



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: 12/9/2021 **VisitType:** Licensing Study **Arrival:** 11:00 AM **Departure:** 1:00 PM

CCLC-2636

Oma's Learning Center and Daycare

1345 West Hill Ave. Valdosta, GA 31601 Lowndes County
 (229) 247-2313 omaslearningctr@yahoo.com

Regional Consultant

Kelly Wilson

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Mailing Address
 Same

Quality Rated: ★ ★

Compliance Zone Designation			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.
12/09/2021	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
03/17/2021	Complaint Closure	Good Standing	
03/15/2021	Complaint Investigation & Monitoring Visit	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
bld2-rm H	Pre-K/ school age		0	0	C	40	C	56	C	Nap
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 40			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 168							
Main	Cafeteria		0	0	C	16	C	23	C	
Main	Room A - 2 1/2 yrs (right side of Bldg.)	Two Year Olds	2	13	C	18	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main	Room B - 3 yrs (right side Bldg.)	Three Year Olds	2	23	C	30	C	42	C	Nap
Main	Room C - 1 yrs (left side of building)	One Year Olds	3	10	C	13	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main	Room D - Infants (left side of Bldg.)	Infants	2	10	C	12	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main	Room E - 18 mth - 2 yrs (left side bldg)	One Year Olds	2	7	C	13	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main	Room F - 2 year olds (left side of building)	Two Year Olds	1	9	C	13	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main	Room G - 1 yrs (left side end of hallway)	One Year Olds	2	13	C	13	C	NA	NA	Nap
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 128			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 168							
Total # Children this Date: 85			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 168							

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	playground	67	C

Comments

An Administrative Review was conducted on December 6, 2021. Staff files, children's files, training, and background checks were all reviewed. A virtual inspection was conducted on December 9, 2021 with the Director. An in-person visit was not conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Plan of Improvement: To Be Submitted 12/27/2021

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 New Deadlines:

Due to the ongoing COVID restrictions, the deadline to become Quality Rated for programs who want to continue to receive Childcare and Parent Services (CAPS), has been extended to at least December 31, 2021.

Get started today! Sign up by completing a short online application: <https://qualityrated.dec.state.ga.us/>
Request free technical assistance to help you earn your star rating by contacting the Quality Rated help desk at 855-800-7747 or qualityrated@dec.state.ga.us

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), e-mail the following information to CCSRefutations@dec.state.ga.us.

- 1) Facility name, license number and visit date
- 2) Your name, title/relationship to the facility, e-mail address & up to two phone number(s) where you can be reached
- 3) Specific rule number(s) that you are refuting, along with your concerns or questions regarding the rule citation

Refutations must be submitted to Child Care Services (CCS) within 10 business days of the completion date.

A sample form for submitting a refutation can be found at: <http://dec.state.ga.us/ChildCareServices/RefutationInformation.aspx>

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)

Jazmine Newsome, Program Official

Date

Kelly Wilson, Consultant

Date



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Findings Report

Date: 12/9/2021 **VisitType:** Licensing Study

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Departure: 1:00 PM

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The following information is associated with a Licensing Study:

Activities and Equipment

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

Met

Correction Deadline: 3/15/2021

Corrected on 12/9/2021

.12(2) - This citation was observed to be corrected. It was observed that the twelve blue chairs with rusted legs and missing rings on the feet in classroom A had been replaced with new chairs.

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

Met

Comment

Center does not provide swimming activities.

Children's Records

Records Reviewed: 5

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 0

Child # 1	Met
Child # 2	Met
Child # 3	Met
Child # 4	Met
Child # 5	Met

Finding

591-1-1-.08(6) requires the Center to maintain records of a child's daily arrival and departure for the twelve (12) preceding months that the Parent or person(s) authorized by the Parent documents, in written or electronic format, each time the Parent or authorized person drops off and picks up the child. The documentation shall include at least the date, the child's name, the arrival and departure times, and the signature or initials of the Parent or authorized person at the time of arrival and departure. These records shall be made available to the Department in printed or written form upon request. It was determined based on a review of records from the week of November 18, 2021, that the center provided one day of sign-in/out records instead of the requested entire week. Additionally, 107 children did not have a signature for the sign-out portion of the daily sign in/out sheet and 38 children did not have a signature for the sign-in portion of the daily sign/out sheet on Monday, November 18, 2021.

