



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: 7/9/2025 VisitType: Monitoring Visit

Arrival: 8:50 AM Departure: 12:50 PM

CCLC-1386

Carver Heights Child Development Center

3140 8th St. Columbus, GA 31906 Muscogee County
(706) 327-2340 chpcchurch1@Knology.net

Regional Consultant

Penny Svenson

Phone: (470) 346-1037

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penny.svenson@decal.ga.gov

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.
07/09/2025	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
02/05/2025	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
09/23/2024	Monitoring Visit	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	3rdLtsidehallway		0	0	C	6	C	NA	NA	
Main	Room 1 Pre-K	Three Year Olds	1	10	C	25	C	NA	NA	Transitioning
Main	Room 2/0-12mth	Infants	1	2	C	8	C	NA	NA	Floor Play,Diapering
Main	Room 3/ 3yrs		0	0	C	10	C	NA	NA	
Main	Room4/2yr	One Year Olds and Two Year Olds	1	10	NC	10	C	NA	NA	Outside
Main	Rtsidehallway		0	0	C	6	C	NA	NA	
			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 65			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0				
Total # Children this Date: 22			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 65			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0				

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	Main	91	C

Enrolled Children						
Under 1 years	1 years	2 years	3 years	4 years	5 years (Prekonly)	5 years and older
2	5	5	11	0	0	0

Comments

June 9, 2025--Technical Assistance was provided for choking prevention on this date.

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@decgal.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 MV:

Activities and Equipment

591-1-1-.03 Activities

Met

Correction Deadline: 2/5/2025

Prior Visits: 02/05/2025

Corrected on 7/9/2025

The previous citation was observed corrected on this date. Lesson plans were observed to be for the current week and posted in each classroom.

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

Met

Comment

Discussed adding equipment and toys to enhance variety.

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

Met

Comment

Center does not provide swimming activities.

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

Correction Deadline: 2/5/2025

Prior Visits: 02/05/2025

Corrected on 7/9/2025

The previous citation was observed corrected on this date. There were no hazardous items observed to be stored accessible to children on this date.

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 these hazards were present:

Room 1--seven stained ceiling tiles

Room 2--four stained ceiling tiles

Room 4--two stained ceiling tiles in the bathroom, peeling paint on the purple ledge

Exposed staples in each classroom and present on the changing table in Room

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. The ceiling tiles will be replaced, the staples will be covered with tape and removed from the changing table, and the peeling paint will be sanded and repaired.

Correction Deadline: 7/9/2025

Prior Visits: 03/08/2022

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

Not Met

Correction Deadline: 2/5/2025

Prior Visits: 02/05/2025

Corrected on 7/9/2025

The previous citation was observed corrected on this date. There was not a gap greater than 3 and one-half inches present in the gate.

Technical Assistance

The Consultant discussed with the Director to monitor equipment for rust present and to sand and paint as needed.

Correction Deadline: 7/19/2025

Finding

591-1-1-.26(9) requires the playground to be kept clean, free from litter and free of hazards, such as but not limited to rocks, exposed tree roots and exposed sharp edges of concrete. It was determined based on observation that these hazards were present:

Main Playground--weeds growing throughout each fence, exposed concrete along the left fence, broken PVC pipe (orange cone present) in the front left corner of the play area, dead tree limb on the last tree along the left side of the fence, high grass and brush in the back left corner, active ant bed along the PVC pipe to the left of the storage shed, many ground wasps flying throughout the front to middle area of the play area with sand present, trash bag on the ground next to trash cans

Toddler Playground--weeds and brush growing throughout each fence, broken planter pots under a sand and water table, blue tarp in the play area that posed a tripping hazard, green carpeted area peeling on the ground of the door to the classroom and a tripping hazard was posed.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will remove any litter and fix or remove hazards from the playground and will routinely monitor the playground and remove litter and hazards.

Correction Deadline: 7/9/2025

Prior Visits: 03/08/2022

Food Service

591-1-1-.15 Food Service & Nutrition

Technical Assistance

Correction Deadline: 2/5/2025

Prior Visits: 02/05/2025

Corrected on 7/9/2025

Infant feeding plans were observed on this date. The Consultant discussed with the Director to ensure plans are updated at least every six months or as changes are made by parents.

Technical Assistance

The Consultant discussed with the Director that center Personnel shall ensure that children do not have excessive amounts of food in their mouths while eating and are chewing their food appropriately to prevent instances of choking. Children shall always be seated when eating and shall not be allowed to lie down or be put to sleep while food is present in their mouths.

Correction Deadline: 7/9/2025

Technical Assistance

The Consultant discussed with the Director that food shall be served according to manufacturer's instructions and recommendations. Foods that are associated with young children's choking incidents, such as, but not limited to, peanuts, hot dogs, raw carrots, popcorn, fish with bones, cheese cubes, grapes, and any other food that is of similar shape and size of the trachea/windpipe shall not be served to the children less than four (4) years of age. Children four (4) years of age and older may be served these foods provided that the foods are cut in such a way as to minimize choking. Food shall not be accessible or served to children until it has been chopped, diced, cut or mashed and is appropriate for each child's age and individual eating, chewing and swallowing ability.

Correction Deadline: 7/9/2025**Prior Visits: 03/08/2022****Health and Hygiene****591-1-1-.10 Diapering Areas & Practices(CR)****Met****Comment**

Hand washing requirements for diapering were discussed with the director on this date.

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

Observed handwashing throughout the center. Handwashing procedures were discussed on this date.

591-1-1-.20 Medications(CR)**Met****Correction Deadline: 7/16/2025****Prior Visits: 02/05/2025****Corrected on 7/9/2025**

The previous citation was observed to be corrected on this date. The require form was observed for each child during a review of records.

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

Age-appropriate discussion and redirection observed during the visit on this date.

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

Center does not provide routine transportation.

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

Staff Records**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**Met****Correction Deadline: 3/7/2025****Prior Visits: 03/08/2022****Corrected on 7/9/2025**

The previous citation was observed to be corrected on this date. Staff required to have first aid and CPR on this date were observed to have the training.

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)****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 observation that there were seven 1-year-old children and two 2-year-old children present to one staff member in Room 4 and another staff member was required.

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: 7/9/2025**Prior Visits: 03/08/2022****591-1-1-.32 Supervision(CR)****Technical Assistance****Technical Assistance**

The Consultant discussed with the Director that children shall be supervised at all times appropriate to the individual age, needs and capabilities of each child. Such supervision must include, but not be limited to, indoor and outdoor activities, mealtimes, naptime, transportation, field trips, and transitions between activities. "Supervision" means that the appropriate number of Staff members are physically present in the area where children are being cared for and are providing watchful oversight to the children, volunteers and Students-in-Training. The persons supervising in the child care area must be alert, positioned to maximize their ability to hear and see the children at all times, and able to respond promptly to the needs and actions of the children being supervised, as well as the actions of the volunteers and Students-in-Training, and provide timely attention to the children's actions and needs. Staff shall be attentive and participating with all children during mealtimes and shall be seated within an arm's length away from children thirty-six (36) months of age and younger.

Correction Deadline: 7/9/2025