



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: 10/16/2025 **VisitType:** Licensing Study

Arrival: 9:15 AM **Departure:** 11:40 AM

CCLC-48494

Small Wonders Early Learning Center

170 North Hammond Drive Monroe, GA 30655 Walton County
(770) 267-5023

Regional Consultant

Cassandra Jakes-Beasley

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Mailing Address

Same

Quality Rated: ★ ★

<u>Compliance Zone Designation</u>			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.
10/16/2025	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
10/28/2024	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
06/06/2024	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
Main	A - 1R	Infants and One Year Olds	1	6	C	15	C	NA	NA	Floor Play
Main	B - 2R	Infants	3	3	C	21	C	NA	NA	Floor Play
Main	C - 3R	Two Year Olds and Three Year Olds	2	15	C	21	C	NA	NA	Outside
Main	D - 3L		0	0	C	20	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Main	E - 2L		0	0	C	20	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Main	F - 1L	Six Year Olds and Over	1	12	C	15	C	NA	NA	Outside

Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 112

Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0

Total # Children this Date: 36

Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 112

Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	Playground - Left Side	21	C
Main	Playground - Right Side	21	C

Enrolled Children						
Under 1 years	1 years	2 years	3 years	4 years	5 years (Prekonly)	5 years and older
3	6	20	11	8	0	31

Comments

Background checks were reviewed. The Consultant completed the exit conference, and a copy of the report was sent to the Provider.

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!



Summary Report

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The following information is associated with a Licensing Study:

Activities and Equipment

591-1-1-.03 Activities

Met

Comment

Age-appropriate activities observed throughout the center.

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

Met

Comment

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

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 on this date.

591-1-1-.25 Physical Plant - Safe Environment(CR)

Not Met

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 there was an unlocked cabinet in the FL school age classroom and the #3R classroom with cleaning supplies and plastic bags.

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: 10/16/2025

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 there was an inoperable toilet covered with plastic in the three-year-old classroom and two-year-old classroom.

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.

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

Comment

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

Food Service

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

Comment

Center menu meets USDA guidelines.

Comment

Please ensure that bottles are covered and fully labeled with child's full name.

591-1-1-.18 Kitchen Operations **Met**

Comment

Kitchen appears clean and well organized on this date.

Health and Hygiene

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

Discussed hand washing routines.

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

Comment

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

Policies and Procedures

591-1-1-.21 Operational Policies & Procedures **Met**

Comment

Discussed updating Policy and Procedures.

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 on this date.

Comment

Paperwork, checklist, permission forms, annual inspection form and proper check of the vehicle after transportation were discussed with the director.

Comment

The vehicle was not on site and not inspected during the visit.

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

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

Comment

Discussed SIDS and infant sleeping position.

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.30(1)(a)2 - The consultant discussed with the director that all crib mattress(es) are required to be firm, tight-fitting without gaps, at least 2 inches thick and covered with a waterproof, washable material. Before a change of occupant, each mattress shall be cleaned with a disinfectant.

Staff Records

Records Reviewed: 7**Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 1**

Staff # 5

Not Met

Date of Hire: 07/30/2025

Reminder - Health & Safety training is required within 90 calendar days of hired"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.31(2)(b)2.-Staff Qualifications-Education Missing

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

Criminal record checks were observed to be complete.

Comment

Director 2 file(s) for employees hired since last visit.

Comment

Please ensure that applicants/staff are listing exact dates (including month/day/year) on 10 year work history form in order to determine any breaks in service from the child care industry.

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

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

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.

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****Correction Deadline: 10/28/2024****Corrected on 10/16/2025****.32(5) - Previous citation corrected in that based on observation all classrooms were in ratio during the visit.****591-1-1-.32 Supervision(CR)****Met****Comment**

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