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Correction Deadline: 12/13/2021

Recited on 12/9/2021

Facility

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

Correction Deadline: 3/15/2021

Corrected on 12/9/2021

.06(7) - This citation was observed to be corrected. It was observed that the toilet in bathroom G was clean and running properly.

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**

Correction Deadline: 3/15/2021

Corrected on 12/9/2021

.25(13) - This citation was observed to be corrected. The Pre-K classroom is not in use. No hazards were observed Classroom A during the virtual visit.

Correction Deadline: 3/15/2021

Corrected on 12/9/2021

.25(3) - This citation was observed to be corrected. It was observed that in the boy's bathroom of classroom B a light fixture cover had been replaced.

Correction Deadline: 3/15/2021

Corrected on 12/9/2021

.25(8) - This citation was observed to be corrected. It was observed that in classroom A, E, F and G all outlets were covered.

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

A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The playground appeared to be well maintained. The consultant discussed daily monitoring of the playground and playground equipment to ensure that hazards are not present while children are present for care.

Food Service

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

Center menu meets USDA guidelines.

591-1-1-.18 Kitchen Operations**Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.18(8) requires that containers of food be stored above the floor on clean surfaces protected from splash and other contamination. Containers for food storage other than the original container or package in which the food was obtained shall be impervious and non-absorbent, have tight-fitting lids or covers and labeled as to contents. It was determined based on observation that a paper bag of rice was on the floor of the kitchen pantry and not protected from possible contamination or infestation.

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Correction Deadline: 12/9/2021

Health and Hygiene

591-1-1-.10 Diapering Areas & Practices(CR)**Met****Correction Deadline: 3/15/2021****Corrected on 12/9/2021**

.10(4) - This citation was observed to be corrected During the virtual visit it was observed that the staff in classroom F were sanitizing the changing table after a child was diapered. Procedures and sanitation regarding proper diapering were discussed with the Director on this date.

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

591-1-1-.17(7)-This citation is deferred due to a virtual visit being conducted and hand washing not being able to be directly observed. Additionally, children were at nap during the visit so hand washing could not be observed.

Correction Deadline: 3/15/2021**Defer**

591-1-1-.17(8)-This citation is deferred due to a virtual visit being conducted and hand washing not being able to be directly observed.

Correction Deadline: 3/15/2021

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

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

Safety

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

591-1-1-.11(1)-This citation is deferred due to a virtual visit being conducted and discipline not being able to be directly observed.

Correction Deadline: 3/15/2021

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

Correction Deadline: 3/15/2021

Corrected on 12/9/2021

.36(7)(d)2. - This citation was observed to be corrected. Transportation documents were observed to have second signatures for both AM and PM routed for all three buses.

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

591-1-1-.30 Safe Sleeping and Resting Requirements(CR)**Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.30(1)(b)1-It was determined based on observation that three mats in classroom B were frayed at the seams and therefore unable to be waterproof.

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Correction Deadline: 12/14/2021

Recited on 12/9/2021

Finding

591-1-1-.30(1)(d) requires that all sleeping and resting equipment shall be arranged to avoid obstructing access to exit doors, to provide the caregivers access to each child, and to prevent children's access to cords hanging from window treatments and other hazardous objects. To reduce the transfer of airborne diseases, sleeping and resting equipment shall be arranged as follows. There shall be a minimum of twenty-four inch (24") corridor between each row of sleeping or resting equipment. There shall be a minimum of twelve inches (12") between each piece of sleeping or resting equipment in each row of equipment. Children shall be placed on cots and mats so that one child's head is toward another child's feet in the same row. It was determined based on observation that in classroom G a DVD music player was on a shelf with the cord hanging directly over the head of a napping child that could have been pulled on top of the child causing injury.

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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 on observation that in the infant room one infant had a bib around their neck while asleep in a crib and in the young one's classroom one child had a bib around their neck while asleep in a crib.

Finding

591-1-1-.30(2)(c) requires that infants shall not sleep in equipment other than safety-approved cribs, such as, but not limited to, a car safety seat, bouncy seat, highchair, or swing. Infants who arrive at the Center asleep or fall asleep in such equipment, on the floor or elsewhere, shall be transferred to a safety-approved crib. It was determined based on observation that an infant in care was asleep in an bouncy seat.

Correction Deadline: 3/15/2021

Corrected on 12/9/2021

.30(4) - This citation was observed to be corrected. It was observed that cots in classroom E were stacked and stored in manner to prevent touching of bedding.

