



**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

**Cover Sheet**

**Date:** 6/29/2022 **VisitType:** Licensing Study

**Arrival:** 10:35 AM

**Departure:** 11:20 AM

**CCLC-50483**

**Precious Hearts Child Development Center**

5119 Wrightsboro Road Grovetown, GA 30813 Columbia County  
 (706) 869-9923 owner@preciousheartscdc.com

**Mailing Address**

PO Box 346  
 Grovetown, GA 30813

**Regional Consultant**

Melyn Smith

Phone: (706) 855-3455

Fax: (706) 434-7640

melyn.smith@dec.al.ga.gov

Joint with: Carrie Spangler

**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.
06/29/2022	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
02/08/2022	Complaint Closure	Good Standing	
02/04/2022	Complaint Investigation Follow Up	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- Left- 2's		0	0	C	23	C	NA	NA	
Main	C- Center-PreK/ASP		0	0	C	22	C	NA	NA	
Main	D- Right Front		0	0	C	12	C	NA	NA	
Main	E- Right Back		0	0	C	20	C	NA	NA	
Main	F- Back Right-4's	Four Year Olds and Five Year Olds and Six Year Olds and Over	2	8	C	25	C	NA	NA	Centers
Main	G- Back Left- 3's	Two Year Olds and Three Year Olds	2	7	C	27	C	NA	NA	Art,Centers
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 129						Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0				
Total # Children this Date: 15			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 129			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0				

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	PG- Left	119	C
Main	PG- Right	45	C

**Comments**

On this date, the consultant followed up to previous visit and conducted an on-site Licensing Study. Consultant requested the provider submit required documents for the Administrative Review process. An Administrative Review was conducted on July 8, 2022. Staff files, children's files, training, and background checks were all reviewed. The Consultant completed exit conference virtually and a copy of the licensing study visit report was electronically emailed to the Program on July 8, 2022.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 06/29/2022

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



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

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)

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Stephanie Veneklasen, Program Official

Date

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Melyn Smith, Consultant

Date

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Carrie Spangler, Consultant

Date



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**Findings Report**

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The following information is associated with a Licensing Study:

**Activities and Equipment**

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

**Not Met**

**Comment**

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

**Finding**

591-1-1-.12(2) requires that all equipment and furniture be free from hazardous conditions such as, but not limited to, sharp rough edges or toxic paint; and be kept clean. It was determined, based on observation, that bottom of the art easel was observed broken in Room F on this date.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center will ensure that equipment and furniture are used by the age-appropriate group of children.

**Correction Deadline: 7/8/2022**

**591-1-1-.35 Swimming Pools & Water-related Activities(CR)**

**N/A**

**Comment**

Center does not provide swimming activities.

**Children's Records**

**Records Reviewed: 6**

**Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 0**

Child # 1	Met
Child # 2	Met
Child # 3	Met
Child # 4	Met

Child # 5

Met

Child # 6

Met

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

Records were observed to be complete and well organized.

<b>Facility</b>
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**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)****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, that two toilet brushes were observed accessible to children in the bathroom in Room G on this date.

**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: 7/8/2022****Finding**

591-1-1-.25(17) requires that the Center premises be free of plants and shrubs which are poisonous or hazardous. It was determined, based on observation, that thorny vines were observed along and growing through the fence located on the back of the Right and Left Playgrounds on this date.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The harmful item will be removed.

**Correction Deadline: 7/8/2022****Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.25(3) - The Consultants discussed with the Director to please be mindful of and replace the white caps covering the bolts connecting the toilets to the floor on this date.

**Correction Deadline: 6/29/2022**

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**591-1-1-.26 Playgrounds(CR)****Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.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 observation, that the following was observed on the Left Playground:

- The pole was observed disconnected on the front gate and a large gap measuring from seven inches at the bottom to ten inches at the top was observed present on this date which posed as a potential entrapment hazard.
- The pole was observed disconnected next to the gate leading to the building.
- The pole cap of the second pole to the right of the gate on the Left Playground.
- A gap measuring five inches was observed between the fence and the gate leading into the Left Playground.

**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.

**Correction Deadline: 7/13/2022**

**Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.26(6) - The Consultants discussed with the Director to please be mindful of rust and chipping paint on the playground equipment on the Right and Left Playgrounds on this date.

**Correction Deadline: 7/9/2022**

**Finding**

591-1-1-.26(8) requires climbing and swinging equipment to have a resilient surface beneath the equipment and the fall zone from such equipment must be adequately maintained by the Center to assure continuing resiliency. It was determined, based on observation, that one inch of resilient surface was measured under the Left Playground, when three inches of resilient surface was required. It was further determined that grass was observed growing in the resilient surface under the slide and monkey bars on the Left Playground on this date, which reduced resiliency.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center will add additional resilient surfacing to the fall zones where needed and check daily, adding resilient surfacing as needed to maintain adequate resiliency.

**Correction Deadline: 7/13/2022**

**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 on observation, that the following potential hazards were observed on the Left Playground on this date:

- The right side pipe around the monkey bars was observed disconnected and was observed to have sharp edges on this date.
- The concrete was observed exposed under the blue arch climber on this date.
- The right side barrier around the slide was observed disconnected on this date.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center will remove any litter and fix or remove hazards from the playground and will routinely monitor the playground and remove litter and hazards.

**Correction Deadline: 7/13/2022**

**Food Service**

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

**Comment**

Center menu meets USDA guidelines.

