



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: 6/24/2025 **VisitType:** Complaint Investigation Follow Up **Arrival:** 11:20 AM **Departure:** 12:45 PM

CCLC-26666

Ms. Julie's Child Care & Learning Center

93 Laurel Ridge Rd. Blairsville, GA 30512 Union County
(706) 781-1575 msjuliehughes@gmail.com

CCS Coordinator

Margarita Collier

Phone: (770) 342-7934

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margarita.collier@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.
06/24/2025	Complaint Investigation Follow Up	Good Standing	
12/06/2024	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
06/24/2024	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	A		0	0	C	11	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Main	B	Infants and One Year Olds and Two Year Olds and Three Year Olds	3	14	C	19	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main	C		0	0	C	26	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Main	D		0	0	C	20	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Main	E-Cafeteria	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds and Five Year Olds and Six Year Olds and Over	1	27	NC	11	NC	NA	NA	Transitioning, Outside, Lunch
			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 87		Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					
Total # Children this Date: 41			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 87		Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	A-Playground Under 2	13	C
Main	B- 3 Yrs and Older	61	C

Comments

The consultant discussed the following information with the Director during the visit:

- Comprehensive background check reminders.
- Required reporting reminders (i.e., temporary closures, injury, illness, etc.).
- Upcoming rule changes (i.e., first aid and CPR, language and literacy, etc.).

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.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:

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@decal.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:

Facility

591-1-1-.19 License Capacity(CR)

Not Met

Finding

591-1-1-.19(1) requires a Center to provide 35 square feet of usable space per child, which will determine the Center's License capacity. It was determined based on observation that the Center exceeded the licensed capacity for classroom E-Cafeteria when a ratio of 1:28 was observed, when E-Cafeteria was licensed for 11.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will limit the number of children in this space to the licensed capacity.

Correction Deadline: 6/24/2025

Staffing and Supervision

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

Not Met

Finding

591-1-1-.32(2) requires the Center maintain Staff:child ratios in mixed-age groups based on the age of the youngest group of children that includes more than twenty percent of the total number of children in the mixed-age group. It was determined based on observation that a ratio of 1:28 was present in classroom E-Cafeteria, consisting of four 3-year-olds, five 4-year-olds, six 5-year-olds, and 13 school-age children. A second staff person was needed to meet the minimum ratio of 1:18 for 4-year-olds.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will provide adequate staff when there is a mixed-age group. The consultant discussed staffing requirements to ensure that staff: child ratios are maintained.

Correction Deadline: 6/24/2025

Finding

591-1-1-.32(4) requires that children under three years old be housed in separate physical areas from older children and cannot be mixed with older children except at specified times and circumstances. It was determined based on observation that a ratio of 3:14 was present in classroom B, consisting of four infants, five 1-year-olds, two 2-year-olds, and three 3-year-olds.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will maintain separation of these children under three years old. The consultant will email a copy of the 2-year-old permission slip to move to 3-year-old classroom to the Director. Consultant discussed with the Director to ensure that the information is maintained in the children's file and updated as needed for children that are 2-year-old and turn 3-year-old in the middle of the school-year.

Correction Deadline: 6/24/2025