



**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:** 12/29/2022 **VisitType:** Incident Investigation/Licensing Study **Arrival:** 9:30 AM **Departure:** 12:00 PM

**CCLC-11775**

**Little Caterpillars Development Center, Inc.**

141 Chase Court Milledgeville, GA 31061 Baldwin County  
 (478) 452-1800 ariana@littlecaterpillars.com

**Regional Consultant**

Rebekah Mullinax

Phone: (770) 357-7056

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rebekah.mullinax@decal.ga.gov

Joint with: Christina Jennings

**Mailing Address**

Same

**Quality Rated:** ★ ★

<b>Compliance Zone Designation</b>		
12/29/2022	Incident Investigation/Licensing Study	Good Standing
01/28/2022	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing
07/26/2021	Licensing Study	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(210)-6wks-12m	Infants	1	3	C	11	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main	B (208)6wks-7m	Infants	1	4	C	11	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main	C(207) 7M-12m	Infants	2	6	C	11	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main	D(206) 12M-18M	One Year Olds	1	7	C	17	C	NA	NA	Diapering,Free Play
Main	E(204) 12M-24M	One Year Olds	2	10	C	19	C	NA	NA	Centers
Main	F(205) 18M-35M	Two Year Olds	1	8	C	23	C	NA	NA	Free Play
Main	G (209)18M-35 M	Two Year Olds	2	12	C	22	C	NA	NA	Free Play
Main	H (211)3yrs	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	2	4	C	22	C	NA	NA	Music
Main	I (213) 3 & 4yrs	Three Year Olds	2	13	C	23	C	NA	NA	Centers,Free Play
Main	J(212) 4yrs	Four Year Olds and Five Year Olds and Six Year Olds and Over	2	7	C	18	C	NA	NA	Free Play
Main	K(214) 4yrs		0	0	C	21	C	NA	NA	
Main	L (215) 8-12yrs		0	0	C	26	C	NA	NA	
Main	L(215) 5-7 yrs	Six Year Olds and Over	1	9	C	24	C	NA	NA	Free Play
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 248					Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					
Total # Children this Date: 83			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 248			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0				

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	A Infants Toddlers	17	C
Main	B Toddler/Preschool	66	C
Main	C Preschool/School age	152	C
Main	D School age	171	C

**Comments**

Director provided seven files for employees hired since last visit.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 12/29/2022

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.state.ga.us/CCS/Regulations.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](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.

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](mailto:qualityrated@dec.al.ga.gov) for more information. Free technical assistance is available!**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Ariana Vandal, Program Official

Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Rebekah Mullinax, Consultant

Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Christina Jennings, Consultant

Date



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**(Findings Report)**

**Date:** 12/29/2022 **VisitType:** Incident  
Investigation/Licensing  
Study

**Arrival:** 9:30 AM

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The following information is associated with a Licensing Study 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**

Pool not in use at this time, gates observed locked.

**Children's Records**

**591-1-1-.08 Children's Records**

**Met**

**Comment**

Records were observed to be complete and well organized.

**Facility**

**591-1-1-.06 Bathrooms**

**Met**

**Comment**

Bathrooms observed to be clean and well maintained.

**591-1-1-.19 License Capacity(CR)**

**Met**

**Comment**

Licensed capacity observed to be routinely met by center.

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

No hazards observed accessible to children on this date.

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**591-1-1-.26 Playgrounds(CR)****Technical Assistance****Correction Deadline: 1/28/2022****Corrected on 12/29/2022****.26(4) - Previous citation corrected in that the fencing material was in good repair as required.****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. On this date the consultant observed a wooden shade covering on playground D in bad repair. Please ensure that the playground be free from hazards as required.

**Correction Deadline: 12/29/2022**

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<b>Food Service</b>
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**591-1-1-.15 Food Service & Nutrition****Met****Comment**

Center menu meets USDA guidelines.

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

Kitchen appears clean and well organized.

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<b>Health and Hygiene</b>
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**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 observation that the diaper changing surface in room 206 was not cleaned with a disinfectant and dried with a single-use disposable towel after diapering as required.

**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: 12/29/2022**

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**591-1-1-.17 Hygiene(CR)****Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.17(7) requires that children wash their hands with liquid soap and warm running water upon arrival for care, when moving from one child care group to another, upon re-entering the child care area after outside play, before and after eating meals and snacks, handling or touching food, playing in water; after toileting and diapering, playing in sand, touching animals or pets, and contact with bodily fluids and after contamination by any other means. It was determined based on observation that a child in classroom 206 did not wash their hands with liquid soap and warm running water after diapering as required.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center will train Staff on required handwashing for children and Staff will ensure children's hands are washed when required. The Director will monitor for compliance.

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**Correction Deadline: 12/29/2022**

**Finding**

591-1-1-.17(8) requires staff to wash their hands with liquid soap and warm running water upon arrival for the day, when moving from one child care group to another, upon re-entering the child care area after outside play, before and after diapering each child, dispensing medication, applying topical medications, handling and preparing food, eating, drinking, preparing bottles, feeding each child, assisting children with eating and drinking, after toileting or assisting children with toileting, using tobacco products, handling garbage and organic waste, touching animals or pets, handling bodily fluids and after contamination by any means. It was determined based on observation that a staff member in room 206 did not wash their hands with liquid soap and warm running water after diapering as required.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center will ensure liquid soap and warm running water are available for handwashing, train Staff on the handwashing requirements, review the requirements with Staff periodically, and monitor handwashing.

**Correction Deadline: 12/29/2022**

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**591-1-1-.20 Medications(CR)** **N/A**

**Comment**

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

**Policies and Procedures**

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**591-1-1-.27 Posted Notices** **Met**

**Comment**

Observed all required posted notices.

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**591-1-1-.29 Required Reporting** **Met**

**Comment**

Thank you for reporting as required.

**Safety**

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**591-1-1-.05 Animals** **N/A**

**Comment**

Center does not keep animals on premises.

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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-.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**

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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.

**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.

<b>Staff Records</b>
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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 seven files for employees hired since last visit.

**Correction Deadline: 1/28/2022**

**Corrected on 12/29/2022**

**.09(1)(j) - Previous citation corrected in that all staff have a comprehensive satisfactory records check determination on file as required.**

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

Evidence observed of 100% of center staff certified in First Aid and CPR.

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**591-1-1-.33 Staff Training****Met****Comment**

Documentation observed of required staff training.

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**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.

<b>Staffing and Supervision</b>
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**591-1-1-.32 Staff:Child Ratios and Group Size(CR)****Met****Comment**

Center observed to maintain appropriate staff:child ratios.

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

Adequate supervision observed on this date.