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: 12/4/2023 **VisitType:** Licensing Study **Arrival:** 11:15 AM **Departure:** 4:15 PM

CCLC-1204
Home '2' Childcare and Development Center

633 East Gordon Street Valdosta, GA 31601 Lowndes County
(229) 244-4300 o2b@mediacombb.net

Regional Consultant
Rena Keene
Phone: (912) 544-9930
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rena.keene@decal.ga.gov

Mailing Address
Same

Quality Rated: ★ ★

Compliance Zone Designation		
12/04/2023	Licensing Study	Good Standing
06/26/2023	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing
12/20/2022	Licensing Study	Good Standing

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.

Ratios/License Capacity

Building	Room	Age Group	Staff	Children	NC/C	Max 35 SF.	35 SF. Comp.	Max 25 SF.	25 SF. Comp.	Notes
Bld one	Bld 1-1st L (PreK)	GA PreK	1	15	C	20	C	NA	NA	Lunch,Transitioning
Bld one	Bld 1-1st R		0	0	C	20	C	NA	NA	
Bld one	Bld 1-2nd R	Infants and One Year Olds and Two Year Olds	2	7	C	20	C	NA	NA	Floor Play,Feeding,Nap
Bld one	Bld one-2nd L	Three Year Olds	1	12	C	20	C	NA	NA	Nap,Transitioning
		Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 80			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0			Building @35 capacity limited by Centers Request		
Total # Children this Date: 34		Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 80			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Bld one	Playground 1	51	C
Bld one	Playground 3-toddler	20	C

Comments
The purpose of today's visit was to conduct a Licensing Study.

12/5/2023: Correction was made to Rule Violation No. 590-1-1-..36(4)(f)2. - the number of children was changed from seventeen to sixteen.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 12/04/2023

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)

QUALITY™ RATED CHILD CARE

CAPS CHILDCARE AND PARENT SERVICES

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 a1 855-800-7747 or qualityrated@decal.ga.gov for more information. Free techical assistance is available!

Beverly Vickers, Program Official Date	Rena Keene, Regional Consultant Date

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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) **Not Met**

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

Finding
591-1-1-.12(4) requires that equipment and furniture is secured if it is of a weight or mass that could cause injury from tipping, falling, or being pulled or pushed over. It was determined based on Consultant's observation that two copiers were stacked on top of a file cabinet in the Pre-K classroom and was not secure to prevent tipping, falling or being pulled over.

POI (Plan of Improvement)
The Center will ensure that the identified equipment or furniture and any other such existing or future items are secured adequately and will have a system for checking these for stability.

Correction Deadline: 12/4/2023

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

Comment
Center does not provide swimming activities.

Children's Records

Records Reviewed: 5 **Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 1**

Child # 5 Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.08(3)-Address of Release Person Missing

591-1-1-.08 Children's Records **Technical Assistance**

Technical Assistance
591-1-1-.08(1) requires the Center Staff to maintain a file for each child while such child is in care and for one year after that child is no longer enrolled. In order for the file to be complete, the file shall contain the following: child’s name, birth date, sex, address, living arrangement, name of school if applicable; names of both Parents, home and work addresses, and home and work telephone numbers; name(s) and addresses of the person(s) to whom the child may be released including address, telephone numbers, relationship to child and to Parent(s), and other identifying information; name(s) and telephone number(s) of person(s) to contact in emergencies when the Parent cannot be reached; name and telephone number of the child’s primary source of health care; and a statement regarding known allergies, physical problems, mental health disorders, intellectual disabilities or developmental disabilities which limit the child’s participation in the program. Please ensure that addresses are obtained for the persons to whom each child can be released.

Correction Deadline: 12/4/2023

Evening Care

591-1-1-.32 Staffing/Supervision(CR) **Met**

Comment
No evening care hours provided at this time.

Facility

591-1-1-.06 Bathrooms **Met**

Comment
Bathrooms observed to be clean and well maintained.

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**

Correction Deadline: 6/26/2023

Corrected on 12/4/2023
.25(13) - Hazardous materials and supplies were not observed to be accessible to the children.