**Health and Hygiene**

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

**Comment**

No children enrolled who require diapering.

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

**Comment**

Please ensure lids remain on trash containing organic waste.

**Comment**

Proper hand washing observed throughout the center.

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

**Met**

**Comment**

Discussed proper medication documentation and procedures.

**Policies and Procedures**

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

**Not Met**

**Finding**

591-1-1-.21(3) requires that the Center conduct drills for fire, tornado and other emergency situations. The fire drills will be conducted monthly and tornado and other emergency situation drills will be conducted every six months. The Center shall maintain documentation of the dates and times of these drills for two years. It was determined, based on review of records, that the center conducted lockdown and tornado drills in March 2021 and October 2021 which was seven months, when it was required that the lockdown and tornado drills be conducted every six months.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center will hold the drills as required and keep the documentation of the drills on file for two years.

**Correction Deadline: 7/29/2022**

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

**Not Met**

**Finding**

591-1-1-.27 requires each Center to post in a designated area for public viewing near the front entrance the following: the Center's current License or Permit; a copy of these rules; a copy of the current communicable disease chart; a statement allowing Parent(s) access to all child care areas upon notifying any staff member of his or her presence; names of persons responsible for the administration of the Center in the administrator's absence; the dated current week's menu for meals and snacks; emergency plans for severe weather, fire, and other emergency situations; a statement requiring visitors to check in with Staff when entering the Center; no smoking signs; and a notice provided by the Department which advises Parents of their right to review a copy of the Center's most recent licensure evaluation report upon request to the Center Director. The Center shall provide any Parent with a copy of this evaluation report upon request. It was determined, based on observation, that the Center was lacking posting the names of persons responsible for the administration of the Center in the administrator's absence on this date.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center will post the notices as required and ensure they remain posted.

**Correction Deadline: 7/8/2022**

**Safety**

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

**Met**

**Comment**

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

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

**N/A**

**Comment**

Center does not participate in field trips at this time.

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

**Technical Assistance**

**Comment**

Complete documentation of transportation observed.

**Comment**

The vehicle had an approved fire extinguisher and first aid kit on this date.

**Comment**

The vehicle was checked for compliance. Proper restraints were observed. The Consultants discussed with the Director to please ensure seat belt receptacles were on the seat and not pushed through the seat.

**Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.36(7)(b) - The Consultant discussed with the Director to please ensure that all children's vehicle emergency medical information record included the name and phone number of the child's primary physician, as one of seven vehicle emergency medical records was lacking the information.

**Correction Deadline: 6/30/2022**

**Sleeping & Resting Equipment**

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

**Technical Assistance**

**Comment**

Pleasant naptime environment observed.

**Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.30(4) - The Consultants discussed with the Director to please remove sheets from cots when storing them to prevent the spread of airborne diseases on this date.

**Correction Deadline: 6/29/2022**

**Staff Records**

**Records Reviewed: 17**

**Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 0**

Staff # 1	Met
Date of Hire: 03/09/2022	
Staff # 2	Met
Date of Hire: 04/22/2019	
Staff # 3	Met
Date of Hire: 03/29/2022	
Staff # 4	Met
Date of Hire: 12/27/2018	
Staff # 5	Met
Date of Hire: 01/07/2019	
Staff # 6	Met
Date of Hire: 12/27/2018	
Staff # 7	Met
Date of Hire: 12/27/2018	
Staff # 8	Met
Date of Hire: 07/29/2019	
Staff # 9	Met
Date of Hire: 09/20/2021	



Staff # 10 Date of Hire: 01/10/2019	Met
Staff # 11 Date of Hire: 03/07/2022	Met
Staff # 12 Date of Hire: 01/15/2019	Met
Staff # 13 Date of Hire: 10/05/2020	Met
Staff # 14 Date of Hire: 12/27/2018	Met
Staff # 15 Date of Hire: 03/18/2019	Met
Staff # 16 Date of Hire: 09/20/2021	Met
Staff # 17 Date of Hire: 02/03/2021	Met

**Staff Credentials Reviewed: 8**

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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.

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**591-1-1-.14 First Aid & CPR Not Met**

**Comment**

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

**Finding**

591-1-1-.14(3) requires the Center to have a first aid kit in each building of the Center and in any vehicle used by the Center for transportation of children, that contains scissors, tweezers, gauze pads, adhesive tape, thermometer, band-aids, assorted sizes, antibacterial ointment, insect-sting preparation, an antiseptic cleansing solution, triangular bandages, rubber gloves, protective eye wear, a protective face mask, and a cold pack. The first aid kit, together with a first aid instruction manual which must be kept with the kit at all times, shall be stored so that it is not accessible to children but is easily accessible to Staff. It was determined, based on observation, that the first aid kit in the Center was lacking protective face masks on this date. It was further determined that the first aid kit on the vehicle used for routine transportation was observed to be lacking a thermometer, antibacterial ointment, insect-sting preparation, an antiseptic cleansing solution, protective face masks, and a cold pack on this date.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

Center Staff will provide any missing first aid kits, add any missing items to each first aid kit and will develop and use a plan for checking the kits and replacing missing items in each kit in the future. First aid kits and instruction manuals will be stored so that they kits are not accessible to children but are easily accessible to Center Staff.

**Correction Deadline: 7/13/2022**

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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.

**Comment**

Staff observed to be compliant with applicable laws and regulations.

<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.