



**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:** 6/28/2024 **VisitType:** Licensing Study

**Arrival:** 9:30 AM **Departure:** 2:45 PM

**CCLC-50264**

**Big Blue Marble - East Cherokee**

8991 E. Cherokee Drive Canton, GA 30115 Cherokee County  
(770) 704-4925 center26@bbmacademy.com

Regional Consultant

Randy Gaytan

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**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. |
|-----------------------------|------------------------------------|---------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 06/28/2024                  | Licensing Study                    | Good Standing |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| 11/28/2023                  | Incident Investigation & Follow Up | Good Standing |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| 11/20/2023                  | Complaint Investigation by Phone   | 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                   | A-1st Left side                  | Two Year Olds                             | 1     | 9        | C                             | 29         | C            | NA         | NA           | Free Play   |
| Main Building                   | B- 2nd left -2nd right side      | One Year Olds                             | 2     | 11       | C                             | 23         | C            | NA         | NA           | Outside     |
| Main Building                   | C-3rd left 1st right             | Infants and One Year Olds                 | 3     | 9        | C                             | 24         | C            | NA         | NA           | Floor Play  |
| Main Building                   | D-Middle Room                    | Three Year Olds                           | 2     | 16       | C                             | 34         | C            | NA         | NA           | Outside     |
| Main Building                   | E-Right side 1st left            | Five Year Olds and Six Year Olds and Over | 1     | 7        | C                             | 21         | C            | NA         | NA           | Art         |
| Main Building                   | F-Toddlers- Right side 1st right | One Year Olds and Two Year Olds           | 2     | 13       | C                             | 16         | C            | NA         | NA           | Centers     |
| Main Building                   | G-Pre-K Right Side 2nd Left      |                                           | 0     | 0        | C                             | 22         | C            | NA         | NA           |             |
| Main Building                   | H-Two's Right Side- 2nd Right    | Two Year Olds                             | 2     | 12       | C                             | 20         | C            | NA         | NA           | Centers     |
| Main Building                   | I-Right Side 2nd right           | Five Year Olds                            | 1     | 14       | C                             | 20         | C            | NA         | NA           | Circle Time |
| Main Building                   | J-1st Right Side                 | Four Year Olds                            | 2     | 14       | C                             | 30         | C            | NA         | NA           | Art         |
| Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 239 |                                  |                                           |       |          | Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0 |            |              |            |              |             |
| Total # Children this Date: 105 |                                  |                                           |       |          | Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0 |            |              |            |              |             |

| Building | Playground | Playground<br>Occupancy | Playground<br>Compliance |
|----------|------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|
|----------|------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|

#### Comments

The purpose of this visit was to conduct a Licensing Study.

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.al.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.

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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.al.ga.gov](mailto:qualityrated@dec.al.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 Licensing Study:

**Activities and Equipment**

**591-1-1.12 Equipment & Toys(CR)** **Met**

**Comment**

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

**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**

**Comment**

Records were observed to be complete and well organized.

**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)** **Not Met**

**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 in Room F the cabinet beneath the changing table was unlocked and contained tubes of diaper cream that were accessible to the children.

**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: 6/28/2024**

**Finding**

591-1-1-.26(8) requires climbing and swinging equipment to have a resilient surface beneath the equipment and the fall zone from such equipment must be adequately maintained by the Center to assure continuing resiliency. It was determined based on observation that the rubber resilient surface on the toddler playground and the preschool playground was cracked and had holes in it throughout both playgrounds. The Assistant Director stated that a quote has been sent to their corporate office.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center will add additional resilient surfacing to the fall zones where needed and check daily, adding resilient surfacing as needed to maintain adequate resiliency.

**Correction Deadline: 7/8/2024**

|                     |
|---------------------|
| <b>Food Service</b> |
|---------------------|

## 591-1-1-.15 Food Service &amp; Nutrition

Met

**Comment**

Center menu meets USDA guidelines.

## 591-1-1-.18 Kitchen Operations

Met

**Comment**

Kitchen appears clean and well organized.

|                           |
|---------------------------|
| <b>Health and Hygiene</b> |
|---------------------------|

## 591-1-1-.07 Children's Health

Technical Assistance

**Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.07(5) - please ensure no pacifier clips are on pacifiers (even though not hooked onto the shirt).

**Correction Deadline: 6/28/2024**

## 591-1-1-.10 Diapering Areas &amp; Practices(CR)

Met

**Comment**

Staff state proper knowledge of diapering procedures.

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

Met

**Comment**

Proper hand washing observed throughout the center.

