



**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:** 8/17/2022    **VisitType:** Monitoring Visit    **Arrival:** 8:05 AM    **Departure:** 9:30 AM

**CCLC-26288**

**A Brighter Beginning Childcare Center**

3423-C Deans Bridge Road Augusta, GA 30906 Richmond County  
 (706) 793-9776 holdeneric6@gmail.com

**Region Consultant**

Kaycee Purvis

Phone: (770) 357-4915

Fax: (404) 478-8085

kaycee.purvis@dec.al.ga.gov

**Mailing Address**  
 Same

**Quality Rated:** ★ ★

<b>Compliance Zone Designation</b>			<b>Compliance Zone Designation</b> - 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.  <b>Good Standing</b> - Program is demonstrating an acceptable level of performance in meeting the rules. <b>Support</b> - Program performance is demonstrating a need for improvement in meeting rules. <b>Deficient</b> - Program is not demonstrating an acceptable level of performance in meeting the rules.
08/17/2022	Monitoring Visit	Deficient	
06/30/2022	Complaint Investigation by Phone	Good Standing	
04/27/2022	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
Building 1	Building 1		0	0	C	18	C	NA	NA	
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 18			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 93							
Building 2	Building 2		0	0	C	19	C	26	C	
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 19			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 93							
Building 3	Building 3	Three Year Olds	1	6	C	18	C	25	C	Free Play
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 18			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 93							
Main	Front	One Year Olds and Two Year Olds and Three Year Olds and Six Year Olds and Over	1	15	NC	13	NC	NA	NA	Feeding,Breakfast,Free Play,Nap,Floor Play
Main	Left	Infants	1	6	C	6	C	NA	NA	Diapering,Feeding,Nap
Main	Middle	One Year Olds and Two Year Olds	0	2	NC	5	C	NA	NA	Nap
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 24			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 93							
Total # Children this Date: 29			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 79			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 93				

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	Large Rear-Play	87	C
Main	Left-Play	16	C

#### Comments

An electronic copy of the Monitoring Visit report was emailed to the Provider. An exit conference was conducted virtually.

Plan of Improvement: To Be Submitted 09/01/2022

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.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](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!**

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Eric Holden, Program Official

Date

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Kaycee Purvis, Consultant

Date



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**(Findings Report)**

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Same

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)**

**N/A**

**Comment**

Center does not provide swimming activities.

**Children's Records**

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

**Met**

**Correction Deadline: 7/10/2022**

**Corrected on 8/17/2022**

.08(2) - Correction of Previous citation in that the Provider stated that the center has 100% compliance of immunization records.

**Evening Care**

**591-1-1-.32 Staffing/Supervision(CR)**

**Met**

**Comment**

No evening care hours provided

**Facility**

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**591-1-1-.19 License Capacity(CR)****Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.19(1) requires a Center to provide 35 square feet of usable space per child, which will determine the Center's License capacity. It was determined based upon observations that the Front Classroom was observed to house 15 children when the Front Classroom is licensed for 13 children.

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**Correction Deadline: 8/18/2022**

**Recited on 8/17/2022**

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**591-1-1-.25 Physical Plant - Safe Environment(CR)****Not Met****Comment**

Please be mindful to keep items that pose a hazard inaccessible to children.

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**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 upon observation that the floor tile in the back right of Building 3 Classroom was missing tile with the sub floor exposed. It was also determined that the baseboard at the back right of Building 3 Classroom was peeling from the wall.

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**Correction Deadline: 8/17/2022**

**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 upon observation that the white PVC barrier on the Large Rear-Play Playground was broken and a large section was lying in the middle of the playground.

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**Correction Deadline: 8/27/2022**

**Finding**

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. It was determined based upon observation that the basketball court on the Large Rear-Play Playground had exposed sharp edges of concrete. It was further determined that there was trash throughout the Large Rear-Play Playground.

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**Correction Deadline: 9/16/2022**

<b>Health and Hygiene</b>
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**Finding**

591-1-1-.07(5) requires Center Staff to not permit children to wear around their necks or attach to their clothing pacifiers or other hazardous items. It was determined based upon observation that a child in the Front Classroom had a paci strap attached to their clothing. It was also determined that one child in the Middle Classroom had a paci strap attached to their clothing. It was further determined that two children in the Left Classroom had paci straps attached to their clothing.

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**Correction Deadline: 8/18/2022**

Recited on 8/17/2022

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

**Comment**

Proper diapering procedures observed.

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

**Comment**

Proper hand washing of children and staff was discussed with the director on this date.

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

**Comment**

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

**Safety**

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

**Comment**

Age-appropriate discussion and/or redirection observed.

