



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: 9/4/2025 **VisitType:** Monitoring Visit

Arrival: 12:45 PM **Departure:** 3:35 PM

CCLC-54206

Divine Care Children Center

780 Newtown Rd Washington, GA 30673 Wilkes County
(706) 401-7497

Regional Consultant

Christina Jennings

Phone: (404) 463-0970

Fax: (770) 342-3177

christina.jennings@decal.ga.gov

Mailing Address

Same

Quality Rated: ★ ★

<u>Compliance Zone Designation</u>			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.
09/04/2025	Monitoring Visit	Deficient	
03/25/2025	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
04/04/2024	Licensing Study	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 Building	1L-Infant-2 years	Infants and One Year Olds and Two Year Olds	2	16	C	43	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main Building	1R-3 year old-Twelve year old	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	1	8	C	55	C	NA	NA	Nap
			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 98			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0				
Total # Children this Date: 24			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 98			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0				

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main Building	Playground	21	C

Enrolled Children						
Under 1 years	1 years	2 years	3 years	4 years	5 years (Prekonly)	5 years and older
3	8	8	8	3	0	5

Comments

The Consultant reviewed the report with the Provider. The visit was not closed on site due to technical difficulties and connectivity challenges.

Plan of Improvement: To Be Submitted 09/18/2025

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 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

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The following information is associated with a Monitoring Visit:

Activities and Equipment

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

Not Met

Finding

591-1-1-.12(2) requires that all equipment and furniture be free from hazardous conditions such as, but not limited to, sharp rough edges or toxic paint; and be kept clean. It was determined based on observation that the following classrooms had equipment and furniture with hazardous conditions accessible to children:

Main 1L:

- The fabric on three out of three Mickey Mouse activity walkers were stained throughout the fabric.
- A wooden bench against the wall on the back right side of the classroom was stained and not in good repair.
- The grey and white children's play sink and stove had a broken sink faucet causing exposed sharp edges against the wall on the left side of the classroom.
- There were exposed screws on the front of the grey and white children's play sink and stove against the wall on the left side of the classroom.

Correction Deadline: 9/4/2025

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 white wooden cubby shelf where the children's items were stored was not properly secured causing a potential tipping hazard on the front left side of classroom Main 1R.

Correction Deadline: 9/19/2025

Recited on 9/4/2025

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

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: 3/25/2025

Corrected on 9/4/2025

.25(12) - Previous citation observed to be corrected in that the Consultant did not observe heating and cooling equipment accessible to children on this date.

Correction Deadline: 3/25/2025

Corrected on 9/4/2025

.25(13) - Previous citation observed to be corrected in that the Consultant did not observe potential 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 there were two protruding nails on the front left side of the wall in the men's bathroom, one protruding screw on the front of the wall in the men's bathroom, and one protruding nail on the front right wall in the men's bathroom. It was further determined that there was a protruding nail on the front wall of the women's bathroom.

Correction Deadline: 9/26/2025

Recited on 9/4/2025

Finding

591-1-1-.25(8) requires protective caps on all unused electrical outlets within children's reach and requires that electrical outlets in use be made inaccessible to children. It was determined based on observation that there were multiple uncovered electrical outlets within children's reach throughout the Center on this date. It was further determined that there was a hanging electrical cord that was connected to the television and was accessible to children in classroom Main 1R.

Correction Deadline: 9/5/2025

Recited on 9/4/2025

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

Not Met

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 toys that were accessible to children were cracked and not in good repair though out the playground.

Correction Deadline: 9/19/2025

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 hazards were accessible to children on the playground:

- There was an active ant bed on the right side of the playground.
- The black garden fabric was exposed causing a potential tripping hazard on the back right corner of the playground.
- Tall grass and weeds through out the playground.
- Two large bolts protruding from the black barrier on the back right side of the playground.
- The green plastic was exposed inside of the sand box area on the front right side of the playground causing a potential tripping hazard.

