



**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

**Date:** 4/29/2019    **VisitType:** Complaint Investigation & Monitoring Visit    **Arrival:** 10:20 AM    **Departure:** 2:30 PM

**CCLC-1017**

**Building Blocks Child Care Center**

1281 Hull Road Athens, GA 30601 Clarke County  
 (706) 354-0878 valbford@yahoo.com

**Regional Consultant**

Margarita Collier

Phone: (770) 342-7934

Fax: (678) 891-5989

margarita.collier@dec.al.ga.gov

**Mailing Address**

344 Woodlake Drive  
 Colbert, GA 30628

**Quality Rated:** ★ ★

<b>Compliance Zone Designation</b>		
04/29/2019	Complaint Closure	Good Standing
04/29/2019	Complaint Investigation & Monitoring Visit	Good Standing
02/18/2019	Complaint Closure	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: Left Front		0	0	C	14	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Main	B: Left Hall Rear		0	0	C	21	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Main	C-R Hall-Rear		0	0	C	31	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Main	D: Right Hall R	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	2	23	C	34	C	NA	NA	Transitioning
Main	E: Rt Front	One Year Olds and Two Year Olds	2	17	C	24	C	NA	NA	Centers,Art
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 124						Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0				
Total # Children this Date: 40			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 124			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0				

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	PG: Front Toddler	41	C
Main	PG-Rear	72	C

**Comments**

April 29, 2019 - The purpose of this visit was to conduct a monitoring visit and to follow-up on the previous visit conducted on February 15, 2019. Consultant was unable to provide the director with an official copy of the visit report due to the consultant experiencing technical difficulties. The consultant will email and mail a copy of the official visit report to the provider upon their return to the office.

April 30, 2019 - The consultant sent the provider an official copy of the visit report.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 04/29/2019

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.al.ga.gov/CCS/RulesAndRegulations.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

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.al.ga.gov](mailto:CCSRefutations@dec.al.ga.gov).

- 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.al.ga.gov/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)



#### Important New Deadlines:

Your program must be Quality Rated by December 31, 2020 in order to continue to receive Childcare and Parent Services (CAPS).

Get started today! Sign up by completing a short online application: <https://qualityrated.dec.al.ga.gov/>  
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.al.ga.gov](mailto:qualityrated@dec.al.ga.gov)

---

Valerie Banks Ford, Program Official

Date

---

Margarita Collier, 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:** 4/29/2019 **VisitType:** Complaint Investigation & Monitoring Visit **Arrival:** 10:20 AM **Departure:** 2:30 PM

---

**CCLC-1017****Building Blocks Child Care Center**

1281 Hull Road Athens, GA 30601 Clarke County  
(706) 354-0878 valbford@yahoo.com

**Mailing Address**

344 Woodlake Drive  
Colbert, GA 30628

**Regional Consultant**

Margarita Collier

Phone: (770) 342-7934

Fax: (678) 891-5989

margarita.collier@dec.al.ga.gov

The following information is associated with a Monitoring Visit:

<b>Activities and Equipment</b>
---------------------------------

---

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

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

**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.

<b>Facility</b>
-----------------

---

**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**

No hazards observed accessible to children on this date.

**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 shrubs were growing through the fence on the back-left side and the back-right side on the rear playground. Tree branches from a tree on the opposite side of the rear playground were also observed hanging on the front-left side and the back-right side. The consultant also observed shrubs growing through the fence and hanging tree branches from a tree on the opposite side of the front toddler playground on the back-left side.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The harmful item will be removed.

**Correction Deadline: 4/29/2019**

**Finding**

591-1-1-.25(3) requires the Center and surrounding premises to be kept clean, free of debris and in good repair. Hygienic measures such as, but not limited to, screened windows and proper waste disposal procedures shall be utilized to minimize the presence of rodents, flies, roaches and other vermin at the Center. It was determined based on observation that the toilet seat base was missing from the second left toilet located in the second left restroom. The ventilation was not secured to the ceiling above the first left toilet located in the second left restroom.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center will have the Center and surrounding areas cleaned, make repairs where needed, and remove all debris is removed. The Center will implement a plan to keep areas clean and in good repair that includes regular monitoring.

**Correction Deadline: 4/29/2019**

---

**591-1-1-.25 Physical Plant-Structural/Mechanical**

**Technical Assistance**

**Technical Assistance**

Please monitor light fixtures for normal wear and tear.

**Correction Deadline: 5/29/2019**

---

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

**Not Met**

**Finding**

591-1-1-.26(6) requires that playground equipment provide an opportunity for the children to engage in a variety of experiences and shall be age-appropriate. For example, toddlers shall not be permitted to swing in swings designed for School-age Children. The outdoor equipment shall be free of lead-based paint, sharp corners and shall be regularly maintained in such a way as to be free of rust and splinters that could pose significant safety hazard to the children. All equipment shall be arranged so as not to obstruct supervision of children. It was determined based on observation that the following equipment needed repair:

- The red, yellow, and black unicycle merri-go-round contained chipping paint located on the front-right side of the rear playground.
- The red merri-go-round contained chipping paint on the front-right side of the rear playground.
- The green plastic covering on the green and blue swing sets were peeling off the chains on the back-right side of the rear playground.
- The black handle of the "Little Tikes" lawn mower was broken and separated on the front-left side of the front toddler playground.
- The driver's door was missing from the "Little Tikes" car located on the back-left side of the toddler playground.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

Staff will check the equipment daily to ensure that the equipment is free of hazards, rust and splinters.

**Correction Deadline: 5/9/2019**

**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 the red, brown, and green "Little Tikes" sliding structure contained approximately one to two inches of resilient surface located on the back-right side of the front toddler playground. The blue, red, and green swings contained approximately two inches of resilient surface located on the back-left side of the front toddler playground. The blue, yellow, and black sliding structure contained approximately one to two inches of resilient surface. Approximately six inches of resilient surface was required on this date.

**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: 5/9/2019**

## Health and Hygiene

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

Met

#### Comment

Staff state proper knowledge of diapering procedures.

### 591-1-1-.17 Hygiene(CR)

Met

#### Comment

Staff were observed to remind children to wash hands.

### 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

Age-appropriate discussion and/or redirection observed.

#### Comment

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

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

Met

#### Comment

Center does not provide routine transportation.

## Sleeping & Resting Equipment

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

Technical Assistance

#### Technical Assistance

Please monitor mats for normal wear and tear.

#### 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: 5

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 0

Staff # 1

Met

Date of Hire: 01/07/2019

Staff # 2

Met

Date of Hire: 03/28/2013

Staff # 3

Met

Date of Hire: 10/02/2014

Staff # 4

Met

Date of Hire: 01/08/2019

**Records Reviewed: 5**

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

---

Staff # 5

Met

Date of Hire: 12/03/1996

**Staff Credentials Reviewed: 5**

---

**591-1-1-.09 Criminal Records and Comprehensive Background Checks(CR)**

**Met**

**Comment**

Consultant requested to view all Criminal Record checks for employees hired after last visit. Director stated that there have been no new hires since last visit was conducted on February 15, 2019.

**Comment**

Consultant reviewed five staff files on this date. Consultant observed five of five staff members to have evidence of a satisfactory comprehensive criminal record check letter on file on this date.

---

**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.