



**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:** 11/9/2021    **VisitType:** Licensing Study    **Arrival:** 7:15 AM    **Departure:** 9:10 AM

**CCLC-1017**

**Building Blocks Child Care Center**

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

**Regional Consultant**

Kelly Jones  
 Phone: (770) 357-7062  
 Fax: (770) 357-7061  
 kelly.jones@decal.ga.gov

**Mailing Address**  
 344 Woodlake Drive  
 Colbert, GA 30628

**Quality Rated:** ★ ★

<b>Compliance Zone Designation</b>		
11/09/2021	Licensing Study	Good Standing
06/17/2021	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing
11/23/2020	Licensing Study	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	Two Year Olds and Three Year Olds	1	4	C	31	C	NA	NA	Breakfast
Main	D: Right Hall R		0	0	C	34	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Main	E: Rt Front		0	0	C	24	C	NA	NA	
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 124						Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0				
Total # Children this Date: 4			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**

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

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 11/09/2021

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](mailto: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](mailto: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)

Valerie Banks Ford, Program Official

Date

Kelly Jones, Consultant

Date



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### Findings Report

**Date:** 11/9/2021    **VisitType:** Licensing Study    **Arrival:** 7:15 AM    **Departure:** 9:10 AM

#### CCLC-1017

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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.

##### Comment

Discussed rotating toys to support the procedures of daily disinfecting.

##### 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. No swimming pool observed on the premises.

### 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

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

Parent agreements observed obtained/completed.

**Comment**

Parent authorizations obtained/completed.

**Comment**

Records were observed to be complete and well organized.

**Facility**

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

Bathrooms observed to be clean and well maintained.

**Comment**

Please monitor bathrooms for necessary supplies.

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**591-1-1-.19 License Capacity(CR)****Met****Comment**

Licensed capacity observed to be routinely met by center.

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**591-1-1-.25 Physical Plant - Safe Environment(CR)****Met****Comment**

Center appears clean and well maintained.

**Comment**

No hazards observed accessible to children on this date.

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

The outside area appears clean and well maintained. Consultant discussed monitoring the playground and fence surrounding the playground area for normal wear and tear (i.e. exposed roots, active ant beds, resilient surface levels to fluff and redistribute especially after a heavy rain, entrapment hazards, etc.) with the director on this date.

**Food Service**

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

Center menu meets USDA guidelines.

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

Kitchen appears clean and well organized.

**Health and Hygiene**

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

Hand washing and sanitizing requirements for diapering were discussed with the Director/Provider on this date.

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

A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Hand washing was not directly observed during the virtual walk through on this date. Staff stated knowledge of proper hand washing procedures.

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

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

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**Policies and Procedures**

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**591-1-1-.21 Operational Policies & Procedures****Technical Assistance****Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.21(1)(p) - Consultant discussed with the director to ensure the Emergency Plan is kept up to date and current.

**Correction Deadline: 11/14/2021**

**Comment**

Program observed complete emergency drills

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**591-1-1-.22 Parental Access****Met****Comment**

591-1-1-.22 - Discussed with the provider requirements regarding Parental Access to the Center.

**Correction Deadline: 11/9/2021**

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**591-1-1-.27 Posted Notices****Met****Comment**

Observed all required posted notices.

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**591-1-1-.29 Required Reporting****Met****Comment**

Discussed reporting requirements.

**Comment**

Thank you for reporting as required.

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**Safety**

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**591-1-1-.05 Animals****Met****Comment**

Center does not keep animals on premises.

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

A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Discipline was not directly observed during the virtual walk through on this date. Staff stated knowledge of appropriate discipline procedures.

**Comment**

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

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**591-1-1-.13 Field Trips(CR)****Met****Comment**

Center does not participate in field trips at this time.

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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**

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

Discussed SIDS and infant sleeping position. Center currently not caring for infants.

**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.

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**Staff Records****Records Reviewed: 5****Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 0**

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Staff # 1

Met

Date of Hire: 12/03/1996

Staff # 2

Met

Date of Hire: 01/02/2013

Staff # 3

Met

Date of Hire: 10/30/2014

Staff # 4

Met

Date of Hire: 10/05/2019

Staff # 5

Met

Date of Hire: 11/02/2021

Reminder - Health & Safety training is required within 90 calendar days of hired

**Staff Credentials Reviewed: 5**

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

591-1-1-.09(1) - Criminal record checks were observed to be complete. Consultant discussed with the director that the requirements for the Center are to ensure that every Employee has a valid and current Comprehensive Records Check Determination on file electronically at the facility. This includes but is not limited to any persons on the premises or providing services to the children during operating hours, all staff, volunteers, therapist, maintenance workers.

**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 June 17 ,2021

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**591-1-1-.14 First Aid & CPR****Met****Comment**

Evidence observed of 100% of center staff certified in First Aid and CPR.

**Comment**

Please replace/add missing/expired item(s) in first aid kit(s).

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**591-1-1-.33 Staff Training****Technical Assistance****Comment**

Documentation observed of required staff training.

**Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.33(4) - Consultant discussed with the director the requirements within the first year of employment, the Director and person with primary responsibility for food preparation shall have four clock hours of training in food nutrition planning, preparation, serving, proper dish washing and food storage. Consultant recommended director complete updated four hours of approved training in food nutrition planning, preparation, serving, proper dish washing and food storage as well as another staff member. This training counts towards annual training.

**Correction Deadline: 12/9/2021**

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

**Met**

**Comment**

Discussed that all lead staff must enroll in an approved education program within 6 months of hire and complete degree within 18 months.

**Comment**

Staff observed to be compliant with applicable laws and regulations.

<b>Staffing and Supervision</b>
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**591-1-1-.32 Staff:Child Ratios and Group Size(CR)**

**Met**

**Comment**

Adequate supervision observed on this date.

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

**Met**

**Comment**

Adequate supervision observed on this date. Discussed new revision to the supervision rule which states: Staff shall be attentive and participating with all children during meal times and shall be seated within an arm's length away from children thirty-six (36) months of age and younger.