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

**Correction Deadline: 4/27/2022**

**Corrected on 8/17/2022**

**.13(2) - Correction of previous citation in that the center did not participate in field trips.**

**591-1-1-.36 Transportation(CR)** **Not Met**

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**Correction Deadline: 4/28/2022**

**Corrected on 8/17/2022**

**.36(7)(c)1 - correction of previous citation in that the Consultant observed children listed with first and last names on transportation checklists.**

**Finding**

591-1-1-.36(7)(c)2. requires that the driver or other designated person shall immediately document in writing, with a check or other mark/symbol to account for each child listed on the passenger transportation checklist each time a child enters and exits the vehicle. The driver or other designated staff person shall document in writing with a different mark/symbol to account for each child listed on the passenger transportation checklist who was not present on the vehicle for any reason. An explanation shall be documented in writing whenever a child is transported to a field trip site but is not present on the return trip to the Center. It was determined based upon a review of records that center staff failed to document the load and unload of one child on the afternoon route from Jamestown Elementary to the center on August 17, 2022.

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**Correction Deadline: 8/17/2022**

**Recited on 8/17/2022**

<b>Sleeping &amp; Resting Equipment</b>
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**591-1-1-.30 Safe Sleeping and Resting Requirements(CR)**

**Not Met**

**Finding**

591-1-1-.30(1)(a)3 requires that each crib shall have only an individual, tight-fitting sheet which is changed daily or more often as needed and prior to a change of occupant. It was determined based upon observation that there were two children asleep in cribs with loose fitting crib sheets in the Middle Classroom.

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**Correction Deadline: 8/17/2022**

**Finding**

591-1-1-.30(2) requires the Center to provide a safe sleep environment in accordance with American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP), Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) and American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM) recommendations as listed in these rules for all infants. Center Staff shall place an infant to sleep on the infant's back in a crib unless the Center has been provided a physician's written statement authorizing another sleep position for that particular infant that includes how the infant shall be placed to sleep and a time frame that the instructions are to be followed. When an infant can easily turn over from back to front and back again, Staff shall continue to put the infant to sleep initially on the infant's back but allow the infant to roll over into his or her preferred position and not re-position the infant. Sleepers, sleep sacks and wearable blankets that fit according to the commercial manufacturer's guidelines and will not slide up around the infant's face may be used when necessary for the comfort of the sleeping infant. Swaddling shall not be used unless the Center has been provided a physician's written statement authorizing its use for a particular infant that includes instructions and a time frame for swaddling the infant. Center Staff shall not place objects or allow objects to be placed in or on the crib with an infant such as but not limited to toys, pillows, quilts, comforters, bumper pads, sheepskins, stuffed toys, or other soft items and shall not attach objects or allow objects to be attached to a crib with a sleeping infant, such as, but not limited to, crib gyms, toys, mirrors and mobiles. It was determined based upon observation that one child asleep in a crib in the Middle classroom had a blanket and cup of milk in the crib while sleeping. It was also determined that three children in the Left Classroom were asleep in cribs with blankets on this date.

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**Correction Deadline: 8/17/2022**



## 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-.33 Staff Training

Defer

#### Defer

591-1-1-.33(5)-Citation deferred. Due date not approached yet.

**Correction Deadline: 5/11/2022**

### 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)

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 upon observation that five one-year-old children and five two-year-old children were housed together with two three-year-old children and three children older than six-years-old in the Front Classroom on this date.

**Correction Deadline: 8/17/2022**

**Finding**

591-1-1-.32(7) requires that children be supervised at all times appropriate to the individual age, needs and capabilities of each child. Such supervision must include, but not be limited to, indoor and outdoor activities, mealtimes, naptime, transportation, field trips, and transitions between activities. "Supervision" means that the appropriate number of Staff members are physically present in the area where children are being cared for and are providing watchful oversight to the children, volunteers and Students-in-Training. The persons supervising in the child care area must be alert, positioned to maximize their ability to hear and see the children at all times, and able to respond promptly to the needs and actions of the children being supervised, as well as the actions of the volunteers and Students-in-Training, and provide timely attention to the children's actions and needs. Staff shall be attentive and participating with all children during mealtimes and shall be seated within an arm's length away from children thirty-six (36) months of age and younger. It was determined based upon observation that a child was observed asleep with a blanket in the crib and a pacifier strap attached to their clothing in the Middle Classroom with no staff member present for approximately 45 minutes. It was further determined that Staff in the Front Classroom left children unattended to go into the Kitchen to get breakfast for children and to take infants into the Left Classroom. It was further determined that Staff in the Left Classroom allowed a three-year-old child to walk from the Front Classroom in Building 1 through the center and through the Large Rear-Play Playground to Building 3 unsupervised.

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**Correction Deadline: 8/17/2022**