Finding
591-1-1-.25(8) requires protective caps on all unused electrical outlets within children's reach and requires that electrical outlets in use be made inaccessible to children. It was determined based on Consultant's observation that several cords attached to a power strip and hanging from shelves on the wall were accessible to the children in the Pre-K classroom.

POI (Plan of Improvement)
The Center will train Staff to check outlets and replace protective caps when needed and identify and monitor how outlets in use are inaccessible to children.

Correction Deadline: 12/4/2023

591-1-1-.26 Playgrounds(CR) — Not Met

Technical Assistance
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. Please ensure that cement footers around red arched climber are covered completely. Additionally, the small roots at the base of the overhead climber should be removed or covered.

Correction Deadline: 12/14/2023

Finding
591-1-1-.26(7) requires that climbing and swinging equipment be anchored. It was determined based on Consultant's observation that the overhead climber in the corner of the playground was leaning and not stable. Consultant was able to shift the equipment which indicated that it was no longer securely anchored.

POI (Plan of Improvement)
The Center will remove or repair equipment that is not anchored and will regularly inspect the equipment to ensure it remains anchored and stable.

Correction Deadline: 12/14/2023

Food Service

591-1-1-.15 Food Service & Nutrition — Not Met

Comment
CACFP Meal Pattern Requirements effective October 1, 2017 will be implemented October 1, 2018: 3 Components for breakfast: Grains, Vegetables, Fruits or both, Milk
5 Components for lunch – Grains, Meat/Meat alternates, Fruits, Vegetable, and Milk OR Grains, Meat/Meat alternates, 2 different types of vegetables, and Milk
2 of 5 Components for snack

Provided Updated CACFP Infant Meal pattern and Child/Adult Meal pattern flyers.

The Crediting Handbook for the CACFP can be located on DECAL and USDA's website:
DECAL
http://decal.ga.gov/CACFP/Handbook.aspx
USDA
http://www.fns.usda.gov/cacfp/cacfp-handbooks

Lunch served during visit included corndogs, baked beans, applesauce and milk, appropriate to the ages of the children.

Finding
591-1-1-.15(3) requires baby bottles and formula to be labeled with the individual child's name; supplied by the Parent daily in bottles; and refrigerated at a temperature of forty (40) degrees Fahrenheit or less. Only the current day's formula or breast milk shall be served. If formula must be provided by the Center, only commercially prepared, ready-to-feed formula shall be used. Refrigerated or frozen breast milk shall only be heated or thawed under warm running water or in a container of warm water. It was determined based on consultant's observation that the refrigerator used to store the formula for the infants registered 50 degrees Fahrenheit.

POI (Plan of Improvement)
The Center will train Staff to follow the required procedures, ensure that parents are fully informed, and will review and monitor regularly. Director and staff will ensure that the refrigerator used to store infant formula is kept at 40 degrees Fahrenheit or below.

Correction Deadline: 12/4/2023

Technical Assistance
591-1-1-.15(5) requires that the Center provide a menu listing all meals and snacks to be served during the current week except for School-age Centers where the food may be provided by the Parent(s) by agreement between the School-age Center and the Parent(s). Substitutions shall be recorded on the posted menu and menus shall be retained at the Center for six (6) months. Please ensure that substitutions are marked on the menu posted when substitutions are made.

Correction Deadline: 12/4/2023

Finding
591-1-1-.15(6)(b) requires that food and beverages be served in individual plates or bowls and with individual glasses or cups. It was determined based on Consultant's observation that the crackers served to the Pre-K children for snack were served on a napkin on the tabletop with no plate or bowl.

POI (Plan of Improvement)
The center will use individual food service items to serve food and beverages.

Correction Deadline: 12/4/2023

591-1-1-.18 Kitchen Operations **Not Met**

Technical Assistance
591-1-1-.18 - Please ensure that all food items are stored in airtight containers. An open package of wieners was observed in the freezer that was not sealed. A ten-pound bag of sugar was observed open and unsealed on the bottom shelf of the storage area in the kitchen. Please ensure that items are resealed in airtight containers once they are opened and marked as to the date and contents of the package.

