



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: 9/30/2025 **VisitType:** Complaint Investigation Follow Up **Arrival:** 8:00 AM **Departure:** 1:15 PM

CCLC-1114

Growing Room CDC

1200 Manchester Expressway Columbus, GA 31904 Muscogee County
 (706) 596-1234

Regional Consultant

Penny Svenson

Phone: (470) 346-1037

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Mailing Address

PO Box 4216
 Columbus, GA 31914-0126

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.
09/30/2025	Complaint Investigation Follow Up	Good Standing	
07/17/2025	Complaint Closure	Good Standing	
07/17/2025	Complaint Investigation & 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	Room 1	Two Year Olds	2	18	C	21	C	NA	NA	Transitioning
Main	Room 10	GA PreK	3	18	C	26	C	36	C	Art,Story,Centers
Main	Room 11	Three Year Olds	2	16	C	21	C	NA	NA	Centers
Main	Room 12	GA PreK	2	19	C	22	C	31	C	Transitioning,Centers
Main	Room 13	One Year Olds	3	15	C	19	C	NA	NA	Story
Main	Room 14		0	0	C	16	C	NA	NA	
Main	Room 2	Two Year Olds	2	15	C	21	C	NA	NA	Art
Main	Room 3	Infants and One Year Olds	1	4	C	10	C	NA	NA	Floor Play,Diapering
Main	Room 4	Three Year Olds	2	20	C	20	C	NA	NA	Music,Story
Main	Room 5		0	0	C	21	C	NA	NA	
Main	Room 6	One Year Olds	2	14	C	15	C	NA	NA	Free Play,Transitioning
Main	Room 7	Infants	2	17	C	23	C	NA	NA	Floor Play,Nap,Feeding
Main	Room 8	Three Year Olds	1	8	C	21	C	NA	NA	Art
Main	Room 9	Three Year Olds	1	15	C	21	C	NA	NA	Centers

Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 277

Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 296

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	Playground 1	62	C
Main	Playground 2	76	C

Comments

September 30, 2025--The findings were discussed with the Director.

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.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:

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 for more information. Free technical assistance is available!



Summary Report

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The following information is associated with a Complaint Investigation Follow Up:

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
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Finding

591-1-1-.25(3) requires the Center and surrounding premises to be kept clean, free of debris and in good repair. Hygienic measures such as, but not limited to, screened windows and proper waste disposal procedures shall be utilized to minimize the presence of rodents, flies, roaches and other vermin at the Center. It was determined based on observation that there were vent covers that had dirt and dust present.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will have the Center and surrounding areas cleaned, make repairs where needed, and remove all debris is removed. The Center will implement a plan to keep areas clean and in good repair that includes regular monitoring.

Correction Deadline: 9/30/2025

Recited on 9/30/2025

591-1-1-.26 Playgrounds(CR)	Met
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Correction Deadline: 7/17/2025

Corrected on 9/30/2025

The previous citation was corrected. The chipped concrete was repaired. Weeds were not observed to be present, as the playground turf was being replaced.

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

Correction Deadline: 7/17/2025

Corrected on 9/30/2025

The previous citation was observed corrected. The Director stated she observes diaper changing and handwashing daily. Further, a memo was sent to all staff with handwashing and diapering procedures. Also, Growing Room periodically sends the procedures for handwashing and diaper changes and staff are required to initial each step.

Staffing and Supervision	
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Correction Deadline: 7/17/2025

Corrected on 9/30/2025

The previous citation was observed corrected on this date. All classrooms were observed to maintain proper ratios.