



**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:** 8/18/2023    **VisitType:** Licensing Study    **Arrival:** 11:15 AM    **Departure:** 3:00 PM

**CCLC-37229**

**Kid's Choice**

1516 Goodyear Avenue Brunswick, GA 31520 Glynn County  
(912) 506-3286 kidschoice.program@gmail.com

**Regional Consultant**

Jerica Davis

Phone: (478) 314-9452

Fax: (478) 314-9443

jerica.davis@dec.al.ga.gov

**Mailing Address**

Same

**Quality Rated:** No

<b>Compliance Zone Designation</b>		
08/18/2023	Licensing Study	Good Standing
04/05/2023	POI Follow Up	Good Standing
02/28/2023	Monitoring Visit	Deficient

**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(dramatic play)	Two Year Olds	1	3	C	4	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main	B(Library)	Two Year Olds and Three Year Olds	1	9	C	10	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main	C(Game)	One Year Olds	1	7	C	8	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main	D(arts)		0	0	C	6	C	NA	NA	
Main	E(movie)		0	0	C	6	C	NA	NA	
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.:						34				
Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.:						0				
Total # Children this Date: 19			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.:			34	Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.:			
						0				

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	Playground	24	C

**Comments**

The purpose of today's visit is to conduct a Licensing Study.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 08/18/2023

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.decal.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), 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)



**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@decal.ga.gov](mailto:qualityrated@decal.ga.gov) for more information. Free technical assistance is available!**

Thewanna Austell, Program Official

Date

Jerica Davis, Regional 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**

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

**Met**

**Comment**

Records were observed to be complete and well organized.

**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)**

**Technical Assistance**

**Comment**

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

**Technical Assistance**

Please ensure that floor coverings be tight, smooth, free of odors and washable or cleanable. Please ensure rugs are smooth without ripples to prevent a trip hazard.

**Correction Deadline: 9/17/2023**

**Technical Assistance**

Please ensure that heating and cooling equipment to be protected to prevent children from touching it. Fans, space heaters, etc. shall be positioned or installed so as to be inaccessible to the children. Please ensure fans are stored inaccessible to children.

**Correction Deadline: 8/18/2023**

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

**Technical Assistance**

**Technical Assistance**

Please ensure that playground equipment provide an opportunity for the children to engage in a variety of experiences and shall be age-appropriate. Please ensure that the "S" hooks on the new swings are closed to prevent pinching.

**Correction Deadline: 8/28/2023**

**Technical Assistance**

Please ensure that the playground to be kept clean, free from litter and free of hazards, such as but not limited to rocks, exposed tree roots and exposed sharp edges of concrete. Please ensure that the large tree limb that feel on the playground is removed before the children return to the playground.

**Correction Deadline: 8/18/2023**

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**Food Service**

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

**Technical Assistance**

**Technical Assistance**

Please ensure that all food items are stored in airtight containers. Please ensure food is labeled with the date.

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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**

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**

Age-appropriate discussion and/or redirection observed.

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

**Met**

**Comment**

Center does not provide routine transportation.

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**Sleeping & Resting Equipment**

**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.

**Technical Assistance**

Please ensure that sheets or similar coverings for cots or mats shall either be marked for individual use or laundered daily. Please ensure that all children have a sheet or bottom covering each day for nap.

**Correction Deadline: 8/18/2023**

<b>Staff Records</b>
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**Finding**

591-1-1-.09(1)(a) requires that a Center ensure that every actual and potential Director, Employee and Provisional Employee of a Child Care Learning Center submit both a Records Check Application to the Department and Fingerprints to an authorized fingerprinting site. It was determined based on a review of records that staff member # 3, who was observed supervising nap time in classroom B, did not submit both a Records Check Application to the Department and Fingerprints to an authorized fingerprinting site before employment as required.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

IMMEDIATE CORRECTION - The Center will complete the provided affidavit form to ensure that every actual and potential Director, Employee and Provisional Employee of a Child Care Learning Center submit both a Records Check Application to the Department and Fingerprints to an authorized fingerprinting site as required. The program's owner or an officer/member of the corporation must view the A to Z Background Check video units pertaining to this records check rule and return the signed affidavit within one week from this visit date. The Center will complete all steps to ensure the CRC rules are maintained.