Finding
591-1-1-.18(5) requires the refrigeration of all perishable and potentially hazardous foods at 40 degrees Fahrenheit or below and served promptly after cooking. Freezer temperature shall be maintained at zero (0) degrees Fahrenheit or below. It was determined based on Consultant's observation that the refrigerator in use in the center's kitchen registered fifty degrees Fahrenheit. This refrigerator was used to store the milk served to the children along with other perishable items. The freezer used for storing frozen foods registered four degrees on the digital thermometer on the door.

POI (Plan of Improvement)
The Center will refrigerate foods as required, will train Staff on proper refrigerator and freezer temperature settings and monitor the settings. Food will be served promptly after cooking.

Correction Deadline: 12/4/2023

Health and Hygiene

591-1-1-.10 Diapering Areas & Practices(CR) **Met**

Comment
Proper diapering procedures observed.

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

Comment
Proper hand washing observed throughout the center.

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

Comment
The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

Policies and Procedures

591-1-1-.27 Posted Notices **Met**

Comment
Observed all required posted notices.

Safety

591-1-1-.05 Animals **Met**

Comment
Center does not keep animals on premises.

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

Comment
Staff were observed to maintain a positive learning environment on this date.

591-1-1-.13 Field Trips(CR) **Met**

Comment
Center does not participate in field trips at this time.

591-1-1-.36 Transportation(CR) **Not Met**

Finding
591-1-1-.36(4)(f)1. requires that all transported children be secured in a child passenger restraining system or seat safety belt in accordance with current state and federal laws and regulations and according to manufacturer's directions. It was determined based on Consultant's observation that two children were not properly restrained on December 4, 2023, when sixteen children were transported in a vehicle with a capacity of fourteen passengers, not including the driver.

POI (Plan of Improvement)
The Center will ensure that manufacturer directions and state and federal laws are met when using child passenger restraining systems and seat safety belts.

Correction Deadline: 12/5/2023

Finding
591-1-1-.36(4)(f)2. requires that no vehicle shall exceed the manufacturer's rated seating capacity and that proof of the seating capacity is maintained on file. It was determined based on a review of transportation records and Consultant's observation that sixteen children were transported from S.L. Mason Elementary School to the center during the visit on a vehicle with a capacity limit of fourteen passengers in addition to the driver.

POI (Plan of Improvement)
The manufacturer's rated seating capacity will not be exceeded and a copy of the manufacturer's seating capacity will be maintained on file at all times.

Correction Deadline: 12/5/2023

Technical Assistance
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. Please ensure that all required emergency medical information is obtained from the parent of any child who is transported.

Correction Deadline: 12/5/2023

Technical Assistance
591-1-1-.36(7)(c)2. requires that the driver or other designated person shall immediately document in writing, with a check or other mark/symbol to account for each child listed on the passenger transportation checklist each time a child enters and exits the vehicle. The driver or other designated staff person shall document in writing with a different mark/symbol to account for each child listed on the passenger transportation checklist who was not present on the vehicle for any reason. An explanation shall be documented in writing whenever a child is transported to a field trip site but is not present on the return trip to the Center. Two children were observed to be listed on the transportation logs for the past week who were absent, and the absences were not indicated on the logs. Please ensure that each child is accounted for in real time with the check marks for loading/unloading and that absences are marked.

Correction Deadline: 12/5/2023

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

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

Comment
Discussed SIDS and infant sleeping position.

Comment
Pleasant naptime environment observed.

Staff Records

591-1-1-.09 Criminal Records and Comprehensive Background Checks(CR) **Technical Assistance**

Comment
Criminal record checks were observed to be complete.

Comment
Director provided two (2) files for employees hired since last visit. One of the two was a rehire.

