



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: 1/27/2026 **VisitType:** Monitoring Visit

Arrival: 9:40 AM **Departure:** 11:10 AM

CCLC-3364
Mount Zion Day Care Center
323 McKinley Street Thomasville, GA 31792 Thomas County
(229) 226-4240

Regional Consultant
Angela Williams-Jackson
Phone: (404) 710-3984
Fax: (678) 717-5765
angela.williams-jackson@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.
01/27/2026	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
09/08/2025	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
03/03/2025	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	A 3 year olds	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	2	16	C	17	C	24	C	Music
Main	B 1-2 years	One Year Olds and Two Year Olds	2	17	C	17	C	NA	NA	Transitioning
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 34					Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 41					
Total # Children this Date: 33					Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 41					

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	Left Playground	12	C
Main	Right Playground	25	C

Enrolled Children						
Under 1 years	1 years	2 years	3 years	4 years	5 years (Prekonly)	5 years and older
0	7	10	14	12	0	17

Comments

Repeat citations were left with the Center on this date.

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:

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-.03 Activities

Met

Correction Deadline: 9/8/2025

Corrected on 1/27/2026

The previous citation was observed corrected on this date. Each classroom had a current lesson plan.

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

Met

Correction Deadline: 9/8/2025

Corrected on 1/27/2026

The previous citation was observed corrected on this date. The chair had a chair cover over it.

591-1-1-.35 Swimming Pools & Water-related Activities(CR)

N/A

Comment

Center does not provide swimming activities.

Children's Records

591-1-1-.08 Children's Records

Met

Correction Deadline: 9/8/2025

Corrected on 1/27/2026

The previous citation was observed corrected on this date. The allergies and developmental disabilities were documented.

Facility

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

Met

Comment

Licensed capacity observed to be routinely met by the center on this date.

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

Met

Correction Deadline: 9/8/2025

Corrected on 1/27/2026

The previous citation was observed corrected on this date. There were no hazards accessible to children on this date.

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 following were accessible to children and posed a hazard:

- Peeling paint on the red, yellow, and brown equipment with the three red wheels on the left side of the playground.
- The blue and red cylinder on the right side of the playground near the back fence had a crack on the top, left and right side.
- The wooden bench under the pavilion had torn green material hanging.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will provide a variety of age-appropriate equipment that is arranged so as not to obstruct supervision of children. Staff will check the equipment daily to ensure that the equipment is free of hazards, rust and splinters.

Correction Deadline: 2/6/2026

Correction Deadline: 2/10/2026

Corrected on 1/27/2026

The previous citation was observed corrected on this date. There were no hazards on this date.

Health and Hygiene**591-1-1-.10 Diapering Areas & Practices(CR)**

Met

Comment

Staff stated proper knowledge of diapering procedures.

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

Met

Comment

Staff were observed to remind children to wash hands on this date.

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

N/A

Comment

The Provider currently does not dispense or administer medication.

Organization**591-1-1-.16 Governing Body & License**

Met

Correction Deadline: 9/8/2025

Corrected on 1/27/2026

The previous citation was observed corrected on this date. The playground amendment was approved.

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

Met

Comment

Age-appropriate discussion and redirection observed.

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

Not Met

Finding

591-1-1-.36(7)(a) requires that each vehicle contains current information including: the full names of all children to be transported, each child's pick-up location, pick-up time, delivery location, alternate delivery location if a Parent is not at home and name of person authorized to receive each child. In addition, the vehicle shall contain current information identifying the Center's name, telephone number and the name of the driver of the vehicle. It was determined based on a review of records that four out of 26 children's vehicle transportation agreements were missing the name of person authorized to receive each child.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will ensure that the Center's information and the children's information is included on each vehicle.

Correction Deadline: 1/27/2026

Recited on 1/27/2026

Finding

591-1-1-.36(7)(b) requires that an emergency medical information record be maintained in the vehicle for each child being transported. The emergency medical information record for each child shall include a listing of the child's full name, date of birth, allergies, special medical needs and conditions, current prescribed medications that the child is required to take on a daily basis for a chronic condition, the name and telephone number of the child's doctor, the local medical facility that the Center uses in the area where the Center is located and the telephone numbers where the Parents can be reached. It was determined based on a review of records that seven out of 26 children's emergency medical information were missing the medical facility information. One out of 26 children did not have a completed emergency medical information form on file. One out of 26 children were missing allergy information. Additionally, one out of 26 children's medical information records were missing the doctor's information.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will obtain a complete emergency medical information record for each child that is transported and maintain a copy on the vehicle.

Correction Deadline: 1/27/2026

Recited on 1/27/2026

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

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

Met

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

Consultant requested to view all Criminal Record checks for employees hired after the last visit. Director stated that there have been no new hires since the last visit.

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

Met

Comment

Evidence observed of 50% of center Staff certified in First Aid and CPR.

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

Comment

Center observed to maintain appropriate staff:child ratios.

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

Met

Comment

Adequate supervision observed on this date.