



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: 8/27/2025 **VisitType:** LS POI Follow Up

Arrival: 11:00 AM **Departure:** 3:20 PM

CCLC-57474
Joyland Child Development Center
 1080 Rainey St. Gainesville, GA 30501 Hall County
 (770) 534-5267 rainey@otterlearning.com

Regional Consultant
 Francine Arnone
 Phone: (770) 357-4919
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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.
08/27/2025	LS POI Follow Up	Good Standing	
08/19/2025	Incident Investigation Closure	Good Standing	
07/14/2025	Incident Investigation & Follow Up	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	1 Left	GA PreK	2	19	C	26	C	NA	NA	Centers
Main	1Right	GA PreK	2	19	C	26	C	NA	NA	Centers
Main	2 Left	One Year Olds	1	7	C	26	C	NA	NA	Transitioning, Nap
Main	2 Right	Two Year Olds	2	11	C	26	C	NA	NA	Transitioning, Nap
Main	3 Left	Infants	1	4	C	26	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main	3 right	One Year Olds	1	8	C	26	C	NA	NA	Free Play
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 156					Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					
Total # Children this Date: 68			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 156			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0				

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	Playground Left	18	C
Main	Playground middle	13	C
Main	Playground Upper	174	C

Comments

A copy of this report was provided on this date.

Effective July 1, 2025, new staff are required to obtain pediatric First Aid and pediatric CPR training within 45 days of employment. It was further discussed that programs must have at least one person with current pediatric First Aid and pediatric CPR training in each classroom at all times.

-Updating the Center's policies and procedures to include the program's practices regarding the expulsion and suspension of children enrolled for care within the description of behavior management and discipline actions used by the Center.

-Ensure a description of the practices followed by the Center to prevent shaken baby syndrome and abusive head trauma in children up to five years of age that includes the following information: how to recognize, respond to, and report the signs and symptoms of shaken baby syndrome and abusive head trauma; strategies to assist staff members in understanding how to care for infants and how to cope with a crying, fussing, or distraught child; strategies to ensure staff members understand the brain development of children up to five years of age; and a list of prohibited behaviors when dealing with children.

-Additional information can be found in the CCLC Indicator Manual found on DECAL's website at:

<https://www.dec.al.ga.gov/CCS/RulesAndRegulations.aspx> or through the Center on Shaken Baby Syndrome found at: <https://dontshake.org/>.

-All Employees, including volunteers, independent contractors, students-in-training, etc. should have a completed initial program orientation form on file.

-Effective July 1, 2025, all staff are required to obtain at least two hours in evidence based, developmentally appropriate language and literacy practices and at least two hours in on-going child development and health and safety related topics as part of their 10 hours of annual training.

- A new Child Care Weather Watch Chart is available on the KOALA website. Weather does not permit outdoor play when there is active precipitation or when weather advisories are in effect. Consult the Child Care Weather Watch Chart resource for further guidance, considering specific weather conditions.

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.

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.dec.al.ga.gov 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!



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(Findings Report)

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The following information is associated with a LS POI/ Follow-Up:

Activities and Equipment

591-1-1-.03 Activities

Met

Comment

Discussed enhancing daily schedule with planned activities.

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

Not Met

Comment

Discussed adding equipment and toys to enhance variety.

Finding

591-1-1-.12(6) requires that a variety of age-appropriate toys and play materials be available, stored on low, open shelves accessible to children in each room or assigned area. It was determined based on observation that in Room 2-Left there were 4 toys on a shelf which did not provide a variety of age-appropriate toys and play materials for the 11 children that were present.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center director will ensure there is a variety of age-appropriate toys and play materials in each room for each age group. that are stored on low, open shelves accessible to children.

Correction Deadline: 9/26/2025

Correction Deadline: 8/19/2025

Prior Visits: 07/14/2025

Corrected on 8/27/2025

.12(8) - The previous citation has been corrected. The Consultant observed classrooms with children under the age of three have toys that are age appropriate; non-toxic, lead free and free from any hazards.

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

N/A

Comment

Center does not provide swimming activities.

Facility

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

Met

Comment

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

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 1-Left, the classroom closet was unlocked and contained staff's personal items, 4 vacuums, a broom and mop which were accessible to 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: 8/27/2025

Prior Visits: 08/09/2024, 11/20/2023

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 the following items were not in good repair as required:

- Room 1R, a ceiling tile in the bathroom was falling leaving a hole in ceiling.
- Room 3RT, a ceiling tile is missing in the bathroom area needing repair.
- Room 1L, behind the door there is a hole in the wall approximately 2inches in length.
- Room 2L, on the shelf unit under the windows, the second and third section bottom shelves have the laminate cover peeling off which created a sharp edge.