Recited on 9/4/2025

Food Service

591-1-1-.15 Food Service & Nutrition **Not Met**

Finding

591-1-1-.15(2)(a) requires Center Personnel to hold and feed infants less than six months of age and older children who cannot hold their own bottles or sit alone. Baby bottles shall never be propped; the infant's head shall be elevated while feeding. It was determined based on observation that an 8-month old infant was in a reclined position with the infant's bottle propped on the infant's arm while sleeping in a bouncy seat in classroom Main 1L.

Correction Deadline: 9/4/2025

Health and Hygiene

591-1-1-.07 Children's Health **Not Met**

Finding

591-1-1-.07(5) requires Center Staff to not permit children to wear around their necks or attach to their clothing pacifiers or other hazardous items. It was determined based upon observation that an 8-month-old infant had a pacifier clipped to their clothing while sleeping in a crib causing a potential strangulation hazard in classroom Main 1L.

Correction Deadline: 9/4/2025

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

Correction Deadline: 3/25/2025

Corrected on 9/4/2025

.10(4) - Previous citation observed to be corrected in that the Consultant observed the diaper changing pads to be smooth and nonporous as required in classroom Main 1L The Consultant did not observe debris under the changing pads in classroom Main 1L on this date.

591-1-1-.17 Hygiene(CR) **Not Met**

Finding

591-1-1-17(7) requires that children wash their hands with liquid soap and warm running water upon arrival for care, when moving from one child care group to another, upon re-entering the child care area after outside play, before and after eating meals and snacks, handling or touching food, playing in water; after toileting and diapering, playing in sand, touching animals or pets, and contact with bodily fluids and after contamination by any other means. It was determined based on observation that the children in classroom Main 1L did not wash their hands with liquid soap and warm running water before eating snack as required. It was further determined that the children in classroom Main 1R did not wash their hands with liquid soap and warm running water before eating snack as required.

Correction Deadline: 9/4/2025

Finding

591-1-1-.17(8) requires staff to wash their hands with liquid soap and warm running water upon arrival for the day, when moving from one child care group to another, upon re-entering the child care area after outside play, before and after diapering each child, dispensing medication, applying topical medications, handling and preparing food, eating, drinking, preparing bottles, feeding each child, assisting children with eating and drinking, after toileting or assisting children with toileting, using tobacco products, handling garbage and organic waste, touching animals or pets, handling bodily fluids and after contamination by any means. It was determined based on observation that two out of two staff members in classroom Main 1L did not wash their hands with liquid soap and warm running water before serving snack to six 1-year-old children and nine 2-year-old children as required. It was further determined that a staff member in classroom Main 1R did not wash their hands with liquid soap and warm running water before serving snack to eight 3-year-old children as required.

Correction Deadline: 9/4/2025

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

N/A

Comment

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

Policies and Procedures

591-1-1-.21 Operational Policies & Procedures

Met

Correction Deadline: 4/1/2025

Corrected on 9/4/2025

.21(3) - Previous citation observed to be corrected in that the Consultant observed records that the Center conducted drills for fire, tornado and other emergency situations as required on this date.

591-1-1-.27 Posted Notices

Met

Correction Deadline: 3/25/2025

Corrected on 9/4/2025

.27 - Previous citation observed to be corrected in that the Consultant observed the current week's menu for meals and snacks posted as required on this date.

Safety

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

Technical Assistance

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.11(2) - The Consultant and Provider discussed age appropriate discipline techniques such as but not limited to ages for time out and redirection as a form of discipline.

Correction Deadline: 9/4/2025

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

N/A

Comment

Center does not provide routine transportation.

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 three out of three crib sheets were not tight-fitting with two 8-month-old infants asleep in each crib in classroom Main 1L.

Correction Deadline: 9/4/2025

Recited on 9/4/2025

Finding

591-1-1-.30(1)(b)4 requires that a light cover be available for each child's use on a cot or mat and shall be marked for individual use or laundered daily. If marked for individual use, they must be laundered weekly or more frequently if needed. It was determined based on observation that during nap time, nine out of 11 children were sleeping on cots and did not have a light cover available as required in classroom Main 1L.