**Correction Deadline: 8/18/2023**

**Finding**

591-1-1-.09(1)(c) requires the Center to ensure that every Employee has a valid and current satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination on file prior to being present at the Center while any child is present for care or before an individual age 17 or older resides in the Center. The Comprehensive Records Check Determination must have a Records Check Clearance Date that is no older than the preceding 12 months of the hire date; provided, however, if the Employee has had a lapse of employment from the child care industry that lasted for 180 days (6 months) or longer, a new satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination is required. It was determined based on a review of records that staff member # 3, who was observed supervising nap time in classroom B, did not have a valid and current satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination on file prior to being present at the Center as required.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

IMMEDIATE CORRECTION - The Center will complete the provided affidavit form to ensure that every Employee has a valid and current satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination on file prior to being present at the Center while any child is present for care or before an individual age 17 or older resides in the Center. The Comprehensive Records Check Determination must have a Records Check Clearance Date that is no older than the preceding 12 months of the hire date; provided, however, if the Employee has had a lapse of employment from the child care industry that lasted for 180 days (6 months) or longer, a new satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination is required. The program's owner or an officer/member of the corporation must view the A to Z Background Check video units pertaining to this records check rule and return the signed affidavit within one week from this visit date. The center will complete all steps to ensure the CRC rules are maintained.

**Correction Deadline: 8/18/2023**

**Comment**

Evidence observed of 50% of center staff certified in First Aid and CPR.

**Finding**

591-1-1-.33(3) requires each Staff member with direct care responsibilities to complete health and safety orientation training within the first 90 days of employment. The state-approved training hours obtained will count toward required first year training hours. The training must address the following health and safety topics: prevention and control of infectious diseases (including immunizations); prevention of sudden infant death syndrome and use of safe sleeping practices; administration of medication, consistent with standards for parental consent; prevention of and response to emergencies due to food and allergic reactions; building and physical premises safety, including identification of and protection from hazards that can cause bodily injury such as electrical hazards, bodies of water, and vehicular traffic; prevention of shaken baby syndrome, abusive head trauma and child maltreatment; emergency preparedness and response planning for emergencies resulting from a natural disaster or a human-caused event (such as violence at a child care facility); handling and storage of hazardous materials and the appropriate disposal of bio contaminants; precautions in transporting children; recognition and reporting of child abuse and neglect; and child development. It was determined based on a review of records that staff member # 4, staff member # 6, staff member # 7, and staff member # 8 did not have evidence of completed health and safety orientation training within the first 90 days of employment as required.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center will develop and implement a plan to schedule and track this training for all employees based on their hire dates and will ensure that the training includes all required components as required.

**Correction Deadline: 9/17/2023****Finding**

591-1-1-.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 staff member # 1, staff member # 5, and staff member # 9 did not have evidence of completed ten annual training hours for the 2022 calendar year as required.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center will plan and schedule the required 10 hours of annual training each year and follow up to ensure the training is completed.

**Correction Deadline: 1/1/2024****Recited on 8/18/2023**

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**591-1-1-.31 Staff(CR)****Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.31(1)(b)2 requires the Director to possess at least one of the sets of minimum academic requirements and qualifying child care experience listed in Rule 591-1-1-.31(1)(b)2.(i-xiii). It was determined based on a review of records that staff member # 1, the program director, had an education credential that was expired and did not possess at least one of the academic requirements as required.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center will ensure that the Director meets the minimum education and work requirements and secure the necessary documentation.

**Correction Deadline: 1/1/2024****Recited on 8/18/2023**

**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 staff member #5 did not possess one of the qualifying credentials as required.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center will review lead teacher records to ensure the required documentation is on file and will obtain and file it if not found.

**Correction Deadline: 1/1/2024**

**Recited on 8/18/2023**

**Staffing and Supervision**

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

**Technical Assistance**

**Comment**

Center observed to maintain appropriate staff:child ratios.

**Technical Assistance**

Please ensure that children under three years old be housed in separate physical areas from older children and cannot be mixed with older children except at specified times and circumstances. Please ensure children under two are house separately, including during nap time.

**Correction Deadline: 8/18/2023**

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

**Met**

**Comment**

Adequate supervision observed on this date.