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: 8/27/2025

591-1-1-.26 Playgrounds(CR)

Met

Comment

Playground observed to be clean and in good repair on this date.

Health and Hygiene**591-1-1-.07 Children's Health**

Met

Correction Deadline: 8/18/2025

Prior Visits: 07/08/2025

Corrected on 8/27/2025

.07(2) - The previous citation has been corrected. The Consultant observed an ongoing weekly training series that was implemented by the Center to provide training for Supervision, Safe Playground Environment, Reporting and Response to hazards, Supervision in the Environment, Hygiene,Routines, Ratios and Preparedness. The trainings were signed by all staff in attendance.

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/administer medication.

Policies and Procedures

Comment

591-1-1-.21(1)(a-o) - Updating the Center's policies and procedures to include the program's practices regarding the expulsion and suspension of children enrolled for care within the description of behavior management and discipline actions used by the Center

Correction Deadline: 9/1/2025

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.21(2)(r) - New - Ensure a description of the practices followed by the Center to prevent shaken baby syndrome and abusive head trauma in children up to five years of age that includes the following information: how to recognize, respond to, and report the signs and symptoms of shaken baby syndrome and abusive head trauma; strategies to assist staff members in understanding how to care for infants and how to cope with a crying, fussing, or distraught child; strategies to ensure staff members understand the brain development of children up to five years of age; and a list of prohibited behaviors when dealing with children.

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Correction Deadline: 9/1/2025

Comment

Program observed complete emergency drills

591-1-1-.29 Required Reporting

Met

Correction Deadline: 8/18/2025

Prior Visits: 07/08/2025

Corrected on 8/27/2025

.29(3) - The previous citation has been corrected. The Consultant observed an ongoing weekly training series that was implemented by the Center to provide training for Supervision, Safe Playground Environment, Reporting and Response to hazards, Supervision in the Environment, Hygiene, Routines, Ratios and Preparedness. The trainings were signed by all staff in attendance.

Safety

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

Met

Comment

Age-appropriate discussion and/or redirection observed.

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

N/A

Comment

Center does not provide routine transportation.

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

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

Not Met

Finding

591-1-1-.30(1)(b)1 requires that cots and mats are of sound construction and of sufficient size to accommodate comfortably the size and weight of the child; and that mats are in good repair, washable, covered with a waterproof material and at least two inches (2") thick. It was determined by observation that in Room 1R there were 3 mats that were torn at the corner with foam exposed and in Room 1L, there were 5 mats that were torn at the corner with foam exposed.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will ensure that cots and mats are of sound construction and of sufficient size to accommodate the size and weight of the child and mats are in good repair, washable, covered with a waterproof material and is at least two inches thick.

Correction Deadline: 8/27/2025

591-1-1-.09 Criminal Records and Comprehensive Background Checks(CR) **Met****Comment**

Criminal record checks were observed to be complete.

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

Evidence observed of 100% of center Staff certified in First Aid and CPR containing emergency care for infants and children on this date.

591-1-1-.31 Staff(CR) **Met****Comment**

Discussed that all lead staff must enroll in an approved education program within 6 months of hire and complete degree within 18 months.

Staffing and Supervision

591-1-1-.32 Staff:Child Ratios and Group Size(CR) **Met**

Correction Deadline: 8/18/2025

Prior Visits: 07/08/2025

Corrected on 8/27/2025

.32(4) - The previous citation has been corrected. The Consultant observed an ongoing weekly training series that was implemented by the Center to provide training for Supervision, Safe Playground Environment, Reporting and Response to hazards, Supervision in the Environment, Hygiene,Routines, Ratios and Preparedness. The trainings were signed by all staff in attendance.

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

Correction Deadline: 8/18/2025

Prior Visits: 07/08/2025

Corrected on 8/27/2025

.32(7) - The previous citation has been corrected. The Consultant observed an ongoing weekly training series that was implemented by the Center to provide training for Supervision, Safe Playground Environment, Reporting and Response to hazards, Supervision in the Environment, Hygiene,Routines, Ratios and Preparedness. The trainings were signed by all staff in attendance.