



**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:** 2/13/2026 **VisitType:** Monitoring Visit

**Arrival:** 10:00 AM **Departure:** 12:45 PM

**CCLC-46309**

**Small Wonders Playcare Center Evans**

229 N. Belair Rd. Evans, GA 30809 Columbia County  
(706) 860-7676

Regional Consultant

Christina Jennings

Phone: (404) 463-0970

Fax: (770) 342-3177

christina.jennings@decal.ga.gov

**Mailing Address**

Same

**Quality Rated:** ★ ★

| Compliance Zone Designation |                  |               | <b>Compliance Zone Designation</b> - 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.<br><br><b>Good Standing</b> - Program is demonstrating an acceptable level of performance in meeting the rules.<br><b>Support</b> - Program performance is demonstrating a need for improvement in meeting rules.<br><b>Deficient</b> - Program is not demonstrating an acceptable level of performance in meeting the rules. |
|-----------------------------|------------------|---------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 02/13/2026                  | Monitoring Visit | Good Standing |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| 10/01/2025                  | Licensing Study  | Good Standing |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| 03/26/2025                  | 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                            | Left Front                | GA PreK                            | 2                               | 18       | C    | 19                              | C            | 26         | C                                                          | Centers     |
| Main                            | Left Rear                 | Infants                            | 3                               | 10       | C    | 20                              | C            | NA         | NA                                                         | Floor Play  |
| Main                            | Middle Left               | One Year Olds                      | 3                               | 6        | C    | 21                              | C            | NA         | NA                                                         | Centers     |
| Main                            | Middle Right              | Two Year Olds                      | 3                               | 12       | C    | 31                              | C            | NA         | NA                                                         | Centers     |
| Main                            | Right Front A (Nursery 2) |                                    | 0                               | 0        | C    | 14                              | C            | NA         | NA                                                         |             |
| Main                            | Right Front B (Pre-K)     | GA PreK                            | 2                               | 16       | C    | 25                              | C            | 35         | C                                                          | Centers     |
| Main                            | Right Rear                | Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds | 3                               | 17       | C    | 34                              | C            | NA         | NA                                                         | Circle Time |
| Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 164 |                           |                                    | Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 166 |          |      |                                 |              |            |                                                            |             |
| Total # Children this Date: 79  |                           |                                    | Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 164 |          |      | Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 166 |              |            | Building @25 capacity limited by Fire Marshall Limitations |             |

| Building | Playground            | Playground Occupancy | Playground Compliance |
|----------|-----------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|
| Main     | PG- Left              | 28                   | C                     |
| Main     | PG- Middle Playground | 59                   | C                     |
| Main     | PG- Right Playground  | 144                  | C                     |

| <b>Enrolled Children</b> |                |                |                |                |                           |                          |
|--------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| <b>Under 1 years</b>     | <b>1 years</b> | <b>2 years</b> | <b>3 years</b> | <b>4 years</b> | <b>5 years (Prekonly)</b> | <b>5 years and older</b> |
| 10                       | 6              | 13             | 18             | 37             | 0                         | 11                       |

#### **Comments**

The Consultant and Provider reviewed the report and discussed best practices.

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.state.ga.us/CCS/Regulations.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.

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#### **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](http://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.

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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.state.ga.us](mailto:qualityrated@dec.state.ga.us) for more information. Free technical assistance is available!**



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Summary Report

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The following information is associated with a Monitoring Visit:

Activities and Equipment

591-1-1-.03 Activities

Met

Correction Deadline: 10/1/2025

Corrected on 2/13/2026

.03(2) - Previous citation observed to be corrected in that the Consultant observed a current lesson dated for the week of February 16, 2026 thru February 20, 2026 in the Middle Right Classroom on this date.

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

Met

Comment

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

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

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.25(11) - The Consultant and Provider discussed ensuring that the flooring was clean and in good repair in the Middle Right Classroom.

Correction Deadline: 3/15/2026

Finding

591-1-1-.25(13) requires that potentially hazardous equipment, materials and supplies be stored in a locked area inaccessible to children. It was determined based on observation that the following hazards were accessible to children on this date:

Right Rear Classroom:

- An opened staff staff back in an unlocked closet.
- A bottle of medication on a shelf in an unlocked closet.
- Sharpie markers on top of a cubby between the children's bathroom.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center will identify all hazardous items and keep them in a locked area inaccessible to children. The Center will inform all Staff about hazardous items and the safe storage of those items.

**Correction Deadline: 2/13/2026**

**591-1-1-.26 Playgrounds(CR)****Technical Assistance****Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.26(4) - The Consultant and Provider discussed ensuring that the fencing surrounding the Right Playground was properly secured and free of hazards on this date.

**Correction Deadline: 2/13/2026**

**Health and Hygiene****591-1-1-.10 Diapering Areas & Practices(CR)****Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.10(4) requires that if diapers are changed on a diaper changing surface, the surface shall be smooth, nonporous, and equipped with a guard or rails to prevent falls. Between each diaper change, the diaper changing surface shall be cleaned with a disinfectant and dried with a single-use disposable towel. It was determined based on observation that the diaper changing surface was not equipped with a guard or rail to prevent falls in the Middle Right 2-year-old Classroom and the Middle Left 1-year-old classroom.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center will ensure there is a smooth, nonporous changing surface that has a guard or rails for safety in each classroom that houses children wearing diapers. Center Staff will be trained and have adequate supplies to properly clean the diaper changing surface between each diaper change.

**Correction Deadline: 2/13/2026**

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

Proper hand washing of children and staff was discussed with the director on this date.

**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)****Met****Comment**

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

**Sleeping & Resting Equipment****591-1-1-.30 Safe Sleeping and Resting Requirements(CR)****Met****Comment**

Discussed SIDS and infant sleeping position.

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

Criminal record checks were observed to be complete.

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

**Correction Deadline: 10/31/2025**

Corrected on 2/13/2026

.14(1) - Previous citation observed to be corrected in that the Consultant observed Staff #7 to have evidence of valid evidence of successful completion pediatric cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and a triennial training program in pediatric first aid on this date.

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

Met

**Comment**

Staff observed to be compliant with applicable laws and regulations.

|                                 |
|---------------------------------|
| <b>Staffing and Supervision</b> |
|---------------------------------|

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

Met

**Comment**

Center observed to maintain appropriate staff:child ratios.

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

Met

**Comment**

Adequate supervision observed on this date.