



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

Arrival: 10:10 AM **Departure:** 12:30 PM

CCLC-3105

Lighthouse Christian Day Care

4565 Bemiss Road Valdosta, GA 31605 Lowndes County
(229) 244-8436 vickie.burt@lbcministry.org

Process & QI Unit Consultant

Stacy Igarashi

Phone: (770) 405-7920

Fax: (404) 478-8021

stacy.igarashi@decal.ga.gov

Mailing Address

Same

Quality Rated: No

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.
05/06/2025	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
07/22/2024	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
06/03/2024	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	Rm A-Left entry-Toddler 2's	Two Year Olds and Three Year Olds	1	6	C	20	C	NA	NA	Circle Time
Main	Rm B-1st R-Infant/toddlers	Infants and One Year Olds	1	4	C	15	C	NA	NA	Floor Play,Diapering,Feeding
Main	Rm C-Bk left - K3	Five Year Olds and Six Year Olds and Over	1	3	C	15	C	21	C	Centers
Main	Rm D-end rm K-4	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	1	4	C	23	C	32	C	Centers
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 73			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 102			Building @35 capacity limited by Centers Request				
Total # Children this Date: 17			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 73			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 102				

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	3's+	156	C
Main	infant-2's	43	C

Enrolled Children						
Under 1 years	1 years	2 years	3 years	4 years	5 years (Prekonly)	5 years and older
2	2	6	7	2	0	8

Comments

The purpose of this visit was to conduct a Monitoring Visit and follow up on previous rule violation.

Plan of Improvement: No Plan Developed

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.decgal.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:

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 1 855-800-7747 or qualityrated@decgal.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 Monitoring Visit:

Activities and Equipment

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

Technical Assistance

Comment

A variety of equipment and toys were observed throughout the center.

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.12(4) - Consultant discussed with staff and Director to ensure chairs are not stacked in classrooms when children are present, to prevent tipping hazards from becoming present.

Correction Deadline: 5/6/2025

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.

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

Technical Assistance

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.25(13) - Consultant discussed with staff and Director to monitor teacher desks and storage areas and ensure adult scissors, staplers and staples or other objects that could pose a hazard to children are stored inaccessible to children.

Correction Deadline: 5/6/2025

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

Technical Assistance

Comment

Playground observed to be clean and in good repair.

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.26(4) - Consultant discussed with Director to ensure the fencing is four feet high in all areas. Also discussed to monitor areas where rust is developing, on the top fencing poles and gates, and ensure they are painted or replaced as needed. Please ensure all fencing posts have caps and screws are cut down to two threads as required, to prevent hazards.

Correction Deadline: 5/6/2025

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.26(6) - Consultant discussed with Director to monitor the equipment, including the swing chains, and small bouncy car for chipping paint and repaint or repair as needed. Also discussed trimming and cutting the weeds growing under the see saws and other areas and ensure they are removed.

Correction Deadline: 5/16/2025

Health and Hygiene

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

Comment

Proper diapering procedures observed.

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

Comment

Staff were observed to remind children to wash hands.

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

Staff were observed to maintain a positive learning environment on this date.

591-1-1-.36 Transportation(CR) N/A

Comment

Center does not provide routine transportation.

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

591-1-1-.30 Safe Sleeping and Resting Requirements(CR) Met

Comment

Discussed SIDS and infant sleeping position.

Comment

The correct number of mats, sheets and blankets were observed on this date. Cleaning and disinfecting of mats was discussed with the director on this date.

Staff Records

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

Comment

Criminal record checks were observed to be complete.

Comment

Director provided one file for employees hired since last visit.

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

Correction Deadline: 8/21/2024

Corrected on 5/6/2025

.14(1) - The previous citation was corrected on this date, the Director was observed to have evidence of up to date CPR/First Aid training, as required.

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.33(3) - Consultant discussed with Director to ensure new staff, including substitutes, complete the required Health and Safety Orientation training and provide documentation for their file within the first 90 days of employment.

Correction Deadline: 6/5/2025

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

Discussed that all lead staff must enroll in an approved education program within 6 months of hire and complete degree within 18 months.

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)**Technical Assistance****Comment**

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

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.32(7) - Consultant discussed with Director and staff to ensure staff are seated within arms reach of children ages 36 months old and younger during meal times to ensure supervision is provided to prevent choking.

Correction Deadline: 5/6/2025