner of the Main Classroom.

Correction Deadline: 8/16/2025

Prior Visits: 03/05/2025

Recited on 7/16/2025

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

N/A

Comment

Center does not provide swimming activities.

Facility

Staff # 2

Not Met

Date of Hire: 06/10/2025

Reminder - Health & Safety training is required within 90 calendar days of hired"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.09-Criminal Records Check Missing

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)**Not Met****Correction Deadline: 3/5/2025****Prior Visits: 02/01/2024****Corrected on 7/16/2025****.25(13) - Previous citation observed to be corrected in that the Consultant did not observe hazards to be accessible to children on this date.****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 following was observed:

Back Porch

- The wooden flooring had several loose floor boards with three protruding nails which posed a potential tripping hazard.
- There were several loose wooden spindles at the top and one missing spindle at the bottom of the porch ramp.
- There was splintering wood with sharp edges at the base of the wooden porch ramp.
- There were two missing railing on the left side of the Back porch measuring eight inches in width.
- There were ten nails throughout the bottom left and right of the front railing of the back porch.
- There was a broken plastic toy bin with sharp pieces located on the floor of the back porch.
- There were two white broken railing that were located near the fence accessible to children.

Main Bathroom

- Portions of the flooring were secured in place with rusted staples.
- The foot pedal of the trash can was broken with a protruding metal spoke.

Kitchen

- The first left cabinet below the sink had cob webs.

Main Classroom

- There was a large hole in the wall on the right side of the classroom between the two toy shelves.
- There were two nails located on the bottom shelf of the unsecured bookcase.

Correction Deadline: 8/16/2025

Prior Visits: 02/02/2023, 08/10/2022

Recited on 7/16/2025

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 on observation that a portion of the back right fencing was leaning away from the playground. It was further determined that the back right farm fencing measured three feet and one inch when four feet was required . It was also determined that there was a seven inch by four inch gap from the ground up at the back right fence which posed an entrapment hazard.

Correction Deadline: 9/15/2025

Prior Visits: 02/01/2024

Recited on 7/16/2025

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 the gray playground equipment had a two and one half inch crack with sharp corners. It was further determined that the orange and red playground equipment was partially assembled with a missing slide and standing platform which could pose a significant safety hazard to children. It was also determined that the second picnic table was missing the middle wooden slat on the top of the table.

Correction Deadline: 8/15/2025

Prior Visits: 02/01/2024

Recited on 7/16/2025

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 the following playground hazards were observed on this date:

- Thorny vines and branches were located through the left, back, and right sides of the farm fencing.
- Ants were observed crawling on the stationary play equipment.
- Three mushrooms were located on the back right and back middle side of the playground.
- There were tripping hazards located on the right side near the large tree and throughout.

Correction Deadline: 8/15/2025

Prior Visits: 08/10/2022

Recited on 7/16/2025

Health and Hygiene

Records Reviewed: 4

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 1

Staff # 2

Not Met

Date of Hire: 06/10/2025

Reminder - Health & Safety training is required within 90 calendar days of hired

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.09-Criminal Records Check Missing

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

Staff were observed to remind children to wash hands on this date.

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

N/A

Comment

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

Safety

Records Reviewed: 4

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 1

Staff # 2

Not Met

Date of Hire: 06/10/2025

Reminder - Health & Safety training is required within 90 calendar days of hired

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.09-Criminal Records Check Missing

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)**Met****Comment**

A current/completed inspection was observed for all vehicles used in transporting children this date.

Sleeping & Resting Equipment**Records Reviewed: 4****Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 1**

Staff # 2

Not Met

Date of Hire: 06/10/2025

Reminder - Health & Safety training is required within 90 calendar days of hired"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.09-Criminal Records Check Missing

591-1-1-.30 Safe Sleeping and Resting Requirements(CR)**Not Met****Finding**

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. It was determined based on observation that four out of four crib sheets were not tight- fitting while in use in the Main Classroom.

Correction Deadline: 8/16/2025**Prior Visits: 08/10/2022****Recited on 7/16/2025****Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.30(4) - Please ensure cots and mat are inaccessible to children outside of nap time.

Correction Deadline: 7/16/2025**Prior Visits: 08/07/2024****Staff Records****Records Reviewed: 4****Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 1**

Staff # 2

Not Met

Date of Hire: 06/10/2025

Reminder - Health & Safety training is required within 90 calendar days of hired"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.09-Criminal Records Check Missing

Finding

591-1-1-.09(1)(a) requires that a Center ensure that every actual and potential Director, Employee and Provisional Employee of a Child Care Learning Center submit both a Records Check Application to the Department and Fingerprints to an authorized fingerprinting site. It was determined based on a review of records that Staff #2 did not submit both a Records Check Application to the Department and Fingerprints to an authorized fingerprinting site as required.

Correction Deadline: 7/16/2025

Finding

591-1-1-.09(1)(c) requires the Center to ensure that every Employee has a valid and current satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination on file prior to being present at the Center while any child is present for care or before an individual age 17 or older resides in the Center. The Comprehensive Records Check Determination must have a Records Check Clearance Date that is no older than the preceding 12 months of the hire date; provided, however, if the Employee has had a lapse of employment from the child care industry that lasted for 180 days (6 months) or longer, a new satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination is required. It was determined based upon a review of records that Staff #2 did not have a current and valid Satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination letter on this date and did not have the most recently issued determination letter. Staff #2 was observed in the Upstairs Classroom with 11 school age children.

Correction Deadline: 7/16/2025

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

Met

Comment

Please be mindful of training expiration dates.

591-1-1-.33 Staff Training

Defer

Defer

591-1-1-.33(5)- Evaluation of the previous citation was deferred to the next licensing study in 2026 to review 2025 annual training.

Correction Deadline: 12/31/2025

591-1-1-.31 Staff(CR)

Met

Comment

Staff observed to be compliant with applicable laws and regulations.

Staffing and Supervision**Records Reviewed: 4****Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 1**

Staff # 2

Not Met

Date of Hire: 06/10/2025

Reminder - Health & Safety training is required within 90
calendar days of hired

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.09-Criminal Records Check Missing

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

Met

Comment

Adequate supervision observed on this date.

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

Met

Comment

Staff observed to provide direct supervision and be attentive to children's needs.