



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: 6/23/2023 **VisitType:** Complaint Investigation & Monitoring Visit **Arrival:** 1:00 PM **Departure:** 6:00 PM

CCLC-58397

Bree's Creative Learning Childcare Center

3905 Inner Perimeter Road Valdosta, GA 31605 Lowndes County
 CCLC-58397 durdenbree@yahoo.com

Regional Consultant

Rena Keene

Phone: (912) 544-9930

Fax:

rena.keene@decal.ga.gov

Mailing Address

3922 Koraline Cir
 Valdosta, GA 31605

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.
06/23/2023	Complaint Investigation & Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
04/03/2023	Initial 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
Main1	A	Infants	2	10	C	19	C	NA	NA	Floor Play,Nap
Main1	B	Infants	1	9	NC	17	C	NA	NA	Snack,Nap
Main1	C	One Year Olds	1	11	NC	13	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main1	D	Two Year Olds	1	17	NC	12	NC	NA	NA	Nap
Main1	E		0	0	C	40	C	NA	NA	Nap,Clean Up,Breakfast,Ce nters
Main1	F	Three Year Olds	1	5	C	0	NC	NA	NA	
Main1	G	Three Year Olds	4	35	C	36	C	NA	NA	Clean Up,Nap
Main1	H	GA PreK	1	8	C	25	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main1	I	Six Year Olds and Over	2	40	C	53	C	NA	NA	Centers,Free Play,TV,Circle Time
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 215					Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					
Total # Children this Date: 135					Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main1	A	75	C
Main1	B	153	C
Main1	C	28	C

Comments

The purpose of today's visit was to conduct a Complaint Investigation and Monitoring Visit.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 06/23/2023

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.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.

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!

Bree Carter, Program Official

Date

Rena Keene, Regional Consultant

Date



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

(Findings Report)

Date: 6/23/2023 VisitType: Complaint Investigation & Monitoring Visit Arrival: 1:00 PM Departure: 6:00 PM

CCLC-58397

Bree's Creative Learning Childcare Center

3905 Inner Perimeter Road Valdosta, GA 31605 Lowndes County
CCLC-58397 durdenbree@yahoo.com

Regional Consultant

Rena Keene

Phone: (912) 544-9930

Fax:

rena.keene@decals.ga.gov

Mailing Address

3922 Koraline Cir
Valdosta, GA 31605

The following information is associated with a Monitoring Visit:

Activities and Equipment

591-1-1.03 Activities

Technical Assistance

Technical Assistance

591-1-1.03(1) requires the Center to provide a daily planned program of varied and developmentally appropriate activities to promote social, emotional, physical, cognitive, language and literacy growth. Center Staff shall use a variety of teaching methods to accommodate the needs of the children's different learning styles. Staff should ensure that children are engaged at all times with meaningful, structured activities that also serve as positive discipline and helps to prevent the need for reactive discipline. This was discussed with the Director/Owners on July 6, 2023, in relation to the review of video surveillance of the school age classroom on June 15, 2023.

Correction Deadline: 6/23/2023

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)

Met

Comment

Center does not provide swimming activities.

Children's Records

Records Reviewed: 2

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 2

Child # 1

Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.08(1)(a)-Name of both parents,.08(1)(a)-Work Address Missing,.08(1)(a)-Work Number Missing,.08(3)-Address of Release Person Missing

Child # 2

Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.08(1)-Allergies and Disabilities,.08(3)-Name of Release Person Missing,.08(1)(a)-Name of both parents,.08(1)(a)-Work Address Missing,.08(1)(a)-Work Number Missing,.08(1)-Living arrangements if not with both parents,.08(1)-Emergency Contact information Missing

591-1-1-.08 Children's Records**Not Met****Finding**

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. It was determined based on a review of two children's records that all required information was not on file. An entry was not made regarding any special needs that the child may have for Child No. 2. Complete information for both parents was not completed for neither Child No. 1 nor Child No. 2. Information for release persons was also missing for both children. Additionally, complete information for one emergency contact was missing for Child No. 2.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

Center staff will develop a plan that includes how to obtain all required information for currently enrolled children and how to ensure this is done for future enrollees as well. The plan will also include how and where to maintain files for the required amount of time. The plan will be implemented and followed.

