



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: 2/16/2026 **VisitType:** POI Follow Up

Arrival: 10:35 AM **Departure:** 11:30 AM

CCLC-32922

Small World Child Care Center

300 Lavender Lane Thomaston, GA 30286 Upson County
(706) 647-4491

Regional Consultant

Brandi Mangino

Phone: (478) 314-9726

Fax: (478) 599-0169

brandi.mangino@dec.al.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.
02/16/2026	POI Follow Up	Good Standing	
02/04/2026	Complaint Closure	Good Standing	
01/22/2026	Complaint Investigation & 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	1L/Pre-K	Six Year Olds and Over	1	16	C	19	C	26	C	Circle Time
Main	2L	Two Year Olds and Three Year Olds	1	12	NC	18	C	NA	NA	Outside
Main	3L	One Year Olds and Two Year Olds	2	9	C	17	C	24	C	Free Play
Main	4L	Infants and One Year Olds	2	9	C	17	C	NA	NA	Floor Play, Feeding, Nap
Main	Middle	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds and Five Year Olds	2	21	C	25	C	35	C	Outside
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 96					Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 120					
Total # Children this Date: 67					Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 120					

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	Playground	0	C

Comments

The purpose of the visit was to conduct a Plan of Improvement follow-up.

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.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!



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Summary Report

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The following information is associated with a POI Follow Up:

Facility

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

Technical Assistance

Technical Assistance

Consultant discussed the center had one licensed playground. In order for children all ages to be outside at the same time the center would need to license the playground as two playground and be divided as such.

Correction Deadline: 2/16/2026

Food Service

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

Not Met

Finding

591-1-1-.15(4) requires that a feeding chair or similar equipment designed for feeding children shall be provided for the use of each child being fed who is capable of sitting up but who is unable to sit unassisted at a table and must be cleaned with a disinfectant after each use. Such chair or similar equipment shall have a broad base to prevent tipping, a surface that the child cannot raise, a strap or other device which prevents the child from sliding out of the chair, and a feeding surface free of cracks. It was determined based on observation that an infant was in a swing with a bottle and not a feeding chair.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will inspect feeding equipment to ensure it meets each of the listed criteria and to verify a feeding chair or equipment is provided for each child who requires one. The Center will train staff and monitor to ensure that the feeding equipment is cleaned with a disinfectant after each use.

Correction Deadline: 2/16/2026

Health and Hygiene

591-1-1-.07 Children's Health

Met

Correction Deadline: 1/22/2026

Corrected on 2/16/2026

.07(2) - Citation corrected.

Safety

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

Met

Correction Deadline: 1/22/2026

Corrected on 2/16/2026

.11(2) - Citation corrected.

591-1-1-.33 Staff Training**Defer****Defer**

591-1-1-.33(5)(b)(1)-Citation will be deferred as center staff has until December 31, 2026 to complete annual training for the year.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will plan and schedule the required 10 hours of annual training each year to include a least two (2) hours in evidence based, developmentally appropriate language and literacy practices and follow up to ensure the training is completed.

Correction Deadline: 2/21/2026

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

591-1-1-.32(2) requires the Center maintain Staff:child ratios in mixed-age groups based on the age of the youngest group of children that includes more than twenty percent of the total number of children in the mixed-age group. It was determined based on observation that the that Room 2L was outside and a staff member came in leaving one staff member with 12 children. Five 2-year-old children and seven 3-year-old children.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will provide adequate staff when there is a mixed-age group.

Correction Deadline: 2/16/2026

Recited on 2/16/2026

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

Supervision requirements and were discussed. Position of chairs and tables need to be in such that all staff can remain within arms length anytime a child had food/drinks.

Correction Deadline: 2/16/2026