



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: 4/12/2022 **VisitType:** Monitoring Visit

Arrival: 10:30 AM **Departure:** 11:45 AM

CCLC-27901

B. W. Lester Head Start Center

2522 Copeland Road Valdosta, GA 31601 Lowndes County
 (229) 247-9750 jmingo@cpheadstart.org

Regional Consultant

Kelly Wilson

Phone: (770) 405-7928

Fax: (404) 591-4948

kelly.wilson@dec.al.ga.gov

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.
04/12/2022	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
10/26/2021	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
03/30/2021	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
Bld 2	RM C	Four Year Olds	2	11	C	19	C	NA	NA	Circle Time
Bld 2	RM D		0	0	C	19	C	NA	NA	
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 38			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0							
Main	RM A	Three Year Olds	2	11	C	19	C	NA	NA	Transitioning
Main	RM B	Four Year Olds	2	11	C	22	C	NA	NA	Homework
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 41			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0							
Total # Children this Date: 33			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 79			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0				

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	Playground 1	125	C

Comments

An in-person walk through of the facility was conducted on April 12, 2022. A letter requesting documents be uploaded by April 21, 2022, for the annual review was left with the director after the walk through. The center does provide transportation. Background checks for all staff were reviewed during the walk through visit. The annual review was completed on May 2, 2022, and a copy of the report was emailed to the provider on this day.

Plan of Improvement: No Plan Developed

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/RuleAndRegulations.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 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 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)

Jerry Mingo, Program Official

Date

Kelly Wilson, Consultant

Date



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

Findings Report

Date: 4/12/2022 **VisitType:** Monitoring Visit

Arrival: 10:30 AM

Departure: 11:45 AM

CCLC-27901

B. W. Lester Head Start Center

2522 Copeland Road Valdosta, GA 31601 Lowndes County
(229) 247-9750 jmingo@cpheadstart.org

Mailing Address
Same

Regional Consultant

Kelly Wilson

Phone: (770) 405-7928
Fax: (404) 591-4948
kelly.wilson@dec.al.ga.gov

The following information is associated with a Monitoring Visit:

Activities and Equipment

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

Technical Assistance

Technical Assistance

There was a vinyl sofa in Classroom A and a vinyl sofa and chair in Classroom B that had tears in the seats. The director stated that the furniture would be removed.

Correction Deadline: 4/12/2022

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

Met

Comment

Center does not provide swimming activities.

Facility

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)

Not Met

Comment

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

Finding

591-1-1-.25(8) requires protective caps on all unused electrical outlets within children's reach and requires that electrical outlets in use be made inaccessible to children. It was determined based on observation that in Classroom A there were three electrical outlets without protective caps, in Classroom B there were ten electrical outlets without protective caps and one bathroom electrical outlet without a protective cap as required. Additionally, in Classroom C there were five electrical outlets without a protective cover as required.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will train Staff to check outlets and replace protective caps when needed and identify and monitor how outlets in use are inaccessible to children.

Correction Deadline: 4/12/2022

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

591-1-1-.26(3) requires that the playground be adjacent to the Center or in an area which can be reached by a safe route or method approved by the Department. Except in School-age Centers, the playground shall have shaded areas. It was determined based on observation that on Playground 2 there was a hole in the base of the wood ramp with exposed splintering wood and twenty two (22) exposed nails on the wood ramp that leads to the playground.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will identify a safe route or method to reach any non-adjacent playground and submit it for approval. The Center will install structures to provide shade if there is not sufficient natural shade on the playground.

Correction Deadline: 5/12/2022

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)**Technical Assistance****Technical Assistance**

There was a trash can in Classroom A that was without a lid. The consultant discussed with the director the requirement that garbage containers are to have tight-fitting covers.

Correction Deadline: 4/12/2022

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

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

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

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

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

Staff Records

Records Reviewed: 17**Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 0**

Staff # 1	Met
Staff # 2	Met
Staff # 3	Met
Staff # 4	Met
Staff # 5	Met
Staff # 6	Met
Date of Hire: 07/25/2018	
Staff # 7	Met
Staff # 8	Met
Date of Hire: 08/18/2020	
Staff # 9	Met
Staff # 10	Met
Staff # 11	Met
Staff # 12	Met
Staff # 13	Met
Date of Hire: 05/09/2017	
Staff # 14	Met
Staff # 15	Met
Staff # 16	Met
Staff # 17	Met
Date of Hire: 08/19/2020	

Staff Credentials Reviewed: 4**591-1-1-.09 Criminal Records and Comprehensive Background Checks(CR)** **Met****Comment**

Criminal record checks were observed to be complete.

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)	Met
--	------------

Comment

Center observed to maintain appropriate staff:child ratios.

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

Comment

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