Technical Assistance
591-1-1-.09(1)(j) requires that for portability for Directors, Employees and Provisional Employees, excluding Students-in-Training, only the most recently issued determination letter is eligible for portability and must be ported electronically. A Center may accept a satisfactory Fingerprint Records Check Determination letter or a satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination letter issued by the Department if the Records Check Clearance Date is within the preceding 12 months from the hire date, the individual has not had a lapse of employment from the child care industry that lasted for 180 days (6 months) or longer, and the Center does not know or reasonably should not know that the individual's satisfactory status has changed. Please port the most recent satisfactory background results for Employee No. 3.

Correction Deadline: 12/4/2023

591-1-1-.14 First Aid & CPR **Technical Assistance**

Technical Assistance
591-1-1-.14(3) requires the Center to have a first aid kit in each building of the Center and in any vehicle used by the Center for transportation of children, that contains scissors, tweezers, gauze pads, adhesive tape, thermometer, band-aids, assorted sizes, antibacterial ointment, insect-sting preparation, an antiseptic cleansing solution, triangular bandages, rubber gloves, protective eye wear, a protective face mask, and a cold pack. The first aid kit, together with a first aid instruction manual which must be kept with the kit at all times, shall be stored so that it is not accessible to children but is easily accessible to Staff. Please ensure that first aid kits are monitored to ensure that tape, anti-bacterial ointment and insect sting preparation is present in the first aid kits for both vehicles.

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

591-1-1-.24 Personnel Records **Technical Assistance**

Technical Assistance
591-1-1-.24(1) requires the center to maintain a personnel file on the Director, all Employees, Provisional Employees, Personnel, Staff, Students-in-Training, Volunteers, Clerical, Housekeeping, Maintenance, and other Support Staff for the duration of the term of employment plus one calendar year, and it shall contain the following: identifying information to include: name, date of birth, social security number, current address and current telephone number; employment history; as applicable to the position held: evidence of education and qualifying work experience; evidence of all training required by these rules which shall include: title of training, date of training, trainer's signature, location of training and number of clock hours obtained; a statement completed by the staff member that the information provided is true and accurate; any other records required by these rules; and as applicable to the position held, evidence of required orientation including date and signature of person providing the orientation. Please update employee files when staff are rehired after a period of time away from the center to reflect a full ten-year work history.

Correction Deadline: 12/9/2023

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

Technical Assistance
591-1-1-.33(2) requires the initial Center orientation to include the following subjects: the Center's policies and procedures; the portions of these rules dealing with the care, health and safety of children; the Staff person's assigned duties and responsibilities; reporting requirements for suspected cases of child abuse, neglect or deprivation; communicable diseases and serious injuries; emergency weather plans; the program's emergency preparedness plan; childhood injury control; the administration of medicine; reducing the risk of Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS); hand washing; fire safety; water safety; and prevention of HIV/AIDS and blood borne pathogens. Please ensure that orientation forms are updated when staff are rehired after a period of absence from the center.

Correction Deadline: 12/5/2023

Finding
91-1-1-.33(5) requires that every calendar year after the first year of employment, all supervisory and caregiver Personnel, except independent contractors, Students-in-Training and volunteers shall attend ten (10) clock hours of diverse training which is task-focused in on-going health, safety and early childhood or child development related topics and which is offered by an accredited college, university or vocational program or other Department-approved source. The annual ten (10) clock hours of training shall be chosen from the following fields: child development, including discipline, guidance, nutrition, injury control and safety; health, including sanitation, disease control, cleanliness, detection and disposition of illness; child abuse and neglect, including identification and reporting, and meeting the needs of abused and/or neglected children; and business related topics, including parental communication, recordkeeping, etc.; provided however that such business related training shall be limited to no more than two (2) of the required ten (10) clock hours of training. Records of completion of such training shall be maintained, as required by these rules. It was determined based on a review of staff records that Employee No.5 received only nine hours in the 2022 calendar year and Employee No. 7 received only eight training hours in the 20222 calendar year.

POI (Plan of Improvement)
The Center will plan and schedule the required 10 hours of annual training each year and follow up to ensure the training is completed.

Correction Deadline: 1/3/2024

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
Staff observed to provide direct supervision and be attentive to children's needs.