



**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:** 5/16/2022    **VisitType:** Monitoring Visit    **Arrival:** 10:30 AM    **Departure:** 11:45 AM

**CCLC-48419**

**Union Cathedral Academy**

1903 N Barack Obama Blvd. Valdosta, GA 31601 Lowndes County  
 (229) 242-6127 unionlearning@att.net

**Regional Consultant**

Kelly Wilson

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

**Mailing Address**

1903 Barack Obama Blvd.  
 Valdosta, GA 31601

**Quality Rated:** ★ ★

<b>Compliance Zone Designation</b>		
05/16/2022	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing
12/10/2021	Licensing Study	Good Standing
06/16/2021	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing

**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.

**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 - 1L/ 1's	One Year Olds	1	7	C	20	C	NA	NA	Lunch
Main	B- Back L/ 2's	Two Year Olds	1	7	C	23	C	NA	NA	Lunch
Main	C- Middle/ Afterschool		0	0	C	38	C	NA	NA	
Main	D - 3R/ Pre-K		0	0	C	37	C	NA	NA	
Main	E - 2R/ Infants	Infants	3	6	C	19	C	NA	NA	Floor Play
Main	F- 1R/ 3's	Three Year Olds	2	14	C	23	C	NA	NA	Circle Time
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.:			160			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0				
Total # Children this Date: 34			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.:			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0				

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	All Ages	44	C

**Comments**

An in-person walk through of the facility was conducted on May 16, 2022. A letter requesting documents be uploaded by May 23, 2022, for the annual review was left with the director after the walk through. Background checks for all staff were reviewed during the walk through visit. The annual review was completed on June 13, 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/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)

Felicia Major, Program Official

Date

Kelly Wilson, Consultant

Date



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**Findings Report**

**Date:** 5/16/2022 **VisitType:** Monitoring Visit

**Arrival:** 10:30 AM

**Departure:** 11:45 AM

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The following information is associated with a Monitoring Visit:

**Activities and Equipment**

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

**Met**

**Comment**

Equipment and furniture observed to be properly secured, as applicable.

**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)**

**Met**

**Comment**

No hazards observed accessible to children on this date.

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

**Met**

**Comment**

The consultant discussed with the director that at the back of the playground there was a fence wire that was protruding from the fence and needed to be bent back into the fencing material.

**Correction Deadline: 5/16/2022**

**Health and Hygiene**

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

**Comment**

Proper diapering procedures observed.

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

**Comment**

Staff were observed to remind children to wash hands.

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

**Comment**

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

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**Safety**

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

**Comment**

Complete documentation of transportation observed.

**Comment**

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

**Finding**

591-1-1-.36(4)(b) requires that the interior of a transportation vehicle be clean, in safe repair and free of hazardous items, objects and/or other non-essential items which could cause injury. It was determined based on observation that on van # 7233 that there was a hole in the back of the front bench seat that presented a hazard and was not able to be kept clean as required.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The center will maintain that all transportation vehicles are clean, in safe repair, and free from hazards.

**Correction Deadline: 5/17/2022**

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**Sleeping & Resting Equipment**

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

**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 classroom E was asleep in a swing and not a safety-approved crib as required.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center will only place infants in safe cribs to sleep and will transfer them to a safe crib when the infants are asleep in other equipment.

**Correction Deadline: 5/16/2022**

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**Staff Records**

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**Records Reviewed: 8**

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

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Staff # 1

Met

**Records Reviewed: 8**

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

Date of Hire: 09/26/2017

Staff # 2 Met

Date of Hire: 09/26/2017

Staff # 3 Met

Staff # 4 Met

Date of Hire: 01/24/2019

Staff # 5 Met

Date of Hire: 09/26/2017

Staff # 6 Met

Date of Hire: 09/26/2017

Staff # 7 Met

Date of Hire: 09/26/2017

Staff # 8 Met

**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) Technical Assistance**

**Technical Assistance**

In classroom E a staff member was on their cell phone with their back to the classroom for three minutes. The consultant discussed with the director the requirement that children be supervised at all times appropriate to the individual age, needs and capabilities of each child.

**Correction Deadline: 5/16/2022**