Correction Deadline: 9/4/2025

Correction Deadline: 3/25/2025

Corrected on 9/4/2025

.30(2) - Previous citation observed to be corrected in that the Consultant observed three out of three cribs to be free of items such as stuffed toys and mobiles in classroom Main 1L on this date.

Finding

591-1-1-.30(2)(c) requires that infants shall not sleep in equipment other than safety-approved cribs, such as, but not limited to, a car safety seat, bouncy seat, highchair, or swing. Infants who arrive at the Center asleep or fall asleep in such equipment, on the floor or elsewhere, shall be transferred to a safety-approved crib. It was determined based on observation that there was a 5-month infant asleep in a bouncy seat and was not immediately transferred to a safety-approved crib as required in classroom Main 1L. It was further determined that there was an 8-month old infant asleep in a bouncy seat and was not immediately transferred to a safety-approved crib as required in classroom Main 1L.

Staff Records

591-1-1-.09 Criminal Records and Comprehensive Background Checks(CR)	Met
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591-1-1-.14 First Aid & CPR(CR)	Met
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591-1-1-.24 Personnel Records	Met
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.24(1) - Previous citation observed to be corrected in that the Consultant observed a personnel file for all staff members on this date.

591-1-1-.33 Staff Training	Not Met
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591-1-1-.33(3) requires each Staff member with direct care responsibilities to complete health and safety orientation training within the first 90 days of employment. The state-approved training hours obtained will count toward required first year training hours. The training must address the following health and safety topics: prevention and control of infectious diseases (including immunizations); prevention of sudden infant death syndrome and use of safe sleeping practices; administration of medication, consistent with standards for parental consent; prevention of and response to emergencies due to food and allergic reactions; building and physical premises safety, including identification of and protection from hazards that can cause bodily injury such as electrical hazards, bodies of water, and vehicular traffic; prevention of shaken baby syndrome, abusive head trauma and child maltreatment; emergency preparedness and response planning for emergencies resulting from a natural disaster or a human-caused event (such as violence at a child care facility); handling and storage of hazardous materials and the appropriate disposal of bio contaminants; precautions in transporting children; recognition and reporting of child abuse and neglect; and child development. It was determined based on a review of records that Staff #4, hired August 22, 2022 did not have evidence of completing ten hours of health and safety orientation training within the first 90 days of employment as required.

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Finding

591-1-1-.33(4) requires within the first year of employment, the Director and person with primary responsibility for food preparation shall have four clock hours of training in food nutrition planning, preparation, serving, proper dish washing and food storage. It was determined based on a review of records that Staff #5, hired September 7, 2021, did not have evidence of completing four clock hours of training in food nutrition planning, preparation, serving, proper dish washing and food storage as required.

Correction Deadline: 9/30/2025

Recited on 9/4/2025

Defer

591-1-1-.33(5)-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

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

Met

Correction Deadline: 9/4/2025

Corrected on 9/4/2025

.32(2) - Previous citation observed to be corrected in that the Consultant observed proper Staff:child ratios on this date.

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

Not Met

Finding

591-1-1-.32(7) requires that children be supervised at all times appropriate to the individual age, needs and capabilities of each child. Such supervision must include, but not be limited to, indoor and outdoor activities, mealtimes, naptime, transportation, field trips, and transitions between activities. "Supervision" means that the appropriate number of Staff members are physically present in the area where children are being cared for and are providing watchful oversight to the children, volunteers and Students-in-Training. The persons supervising in the child care area must be alert, positioned to maximize their ability to hear and see the children at all times, and able to respond promptly to the needs and actions of the children being supervised, as well as the actions of the volunteers and Students-in-Training, and provide timely attention to the children's actions and needs. Staff shall be attentive and participating with all children during mealtimes and shall be seated within an arm's length away from children thirty-six (36) months of age and younger. It was determined based on observation that the center staff in classroom Main 1L were not seated within an arm's length away from children thirty-six (36) months of age and younger during snack time.

Correction Deadline: 9/4/2025

Recited on 9/4/2025