



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: 6/5/2025 **VisitType:** Monitoring Visit

Arrival: 10:10 AM **Departure:** 1:40 PM

CCLC-38853

Head of the Class Early Learning Center

7305 Covington Hwy. Lithonia, GA 30058 DeKalb County
(770) 482-7744 headoftheclassdirector@gmail.com

Regional Consultant

Cassandra Jakes-Beasley

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cassandra.jakes-beasley@decal.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.
06/05/2025	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
02/13/2025	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
09/20/2024	Complaint Closure	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 2	E/Left	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds and Five Year Olds and Six Year Olds and Over	1	8	C	15	C	21	C	Nap,Art
Building 2	F/Right		0	0	C	24	C	33	C	Not In Use
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 39			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 87							
Main	A/R side/1R		0	0	C	6	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Main	B/R side/2R		0	0	C	11	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Main	C/L Side/1R	Infants and Two Year Olds	1	6	C	7	C	NA	NA	Floor Play,Nap
Main	D/L side/1L		0	0	C	9	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 33			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 87							
Total # Children this Date: 14			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 72			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 87				

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	PG/A/Upper	40	C
Main	PG/B/Concrete	9	C
Main	PG/C/Lower	22	C

Enrolled Children						
Under 1 years	1 years	2 years	3 years	4 years	5 years (Prekonly)	5 years and older
1	1	5	9	4	0	0

Comments

The purpose of the visit was to conduct a Monitoring Visit. Background checks were reviewed. A copy of the report was emailed to 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.decga.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:

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 CAPS/ QR Provisional Status, allowing for scholarships while working toward an initial star rating. Provisional Status eligibility will be determined at the time of CAPS enrollment as part of the CAPS application process.

Contact the Quality Rated help desk at 855-800-7747 or qualityrated@decga.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 Monitoring Visit:

Activities and Equipment

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

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)

Met

Comment

No hazards observed accessible to children on this date.

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

Technical Assistance

Comment

Discussed maintenance of resilient surface, after inclement weather. Please fluff and redistribute.

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.26(4) - The Consultant discussed with the Director that the 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. Please ensure that the gate to the small playground is securely latch and the gate to the lower playground is closed..

Correction Deadline: 6/5/2025

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.26(8) - (8) The consultant discussed with the Director that the climbing and swinging equipment to have a resilient surface beneath the equipment and the fall zone from such equipment must be adequately maintained by the Center to assure continuing resiliency. Please ensure that the fall zone measures at least six inches in depth and the length of the wood chips is extended on the Lower Playground before use. The director stated that the Lower Playground was not currently in use.

Correction Deadline: 6/15/2025

Health and Hygiene**591-1-1-.10 Diapering Areas & Practices(CR)****Met****Comment**

Hand washing requirements for diapering were discussed with the director on this date.

591-1-1-.17 Hygiene(CR)**Met****Comment**

Proper hand washing observed throughout the center.

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

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

Policies and Procedures**591-1-1-.21 Operational Policies & Procedures****Met**

Correction Deadline: 2/28/2025

Corrected on 6/5/2025

.21(3) - Previous citation corrected, based on review of records, fire drills were conducted monthly as required.

591-1-1-.27 Posted Notices**Met**

Correction Deadline: 2/18/2025

Corrected on 6/5/2025

.27 - Previous citation corrected, based on observation, in that the a copy of the Center's current License and the name of the person responsible for the administration of the Center in the administrator's absence were posted for public viewing.

Safety**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)**Not Met****Comment**

Paperwork, checklist, permission forms, annual inspection form and proper check of the vehicle after transportation were discussed with the director.

Comment

The vehicle was checked for compliance. Proper restraints were observed and discussed with the director.

Finding

591-1-1-.36(4)(a) requires an annual safety check for each vehicle. The annual safety check, completed by a trained individual, should include a check of the: tires, headlights, horn, taillights, turn signals, brake lights, brakes, suspension, exhaust system, steering, windows, windshields and windshield wipers. A copy of the annual safety check will be kept in the Center or on the vehicle and should include evidence of any repairs and/or replacements that were identified as needed on the inspection report. It was determined, based on review of records, there was no evidence on the annual inspection dated May 21, 2025, for vehicle #CMS7017 that the repairs of low tire pressure and a crack windshield had been repaired.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will obtain the annual vehicle inspection.

Correction Deadline: 6/13/2025

Recited on 6/5/2025

Correction Deadline: 2/14/2025

Corrected on 6/5/2025

.36(4)(b) - Previous citation corrected, based on observation, in that the metal tire jack and yellow metal tire boot were removed from the interior of the vehicle used to transport children.

Correction Deadline: 2/13/2025

Corrected on 6/5/2025

.36(7)(d)2. - Previous citation corrected, based on observation, in that there was documentation of staff signatures for conducting a second check of the vehicle used for routine transportation on the afternoon routes for May 19, 2025 through May 30, 2025.

Finding

591-1-1-.36(8) restricts a child's travel time to forty-five minutes on each trip between the Center and destination unless accompanied by the Parent and excluding field trips. It was determined, based on review of records, a child's travel time was documented to be more than 45 minutes on the afternoon route of routine transportation to the center from Shadow Rock Elementary school on May 19, 20, and May 23, 2025.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The center will ensure that the travel time is no more than forty-five minutes on each trip.

Correction Deadline: 6/5/2025

Recited on 6/5/2025

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

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

591-1-1-.30(2) - The Consultant discussed with the Director that the Center is required 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. Please ensure that infants are placed immediately in their crib at nap time.

Correction Deadline: 6/5/2025

Staff Records

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

Director provided [2] file(s) for employees hired since last visit.

591-1-1-.14 First Aid & CPR	Met
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Correction Deadline: 3/15/2025

Corrected on 6/5/2025

.14(2) -Previous citation corrected, based on observation, in that Staff # 3 obtained the hands-on component for CPR.

Correction Deadline: 2/23/2025

Corrected on 6/5/2025

.14(3) - - Previous citation corrected, based on observation, in that the playground was observed to be clean, free of litter, and free of hazards on this date.

Previous citation corrected, based on observation, in that all of the missing items in the center and on the vehicle were replaced.

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

Center observed to maintain appropriate staff:child ratios.

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

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