Correction Deadline: 6/23/2023**Facility****591-1-1-.19 License Capacity(CR)****Not Met****Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.19(1) - Room F is licensed as a Special Purpose area only and cannot be used for daily, routine activities. Five (5) three-year-old children were observed in this room for naptime during the visit on June 23, 2023. Please ensure that rooms licensed for Special Purpose areas are utilized for special activities lasting 30 minutes or less.

Correction Deadline: 6/23/2023**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 Consultant's observation that the center did not provide thirty-five (35) square feet of usable space per child. Seventeen (17) children who were two years of age were observed in Classroom D that is licensed for twelve (12) children.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

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

Correction Deadline: 6/23/2023**591-1-1-.25 Physical Plant - Safe Environment(CR)****Met**

Comment

Center appears clean and well maintained.

591-1-1-.26 Playgrounds(CR)**Met****Comment**

Playground not observed on this date due to inclement weather.

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

Staff state proper knowledge of diapering procedures.

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

Staff were observed to remind children to wash hands.

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

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

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

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

591-1-1-.36 Transportation(CR)**Met****Comment**

Complete documentation of transportation observed.

Comment

Paperwork, checklist, permission forms, annual inspection form and proper check of the vehicle after transportation were discussed with the director. Routine transportation not currently being done while school is not in session. Except for field trips, no transportation at the present.

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)****Met****Comment**

Director provided eight files for employees hired since last visit. Background checks were complete.

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 replace/add missing/expired item(s) in first aid kit(s).

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 be sure that employee records are readily available to the department upon request.

Correction Deadline: 6/28/2023

591-1-1-.33 Staff Training

Not Met

Finding

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. It was determined based on a review of staff records that five of eight new employees did not receive the required orientation prior to employment with the children. Additionally, it was determined that a sixteen-year-old student who was employed and present at the center on June 15, 2023, had not received the required orientation before being assigned duties in the school age classroom.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will provide orientation in all missing subjects to the employee(s) and will take steps to provide a complete orientation to new Employees in the future.

Correction Deadline: 6/24/2023

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 staff files that one lead teacher did not meet the minimum requirements to be a lead teacher. Employee No. 21 does not have a high school diploma or equivalent.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

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

Correction Deadline: 6/23/2023

Finding

591-1-1-.31(2)(b)3.(ii)(I)-(VIII) requires the Center develop a written plan for newly hired teacher's who do not possess the educational credential or degree listed in 591-1-1-.31(2)(b)2.(i) through (xii). It was determined based on a review of staff files and staff statements that four staff who are employed as Lead Teachers do not have a professional development plan on file to meet the requirement for a lead teacher.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will develop a written plan for newly hired teacher's and ensure that the teacher's follow the plan.

Correction Deadline: 6/23/2023

Staffing and Supervision

591-1-1-.32 Staff:Child Ratios and Group Size(CR)**Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.32(1) requires the Center to maintain the required Staff:child ratios as follows: under 1 year or under 18 months if not walking = 1:6; 1 year and walking = 1:8; 2 years = 1:10; 3 years = 1:15; 4 years = 1:18; 5 years = 1:20; and 6 years and older = 1:25. A Center must establish groupings of children for care with maximum group sizes as follows: under 1 year = 12; under 18 months/not walking = 12; 1 year and walking = 16; 2 years = 20; 3 years = 30; 4 years = 36; 5 years = 40; and 6 years and older = 50. It was determined based on consultant's observation during the visit on June 23, 2023, that the required staff to child ratio was not maintained for children in classrooms B, C and D. In classroom B, two staff were required to be present at all times for the nine infants present, and one of the two employee had left the classroom when consultant arrived. In classroom C, one employee was present with nine children who were one year of age, and based on the ages and number of children present, two staff are required. Additionally, in classroom D, one staff was present with seventeen children who are two years of age, and two staff are required based on the ages and number of children present.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will hire additional Staff or reschedule current Staff to meet required Staff:child ratios and will organize children into groups that meet requirements.

Correction Deadline: 6/23/2023

591-1-1-.32 Supervision(CR)**Technical Assistance****Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.32 - Staff requirements for naptime was discussed. Staff: child ratios may be doubled for children three (3) years and older only, provided that other requirements are met.