



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: 1/9/2025 **VisitType:** Complaint Investigation Follow Up **Arrival:** 9:40 AM **Departure:** 3:20 PM

CCLC-50264

Big Blue Marble - East Cherokee

8991 E. Cherokee Drive Canton, GA 30115 Cherokee County
(770) 704-4925 center26@bbmacademy.com

Regional Consultant

Randy Gaytan

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randy.gaytan@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.
01/09/2025	Complaint Investigation Follow Up	Good Standing	
01/08/2025	Incident Investigation Closure	Deficient	
12/18/2024	Initial-TA	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 Building	A-1st Left side	One Year Olds and Two Year Olds	2	13	C	29	C	NA	NA	Centers
Main Building	B- 2nd left -2nd right side	One Year Olds	2	12	C	23	C	NA	NA	Centers
Main Building	C-3rd left 1st right	Infants and One Year Olds	2	9	C	24	C	NA	NA	Floor Play
Main Building	D-Middle Room	Three Year Olds	2	29	C	34	C	NA	NA	Centers
Main Building	E-Right side 1st left	GA PreK	2	19	C	21	C	NA	NA	Centers
Main Building	F-Toddlers- Right side 1st right	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	2	20	C	16	NC	NA	NA	Centers
Main Building	G-Pre-K Right Side 2nd Left	GA PreK	2	19	C	22	C	NA	NA	Centers
Main Building	H-Two's Right Side- 2nd Right	Two Year Olds	2	16	C	20	C	NA	NA	Centers
Main Building	I-Right Side 2nd right	Two Year Olds and Three Year Olds	2	16	C	20	C	NA	NA	Centers
Main Building	J-1st Right Side	One Year Olds and Two Year Olds	3	12	C	30	C	NA	NA	Circle Time
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 239					Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					
Total # Children this Date: 165					Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
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Comments

The purpose of this visit was to conduct a complaint investigation and a follow up visit.

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 Complaint Investigation Follow Up:

Activities and Equipment

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

Met

Correction Deadline: 11/6/2024

Corrected on 1/9/2025

.12(6) - The previous citation was observed to be corrected on this date in that classrooms H and F had a variety of materials in the centers.

Facility

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

Met

Correction Deadline: 12/31/2024

Corrected on 1/9/2025

.26(8) - The previous citation of the a crack in the resilient surface on the infant playground was observed to be corrected in that the surface had been replaced.

Food Service

591-1-1-.18 Kitchen Operations

Met

Correction Deadline: 10/7/2024

Corrected on 1/9/2025

.18(8) - The previous citation of food being out of their original package and not labeled was observed to be corrected in that these items were labeled.

Staff Records

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 on a review of records that staff member #39 began providing services on October 18, 2024, and did not have a valid and current satisfactory comprehensive records check determination on file. Staff member #39 was not on site at the time of the visit.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

IMMEDIATE CORRECTION - The Center will routinely review all staff and contractor files 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. The program's owner or an officer/member of the corporation must view the A to Z Background Check video units pertaining to this records check rule and return the signed affidavit within one week from this visit date. The center will follow the procedures presented in the training videos to ensure the CRC rules are maintained.

Correction Deadline: 1/9/2025

Finding

591-1-1-.09(1)(j) requires that for portability for Directors, Employees and Provisional Employees, excluding Students-in-Training, only the most recently issued determination letter is eligible for portability and must be ported electronically. A Center may accept a satisfactory Fingerprint Records Check Determination letter or a satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination letter issued by the Department if the Records Check Clearance Date is within the preceding 12 months from the hire date, the individual has not had a lapse of employment from the child care industry that lasted for 180 days (6 months) or longer, and the Center does not know or reasonably should not know that the individual's satisfactory status has changed. It was determined based on a review of records that staff members #26 and #27 who had a satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination letter that was still in it's portability period, but was not ported onto the provider's license number on DECAL Koala.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

IMMEDIATE CORRECTION - The Center will routinely review all staff and contractor files to ensure that only the most recently issued determination letter is electronically ported for Directors, Employees and Provisional Employees, excluding Students-in-Training. A Center may accept a satisfactory Fingerprint Records Check Determination letter or a satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination letter issued by the Department if the Records Check Clearance Date is within the preceding 12 months from the hire date, the individual has not had a lapse of employment from the child care industry that lasted for 180 days (6 months) or longer, and the Center does not know or reasonably should not know that the individual's satisfactory status has changed. The program's owner or an officer/member of the corporation must view the A to Z Background Check video units pertaining to this records check rule and return the signed affidavit within one week from this visit date. The Center will follow the procedures presented in the training videos to ensure CRC rules are maintained.

Correction Deadline: 1/9/2025

591-1-1-.14 First Aid & CPR

Met

Correction Deadline: 11/6/2024

Corrected on 1/9/2025

.14(2) - The previous citation of staff lacking CPR and First Aid training was observed to be corrected in that 100% of the staff had documentation of CPR and First Aid certification.

591-1-1-.33 Staff Training

Met

Correction Deadline: 11/6/2024

Corrected on 1/9/2025

.33(3) - The previous citation of staff not having documentation of taking the required Health and Safety Orientation training was observed to be corrected on this date in that all staff had documentation of the required training.

Correction Deadline: 10/7/2024

Corrected on 1/9/2025

.31(2)(c) - The previous citation of Lead Teachers not having the required education requirements was observed to be corrected on this date in that all Lead Teachers have documentation of their credentials in their staff files.

Staffing and Supervision

Correction Deadline: 1/9/2025

Corrected on 1/9/2025

.32(7) - The previous citation of lack of supervision was observed to be corrected in that all rooms were providing watchful oversight during the time the consultant was in each classroom.