



**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:** 7/12/2022 **VisitType:** Licensing Study

**Arrival:** 10:30 AM

**Departure:** 12:15 PM

**CCLC-25652**

**Joyful Journeys CEC**

8358 Fortson Court Fortson, GA 31808 Muscogee County  
 (706) 507-7890 kelsey@joyfuljourneys2008.com

**Regional Consultant**

Penny Svenson

Phone: (470) 346-1037

Fax: (678) 891-5613

penny.svenson@decal.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.
02/03/2022	Incident Investigation Closure	Good Standing	
01/05/2022	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
12/29/2021	Incident Investigation & Follow Up	Good Standing	

**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	Rm A (BR2)	Infants and One Year Olds	1	6	C	12	C	NA	NA	Floor Play
Main	Rm B (BR1)		2	0	C	12	C	NA	NA	Feeding, Floor Play, Nap
Main	Rm C (K4)		0	0	C	14	C	NA	NA	
Main	Rm F (K2A)	Two Year Olds	2	18	C	20	C	NA	NA	Lunch, Transitioning
Main	Rm G (K1B)	One Year Olds	2	14	C	16	C	NA	NA	Lunch
Main	Rm H (K1A)	One Year Olds	2	12	C	16	C	NA	NA	Lunch
Main	Rm I (K2B)	Two Year Olds and Three Year Olds	2	16	C	20	C	NA	NA	Lunch
Main	Room D (K3)	Three Year Olds	2	22	C	30	C	NA	NA	Centers
Main	Room E ASP	Four Year Olds and Five Year Olds	1	10	C	14	C	NA	NA	Centers

Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 154

Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0

Total # Children this Date: 98

Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 154

Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	Playground-2 yrs	24	C
Main	Playground3-12	32	C

**Comments**

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)

Kelsey MacMinn, Program Official

Date

Penny Svenson, 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)**

**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.

**Children's Records**

**Records Reviewed: 4**

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

Child # 1

Met

Child # 2

Met

Child # 3

Met

Child # 4

Met

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

**Met**

**Comment**

Records were observed to be complete and well organized.

**Facility**

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

**Comment**

Bathrooms observed to be clean and well maintained.

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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)** **Met**

**Comment**

Please secure cleaning tools (i.e., broom, plunger) out of reach of children.

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

**Comment**

Discussed maintenance of resilient surface. Please fluff and redistribute.

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**Food Service**

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

**Correction Deadline: 1/5/2022**

**Corrected on 7/12/2022**

**The correction was observed during a review of records.**

**Technical Assistance**

The Consultant discussed with the Director that foods and drinks with little or no nutritional value, i.e., sweets, soft drinks, etc. be served only on special occasions and only in addition to the required nutritious meals and snacks. Further the Consultant discussed with the Director that the sugar content be checked before foods were served.

**Correction Deadline: 7/12/2022**

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

**Comment**

Kitchen appears clean and well organized.

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**Health and Hygiene**

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

**Comment**

Staff state proper knowledge of diapering procedures.

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

**Comment**

Proper hand washing observed throughout the center.

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

**Comment**

Documentation for medication dispensing observed complete.

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**Policies and Procedures**

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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****Met****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-.13 Field Trips(CR)****Met****Comment**

Field trip documentation observed to be complete.

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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)****Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.30(1)(a)2 requires that a crib mattress is firm, tight-fitting without gaps, at least 2 inches thick and covered with a waterproof, washable material. Before a change of occupant, each mattress shall be cleaned with a disinfectant. It was determined based on the Consultant's observation that there were two crib mattresses with exposed foam.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The center will ensure that a crib mattress is firm, tight-fitting without gaps, at least All crib mattresses will be checked for rips, tears, or exposed foam and replaced as needed.

**Correction Deadline: 7/12/2022****Staff Records****Records Reviewed: 20****Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 0**

Staff # 1

Met

Date of Hire: 06/13/2022

Reminder - Health & Safety training is required within 90 calendar days of hired

Staff # 2

Met

Date of Hire: 03/16/2022

Staff # 3

Met

Date of Hire: 07/27/2021

Staff # 4

Met

Date of Hire: 01/04/2021

Staff # 5 Met  
Date of Hire: 09/23/2010

Staff # 6 Met  
Date of Hire: 03/25/2019

Staff # 7 Met  
Date of Hire: 06/30/2022 Reminder - Health & Safety training is required within 90 calendar days of hired

Staff # 8 Met  
Date of Hire: 11/04/2019

Staff # 9 Met  
Date of Hire: 01/13/2021

Staff # 10 Met  
Date of Hire: 10/03/2011

Staff # 11 Met  
Date of Hire: 01/21/2019

Staff # 12 Met  
Date of Hire: 02/24/2020

Staff # 13 Met  
Date of Hire: 12/03/2010

Staff # 14 Met  
Date of Hire: 01/21/2021

Staff # 15 Met  
Date of Hire: 10/20/2021

Staff # 16 Met  
Date of Hire: 03/31/2019

Staff # 17 Met  
Date of Hire: 06/16/2008

Staff # 18 Met  
Date of Hire: 04/19/2008

Staff # 19 Met

Staff # 20 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-.33 Staff Training Met**

**Comment**

Documentation observed of required staff training.

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

**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**

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