



**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:** 5/8/2023    **VisitType:** Monitoring Visit    **Arrival:** 10:00 AM    **Departure:** 1:00 PM

**CCLC-35654**

**Tender Years Learning Center #8**

1902 N Barack Obama Blvd Valdosta, GA 31601 Lowndes County  
 (229) 242-7130 tylc8@tylcorp.com

**Region Consultant**

Rena Keene

Phone: (912) 544-9930  
 Fax: (912) 544-9926  
 rena.keene@dec.al.ga.gov

**Mailing Address**

3440 Oakcliff Road Suite# 112  
 ATLANTA, GA 30340

**Quality Rated:** ★ ★

<b>Compliance Zone Designation</b>		
05/08/2023	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing
11/22/2022	Licensing Study	Good Standing
05/25/2022	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing

**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.

**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-infant/toddler 1st left	Infants	1	3	C	11	C	NA	NA	Diapering, Floor Play, Nap
Main	B-1's (R front)	One Year Olds	2	5	C	19	C	NA	NA	Snack, Transitioning, Outside
Main	C-2's (R bk)	Two Year Olds	2	9	C	18	C	NA	NA	Transitioning, Outside
Main	D - 3's - 2nd left	Three Year Olds	2	14	C	24	C	NA	NA	Transitioning, Story
Main	F-PRE-K (1,2,3 & stage)	GA PreK	2	16	C	74	C	NA	NA	Circle Time, Transitioning, Centers
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 145						Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0		Building @35 capacity limited by Fire Marshall Limitations		
Total # Children this Date: 47			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 145			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0				

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	Infant Playground - left front	11	C
Main	Pre-K Playground - left side back	44	C

**Comments**

The purpose of today's visit was to conduct a Monitoring Visit. The Center is enrolled in the Quality Rated Program with a two-star rating.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 05/08/2023

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.

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**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](http://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.

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**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 1 855-800-7747 or [qualityrated@dec.al.ga.gov](mailto:qualityrated@dec.al.ga.gov) for more information. Free technical assistance is available!**

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Jennifer McQuire, Program Official

Date

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Rena Keene, Consultant

Date



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**(Findings Report)**

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The following information is associated with a Monitoring Visit:

**Activities and Equipment**

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

**Met**

**Comment**

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

**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)**

**Met**

**Comment**

No hazards observed accessible to children on this date.

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

**Not Met**

**Comment**

Discussed maintenance of resilient surface. Please fluff and redistribute.

**Finding**

59591-1-1-.26(4) requires that playgrounds be protected from traffic or other hazards by a (4) four foot high fence or other barrier approved by this Department. Fencing material shall not present a hazard to children and shall be maintained so as to prevent children from leaving the playground area by any means other than through an approved access route. Fence gates shall be kept closed except when persons are entering or exiting the area. It was determined based on consultant's observation that the fencing on the playground used by three year old children and the Pre-K classroom was not maintained so as not to pose a hazard to the children. The gate on the fence leading to the area housing the heating and cooling unit was braced at the bottom by a metal bar that is broken and has jagged areas. The bending of the lower bar caused the wire to be unattached from the gate frame. The wire edges of the fencing were exposed and needs to be secured to the frame so as not to pose a hazard to the children. Additionally, on the back area of the playground, the fence was not secure on the south facing side due to being vandalized.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center will routinely check the fence to determine if it is in good repair and remains at least 4 feet high, and will repair any hazards. The Center will train Staff to identify and report any fence hazards and to keep the fence gates closed when not in use. Director stated that they are in the process of acquiring a privacy fence where the playground is susceptible to vandals. The gate to the heating and air conditioning unit will be replaced or repaired.

**Correction Deadline: 5/8/2023**

**Technical Assistance**

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. Please cover jagged and exposed concrete edges and mark or cover roots leading from the Pre-K classroom to the playground.

**Correction Deadline: 5/8/2023**

**Food Service**

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

**Not Met**

**Finding**

591-1-1-.15(6)(b) requires that food and beverages be served in individual plates or bowls and with individual glasses or cups. It was determined based on consultant's observation that the snack given to the one-year-old children after coming in from the playground was not served on an individual plate or serving item. The cheetos given to the children were observed to be placed directly on the table.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The center will use individual food service items to serve food and beverages.

**Correction Deadline: 5/8/2023**

**Health and Hygiene**

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

**Not Met**

**Finding**

591-1-1-.10(4) requires that if diapers are changed on a diaper changing surface, the surface shall be smooth, nonporous, and equipped with a guard or rails to prevent falls. Between each diaper change, the diaper changing surface shall be cleaned with a disinfectant and dried with a single-use disposable towel. It was determined based on consultant's observation and staff statements that the diaper changing surfaces in the infant room and in the room where two-year-old children were housed were not cleaned and disinfected as required. The staff in the infant room was observed to change a child's diaper and not clear the area with soap and water prior to disinfecting the surface. In the two year old classroom, the diaper-changing station was observed to be littered with sand and other debris and staff stated that the diaper changing area had been previously used that morning.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center will ensure there is a smooth, nonporous changing surface that has a guard or rails for safety in each classroom that houses children wearing diapers. Center Staff will be trained and have adequate supplies to properly clean the diaper changing surface between each diaper change.

**Correction Deadline: 5/8/2023**

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

**Technical Assistance**

**Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.17(7)(a) requires washcloth handwashing be used only for infants when the infant is too heavy to hold or cannot stand safely and for children with special needs; requires that an individual washcloth be used only once for each child before laundering. When possible, infants' hands should be washed with soap and warm running water at the sink. Please review proper handwashing requirements with new staff.

**Correction Deadline: 5/8/2023**

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

**Met**

**Comment**

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

**Safety**

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

**Met**

**Comment**

Staff were observed to maintain a positive learning environment on this date.

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**591-1-1-.13 Field Trips(CR)**

**Met**

**Comment**

Center does not participate in field trips at this time.

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

**Met**

**Comment**

Complete documentation of transportation observed.

**Sleeping & Resting Equipment**

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

**Met**

**Comment**

Discussed SIDS and infant sleeping position.

**Comment**

Pleasant naptime environment observed.

**Staff Records**

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

**Met**

**Comment**

Criminal record checks were observed to be complete.

**Comment**

Director provided three (3) files for employees hired since last visit. Background check determinations had been completed as required.

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

**Met**

**Comment**

Staff observed to be compliant with applicable laws and regulations. Please ensure that the lead teachers assigned to each room are present in the classroom.

**Staffing and Supervision**

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

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

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

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