



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: 1/13/2025 **VisitType:** Initial Licensing Study

Arrival: 9:00 AM **Departure:** 12:30 PM

CCLC-65799

Downs Preschool

3831 Mars Hill Rd. Watkinsville, GA 30677 Oconee County
(770) 823-0774 mastersholdings04@gmail.com

Application Services Unit Consultant

Yolanda Harris

Phone: (679) 739-7046

Fax:

yolanda.harris@decal.ga.gov

Joint with: Lauren Stewart

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.
01/13/2025	Initial Licensing Study	Good Standing	
			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
I	Room E-Rt. Front	GA PreK	2	18	C	20	C	NA	NA	Free Play
I	Room F-Rt Rear	GA PreK	2	17	C	12	NC	NA	NA	Free Play
I	Room G-Lt Front	GA PreK	2	15	C	29	C	NA	NA	Free Play
I	Room H- Left rear		0	0	C	15	C	NA	NA	
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 76					Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					
II	Room A-left front	GA PreK	2	18	C	23	C	NA	NA	Free Play
II	Room B-Left rear	GA PreK	2	17	C	26	C	NA	NA	Free Play
II	Room C-Right Rear	GA PreK	2	18	C	21	C	NA	NA	Free Play
II	Room D-Right Front	GA PreK	3	18	C	24	C	NA	NA	Free Play
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 94					Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					
Total # Children this Date: 121			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 170			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0				

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
I	A-Left small area	40	C
I	B-Right large area	196	C

Comments

Congratulations. An Initial Licensing visit was completed on this date. The provider was granted Permission to Operate. The provider does carry liability insurance and the license capacity is 170 children.

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.decga.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

You have received permission to operate and the form received with this report is intended to serve as a temporary license which is **valid for thirty(30) days**. Your actual license/ will be emailed to you upon receipt of the licensing fee. You may pay the licensing fee either online at <http://www.decga.gov/> or by certified check or money order mailed to: Bright from the Start, 2 Martin Luther King Jr. Drive SE, Suite 670 East Tower, Atlanta, GA 30334

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@decga.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 Initial Licensing Study:

Activities and Equipment

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

Met

Comment

A variety of equipment and toys were observed throughout the center on this date.

Comment

Equipment and furniture observed to be properly secured, as applicable on this date.

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

Met

Comment

Center does not provide swimming activities. No pool observed on site.

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)

Met

Comment

Center appears clean and well maintained.

Comment

No hazards observed accessible to children on this date.

591-1-1-.25 Physical Plant-Structural/Mechanical

Technical Assistance

Technical Assistance

Discussed with the provider to ensure that all ventilation fans are working properly.

Correction Deadline: 1/13/2025

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

Not Met

Comment

Playground observed to be clean and in good repair.

Technical Assistance

Discussed with the provider to ensure that the gap under the two story wooden play structure on playground B is enclosed at the bottom of the structure with the opening more than 3 1/2 inches.

Correction Deadline: 1/13/2025

Finding

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. It was determined based on observation that on playground A & B, visible chipping paint observed on all of the metal structures accessible to the children. Additionally on playground A the wooden structure has frayed exposed wood.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will provide a variety of age-appropriate equipment that is arranged so as not to obstruct supervision of children. Staff will check the equipment daily to ensure that the equipment is free of hazards, rust and splinters.

Correction Deadline: 1/23/2025

Health and Hygiene

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

Met

Comment

No children enrolled who require diapering. School age children attend only for after school hours.

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

Technical Assistance

Comment

Proper hand washing observed throughout the center.

Comment

Staff were observed to remind children to wash hands.

Technical Assistance

Please ensure that all garbage and organic waste to be stored in containers that are lined with plastic liners and have tight-fitting covers

Correction Deadline: 1/13/2025

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

Met

Comment

Discussed proper medication documentation, administration, storage and procedures.

Safety

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

Met

Comment

Appropriate discipline observed on this date.

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

Met

Comment

A current/completed inspection was observed for all vehicles used in transporting children this date.

Comment

Complete documentation of transportation observed.

Comment

The vehicle had an approved fire extinguisher and first aid kit on this date.

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

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.

Technical Assistance

Please ensure that cots and mats are stored in to prevent children's access in there learning environment.

Correction Deadline: 1/13/2025

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-.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**

Adequate supervision observed on this date.