



**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:** 9/16/2022 **VisitType:** Monitoring Visit

**Arrival:** 11:50 AM **Departure:** 12:55 PM

**CCLC-20130**

**First Steps**

96 Millenium Drive Cuthbert, GA 39840 Randolph County  
 (229) 732-3754 dgilbert@voase.org

**Mailing Address**  
 96 Millennium Drive  
 Cuthbert, GA 39840

**Regional Consultant**

Penny Svenson

Phone: (470) 346-1037  
 Fax: (678) 891-5613  
 penny.svenson@dec.al.ga.gov

**Quality Rated:** ★

| <u>Compliance Zone Designation</u> |                  |               | <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.<br><br><b>Good Standing</b> - Program is demonstrating an acceptable level of performance in meeting the rules.<br><b>Support</b> - Program performance is demonstrating a need for improvement in meeting rules.<br><b>Deficient</b> - Program is not demonstrating an acceptable level of performance in meeting the rules. |
|------------------------------------|------------------|---------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 09/16/2022                         | Monitoring Visit | Good Standing |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| 03/21/2022                         | Monitoring Visit | Good Standing |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| 09/20/2021                         | Licensing Study  | 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 A | Infants                         | 1                               | 2        | C    | 14         | C            | NA         | NA           | Feeding |
| Main                            | Room B | One Year Olds and Two Year Olds | 2                               | 2        | C    | 13         | C            | NA         | NA           | Nap     |
| Main                            | Room C |                                 | 0                               | 0        | C    | 26         | C            | NA         | NA           |         |
| Main                            | Room D |                                 | 0                               | 0        | C    | 30         | C            | NA         | NA           |         |
| Main                            | Room E |                                 | 0                               | 0        | C    | 28         | C            | NA         | NA           |         |
| Main                            | Room F |                                 | 0                               | 0        | C    | 30         | C            | NA         | NA           |         |
| Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 141 |        |                                 | Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0   |          |      |            |              |            |              |         |
| Total # Children this Date: 4   |        |                                 | Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 141 |          |      |            |              |            |              |         |
|                                 |        |                                 | Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0   |          |      |            |              |            |              |         |

| Building | Playground              | Playground Occupancy | Playground Compliance |
|----------|-------------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|
| Main     | Area A - 6wk to 24 mth  | 117                  | C                     |
| Main     | Area B - 2 to 5 yr olds | 202                  | C                     |

**Comments**

September 16, 0222--The visit was completed on this date.

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)

Dyan Gilbert, Program Official

Date

Penny Svenson, Consultant

Date



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### Findings Report

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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

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-.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

Center appears clean and well maintained.

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

Not Met

#### Finding

591-1-1-.26(9) requires 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. It was determined based on observation that there were two active ant beds on the Area B playground. Further, there was a water hose that was not secured on Area A and Area B playgrounds.

#### POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will remove any litter and fix or remove hazards from the playground and will routinely monitor the playground and remove litter and hazards. A red circle will be painted around each ant bed to make the beds visible to staff and the ant beds will be treated. Further, the water hoses will be rolled up and secured out of reach of children.

|                           |
|---------------------------|
| <b>Health and Hygiene</b> |
|---------------------------|

**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 stated proper hand washing.

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

Documentation for medication dispensing observed complete.

|               |
|---------------|
| <b>Safety</b> |
|---------------|

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

The visit was conducted during naptime.

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

Center does not provide routine transportation.

|                                         |
|-----------------------------------------|
| <b>Sleeping &amp; Resting Equipment</b> |
|-----------------------------------------|

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

Pleasant naptime environment observed.

|                      |
|----------------------|
| <b>Staff Records</b> |
|----------------------|

**Records Reviewed: 8****Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 0**

Staff # 1

Met

Date of Hire: 06/05/2019

Staff # 2

Met

Date of Hire: 11/09/2015

Staff # 3

Met

Date of Hire: 02/01/2007

Staff # 4

Met

Date of Hire: 06/29/2020

Staff # 5

Met

Date of Hire: 10/08/2007

**Records Reviewed: 8**

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

|                          |     |
|--------------------------|-----|
| Staff # 6                | Met |
| Date of Hire: 03/05/2020 |     |
| Staff # 7                | Met |
| Date of Hire: 06/20/2022 |     |
| Staff # 8                | Met |
| Date of Hire: 11/08/2007 |     |

**Staff Credentials Reviewed: 7**

**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)** **Met**

**Comment**

Adequate supervision observed on this date, as the visit was conducted during naptime.