



**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:** 9/27/2021    **VisitType:** Licensing Study    **Arrival:** 1:00 PM    **Departure:** 2:00 PM

**CCLC-1114**

**Growing Room CDC**

1200 Manchester Expressway Columbus, GA 31904 Muscogee County  
 (706) 596-1234 jcarpenter@growingroomusa.com

**Regional Consultant**

Penny Svenson

Phone: (470) 346-1037

Fax: (678) 891-5613

penny.svenson@decals.ga.gov

**Mailing Address**

PO Box 4216  
 Columbus, GA 31914-0126

**Quality Rated:** ★ ★

<b>Compliance Zone Designation</b>			<b>Compliance Zone Designation</b> - 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.  <b>Good Standing</b> - Program is demonstrating an acceptable level of performance in meeting the rules. <b>Support</b> - Program performance is demonstrating a need for improvement in meeting rules. <b>Deficient</b> - Program is not demonstrating an acceptable level of performance in meeting the rules.
09/27/2021	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
05/12/2021	Incident Investigation by Phone	Good Standing	
02/02/2021	Complaint Closure	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
Main	Room 1	Two Year Olds	2	8	C	21	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main	Room 10	GA PreK	2	15	C	26	C	36	C	Nap
Main	Room 11	GA PreK	2	14	C	21	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main	Room 12	GA PreK	2	16	C	22	C	31	C	Nap
Main	Room 13	One Year Olds	2	14	C	19	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main	Room 14		0	0	C	16	C	NA	NA	
Main	Room 2	Two Year Olds	2	14	C	21	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main	Room 3	One Year Olds	1	8	C	10	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main	Room 4		0	0	C	20	C	NA	NA	
Main	Room 5		0	0	C	21	C	NA	NA	
Main	Room 6		0	0	C	15	C	NA	NA	
Main	Room 7	Infants	4	12	C	23	C	NA	NA	Nap, Floor Play, Feeding
Main	Room 8	Three Year Olds	1	13	C	21	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main	Room 9	Three Year Olds	2	17	C	21	C	NA	NA	Nap

Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 277

Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 296

Total # Children this Date: 131    Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 277

Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 296


Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	Playground 1	62	C
Main	Playground 2	76	C

**Comments**

September 27, 2021--A virtual visit was conducted due to COVID-19 Pandemic.



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 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)

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Tracy Queen, Program Official

Date

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Penny Svenson, 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-.03 Activities**

**Met**

**Correction Deadline: 5/12/2021**

**Corrected on 9/27/2021**  
**The correction was made.**

**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.

### Facility

**591-1-1-.06 Bathrooms**

**Met**

**Comment**

Please monitor bathrooms for necessary supplies.

**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.

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

Playground observed to be clean and in good repair.

**Food Service**

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**591-1-1-.15 Food Service & Nutrition****Met****Correction Deadline: 2/2/2021****Corrected on 9/27/2021****The correction was made.**

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

Please ensure that all food items are stored in airtight containers.

**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**

Please ensure lids remain on trash containing organic waste.

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

Documentation for medication dispensing observed complete. The medication form uploaded was dated for medications to be administered with a beginning date of September 27, 2021 and all documents uploaded were submitted on September 27, 2021.

**Policies and Procedures**

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**591-1-1-.27 Posted Notices****Technical Assistance****Technical Assistance**

The Consultant discussed with the Director to ensure all of the following postings were posted as required: the Center's current License or Permit; a copy of these rules; a copy of the current communicable disease chart; a statement allowing Parent(s) access to all child care areas upon notifying any staff member of his or her presence; names of persons responsible for the administration of the Center in the administrator's absence; the dated current week's menu for meals and snacks; emergency plans for severe weather, fire, and other emergency situations; a statement requiring visitors to check in with Staff when entering the Center; no smoking signs; and a notice provided by the Department which advises Parents of their right to review a copy of the Center's most recent licensure evaluation report upon request to the Center Director. The Center shall provide any Parent with a copy of this evaluation report upon request.

**Correction Deadline: 9/27/2021****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**

Age-appropriate discussion and/or redirection observed.

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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**

Complete documentation of transportation observed.

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**Sleeping & Resting Equipment**

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

**Comment**

Pleasant naptime environment observed.

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**Staff Records**

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**Records Reviewed: 30**

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

Staff # 1 Met

Date of Hire: 12/09/2019

Staff # 2 Met

Date of Hire: 03/01/2021

Staff # 3 Met

Date of Hire: 02/08/2019

Staff # 4 Met

Date of Hire: 06/04/2000

Staff # 5 Met

Date of Hire: 02/26/2020

Staff # 6 Met

Date of Hire: 05/12/2001

Staff # 7 Met

Date of Hire: 01/04/1998

Staff # 8 Met

Date of Hire: 04/29/2019

Staff # 9 Met

Date of Hire: 05/18/2020

Staff # 10 Met

Date of Hire: 02/28/2019

Staff # 11 Met

Date of Hire: 09/07/2021 Reminder - Health & Safety training is required within 90 calendar days of hired

Staff # 12 Met

Date of Hire: 09/20/2021 Reminder - Health & Safety training is required within 90 calendar days of hired

Staff # 13 Met

Date of Hire: 12/21/2016

Staff # 14 Met

Date of Hire: 11/04/2020

Staff # 15 Met

Date of Hire: 09/10/2019

Staff # 16 Met

Date of Hire: 03/02/2020

Staff # 17 Met

Date of Hire: 10/30/2017

Staff # 18 Met

Date of Hire: 09/07/2021 Reminder - Health & Safety training is required within 90 calendar days of hired

Staff # 19 Met

Date of Hire: 05/02/1988

Staff # 20 Met

Date of Hire: 08/16/2021 Reminder - Health & Safety training is required within 90 calendar days of hired

Staff # 21 Met

Date of Hire: 09/20/2021 Reminder - Health & Safety training is required within 90 calendar days of hired

Staff # 22 Met

Staff # 23 Met

Date of Hire: 03/22/2019

**Records Reviewed: 30**

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

Staff # 24 Date of Hire: 10/02/2017	Met
Staff # 25 Date of Hire: 12/08/2020	Met
Staff # 26 Date of Hire: 11/10/2020	Met
Staff # 27 Date of Hire: 03/20/2019	Met
Staff # 28 Date of Hire: 03/31/2019	Met
Staff # 29 Date of Hire: 09/20/2021	Met <u>Reminder - Health &amp; Safety training is required within 90 calendar days of hired</u>
Staff # 30 Date of Hire: 12/28/2018	Met

**Staff Credentials Reviewed: 1**

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

**Technical Assistance**

The Consultant discussed with the Director to renew any criminal records checks prior to the expiration date that were due to expire in 2021. Further the Consultant discussed with the Director to ensure any staff member with a National only determination be supervised by another staff member with a Comprehensive determination as required.

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

**Comment**

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

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**591-1-1-.33 Staff Training Met**

**Comment**

Documentation observed of required staff training.

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

**Comment**

Staff observed to be compliant with applicable laws and regulations.

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**Staffing and Supervision**

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

**Comment**

Center observed to maintain appropriate staff:child ratios.

**Comment**

Adequate supervision observed on this date.