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

N/A

**Comment**

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

|               |
|---------------|
| <b>Safety</b> |
|---------------|

## 591-1-1-.05 Animals

N/A

**Comment**

Center does not keep animals on premises.

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

Met

**Comment**

Age-appropriate discussion and/or redirection observed.

## 591-1-1-.13 Field Trips(CR)

Met

**Comment**

Field trip documentation observed to be complete.

**Finding**

591-1-1-.36(3)(a-b) requires any Center that provides any type of transportation to obtain two (2) hours of state-approved or state-accepted transportation training, biannually, for the Director and for each person responsible for or who participates in the transportation of children. The training shall include, but is not limited to, a review of the transportation rules, a review of approved transportation forms and procedures, and instruction on the usage and completion of the forms and procedures. This training may be counted as part of the annual training requirements for Staff. It was determined based on a review of records that staff #33 did not have documentation of current state-approved or state-accepted transportation training,

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center will ensure that the Director, Center Staff, and any person responsible for the transportation of children has completed the required transportation training.

**Correction Deadline: 7/8/2024**

|                                         |
|-----------------------------------------|
| <b>Sleeping &amp; Resting Equipment</b> |
|-----------------------------------------|

## 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.

|                      |
|----------------------|
| <b>Staff Records</b> |
|----------------------|

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

Not Met

**Finding**

591-1-1-.09(1)(c) requires the Center to ensure that every Employee has a valid and current satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination on file prior to being present at the Center while any child is present for care or before an individual age 17 or older resides in the Center. The Comprehensive Records Check Determination must have a Records Check Clearance Date that is no older than the preceding 12 months of the hire date; provided, however, if the Employee has had a lapse of employment from the child care industry that lasted for 180 days (6 months) or longer, a new satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination is required. It was determined based on a review of records that staff #14 did not have a valid and current satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination letter on file. Staff #14 was not present during the visit and had a hire date of June 5, 2019.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

IMMEDIATE CORRECTION - The Center will routinely review staff records to ensure that every Employee has a valid and current satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination on file prior to being present at the Center while any child is present for care or before an individual age 17 or older resides in the Center. The Comprehensive Records Check Determination must have a Records Check Clearance Date that is no older than the preceding 12 months of the hire date; provided, however, if the Employee has had a lapse of employment from the child care industry that lasted for 180 days (6 months) or longer, a new satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination is required. The program's owner or an officer/member of the corporation must view the A to Z Background Check video units pertaining to this records check rule and return the signed affidavit within one week from this visit date. The center will follow the information in the Background Check video units to ensure the CRC rules are maintained.

**Correction Deadline: 6/28/2024**

**Finding**

591-1-1-.09(1)(l)3. requires the Center to immediately require a new Comprehensive Records Check Determination for a Director, Employee or Provisional Employee at least once every five years. It was determined based on a review of records that staff #14 did not have a valid and current satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination letter on file. The determination letter that was observed on file for Staff #14 had an expiration date of April 10, 2024. Staff #14 was not present during the visit and had a hire date of June 5, 2019.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

IMMEDIATE CORRECTION - The Center will routinely review all staff files to ensure that each Director, Employee and Provisional Employee has a Comprehensive Records Check Determination on file that has been issued within the past five years. The program's owner or an officer/member of the corporation must view the A to Z Background Check video units pertaining to this records check rule and return the signed affidavit within one week from this visit date. The Center will follow the information on the Background Check video units to ensure CRC rules are maintained.

**Correction Deadline: 6/28/2024**

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**591-1-1-.09 Criminal Records Check(CR)****Met****Comment**

Criminal records checks were observed to be complete.

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

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

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**591-1-1-.33 Staff Training****Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.33(6) requires that evidence of orientation and training shall be documented in the Personnel file of each Staff member and shall be available to the Department for inspection. It was determined based on a review of records that staff #'s 1, 4, 5, 9, 10, 13, 16, 18, 20, 22, 25, 34, and 35 did not have record of documentation of training and orientation,

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center will develop and implement procedures to review staff records for documentation of training and orientation, to obtain and place missing documentation in staff records, and to file such documents in staff records on an ongoing basis.

**Correction Deadline: 7/8/2024**

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**591-1-1-.31 Staff(CR)****Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.31(2)(b)2. requires teachers and lead caregivers to meet minimum academic requirements and qualifying experience at the time of employment. It was determined based on a review of records that staff #'s 6, 17, 26, and 27 did not have documentation of minimum academic requirements and qualifying experience to qualify as a lead teacher.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

A teacher/lead caregiver will be hired that meets the minimum academic requirements and qualifying work experience.

**Correction Deadline: 6/28/2024**

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