Staff Records

Records Reviewed: 21

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 4

Staff # 1	Met
Staff # 2	Met
Date of Hire: 02/16/2021	
Staff # 3	Met
Date of Hire: 05/01/2002	
Staff # 4	Not Met
<u>"Missing/Incomplete Components"</u>	
.31(2)(b)2.-Staff Qualifications-Education Missing	
Staff # 5	Met
Date of Hire: 02/07/2017	
Staff # 6	Met
Staff # 7	Met
Staff # 8	Not Met
<u>"Missing/Incomplete Components"</u>	
.31(2)(b)2.-Staff Qualifications-Education Missing	
Staff # 9	Met
Staff # 10	Not Met
Date of Hire: 10/21/2021	<u>Reminder - Health & Safety training is required within 90 calendar days of hired</u>
<u>"Missing/Incomplete Components"</u>	
.09-Criminal Records Check Missing	
Staff # 11	Met
Staff # 12	Not Met
Date of Hire: 06/05/2019	
<u>"Missing/Incomplete Components"</u>	
.31(2)(b)2.-Staff Qualifications-Education Missing	
Staff # 13	Met

Records Reviewed: 21**Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 4**

Staff # 14	Met
Date of Hire: 07/08/2019	
Staff # 15	Met
Staff # 16	Met
Date of Hire: 05/16/2002	
Staff # 17	Met
Staff # 18	Met
Date of Hire: 04/11/2019	
Staff # 19	Met
Date of Hire: 10/07/2020	
Staff # 20	Met
Staff # 21	Met

Staff Credentials Reviewed: 3**591-1-1-.09 Criminal Records and Comprehensive Background Checks(CR)****Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.09(1)(j) requires that for portability for Directors, Employees and Provisional Employees, excluding Students-in-Training, only the most recently issued determination letter is eligible for portability and must be ported electronically. A Center may accept a satisfactory Fingerprint Records Check Determination letter or a satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination letter issued by the Department if the Records Check Clearance Date is within the preceding 12 months from the hire date, the individual has not had a lapse of employment from the child care industry that lasted for 180 days (6 months) or longer, and the Center does not know or reasonably should not know that the individual's satisfactory status has changed. It was determined based on a review of records that staff #10 satisfactory background check had not been ported to the center from the previous place of employment. As of December 13, 2021 the staff had been ported to the center.

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Correction Deadline: 12/9/2021**591-1-1-.33 Staff Training****Not Met**

Finding

91-1-1-.33(5) requires that every calendar year after the first year of employment, all supervisory and caregiver Personnel, except independent contractors, Students-in-Training and volunteers shall attend ten (10) clock hours of diverse training which is task-focused in on-going health, safety and early childhood or child development related topics and which is offered by an accredited college, university or vocational program or other Department-approved source. The annual ten (10) clock hours of training shall be chosen from the following fields: child development, including discipline, guidance, nutrition, injury control and safety; health, including sanitation, disease control, cleanliness, detection and disposition of illness; child abuse and neglect, including identification and reporting, and meeting the needs of abused and/or neglected children; and business related topics, including parental communication, recordkeeping, etc.; provided however that such business related training shall be limited to no more than two (2) of the required ten (10) clock hours of training. Records of completion of such training shall be maintained, as required by these rules. It was determined based on a review of records that two of thirteen staff members had not completed the required ten hours of annual training for the 2020 calendar year.

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Correction Deadline: 12/17/2021

Recited on 12/9/2021

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

Not Met

Finding

591-1-1-.31(2)(c) requires the Center to maintain a copy and/or written verification of the credential or degree awarded to the lead teacher that is required by these rules in the lead teacher's file, to make the document available for inspection and to provide the document to Department staff upon request. It was determined based on a review of records that there were eight classrooms in use and only three lead teachers with the required credentials to qualify as lead teachers.

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Correction Deadline: 12/17/2021

Recited on 12/9/2021

Staffing and Supervision

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

Met

Comment

Center observed to maintain appropriate staff:child ratios.

591-1-1-.32 Supervision(CR)

Met

Correction Deadline: 3/15/2021

Corrected on 12/9/2021

.32(7) - This citation was observed to be corrected. It was determined based on a review of records that there were eight classrooms in use and only three lead teachers with the required credentials to qualify as lead teachers.