



**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:** 12/10/2021 **VisitType:** Monitoring Visit

**Arrival:** 1:00 PM

**Departure:** 2:30 PM

**CCLC-26514**

**MileStones Learning Center & Childcare**

101 RiverStone Vista, Suite 112 Blue Ridge, GA 30513 Fannin County  
(706) 258-4188 jdavis@blueridgemilestones.com

**Regional Consultant**

Neli Todorova

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neli.todorova@decal.ga.gov

**Mailing Address**

Same

**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.
12/10/2021	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
05/27/2021	Incident Investigation by Phone	Good Standing	
05/21/2021	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	A		0	0	C	6	C	NA	NA	
Main	B	Infants	2	6	C	6	C	NA	NA	Free Play,Nap
Main	C	Two Year Olds	2	5	C	26	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main	D	One Year Olds	2	7	C	26	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main	E	Three Year Olds	2	12	C	29	C	41	C	Transitioning,Nap
Main	F	Four Year Olds and Five Year Olds	2	10	C	24	C	NA	NA	Nap
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 117						Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 129				
Total # Children this Date: 40			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 117			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 129				

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	Playground	53	C

**Comments**

Background checks were all reviewed on December 10, 2021. A virtual inspection was conducted on December 10, 2021 with the Director. An in-person visit was not conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 12/10/2021

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)

Ashley Davis, Program Official

Date

Neli Todorova, Consultant

Date



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### Findings Report

**Date:** 12/10/2021 **VisitType:** Monitoring Visit

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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**

Equipment and furniture observed to be properly secured, as applicable.

**Correction Deadline: 5/27/2021**

**Corrected on 12/10/2021**

.12(8) - Previous citation corrected on this date as the Director stated proper knowledge of age appropriate toys for children ages three and younger.

**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**

No hazards observed accessible to children on this date.

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

591-1-1-.26(8) - Consultant was unable to measure the fall zones and the resilient surface due to the visit being virtual. Consultant discussed with the provider to make sure that the fall zones and the depth of the resilient surface are as required:

Slides:

- A Minimum of four (4) feet perimeter fall (use) zone around entrance/ladder end of slide.
- A minimum of five (5) feet perimeter fall (use) zone around the exit and out from sides of slide at exit region.

Resilient Surface:

- \* Three (3) inches of loose fill surfacing for equipment that measures between three and five feet high .
- \* Six (6) inches of loose fill surfacing for swings and equipment over five feet high.

**Comment**

Please ensure to monitor the playground areas for the following hazards: - Normal wear and tear of playground equipment and toys. Potential entrapment hazards in the fence surrounding the playground area. Biting and/or stinging insects (i.e. ants, bees, etc.). Loose and/or weak tree branches surrounding the playground area. Standing water in and around playground equipment after inclement weather.

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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**

Staff were observed to remind children to wash hands.

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

Documentation for medication dispensing observed complete.

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**Organization**

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**591-1-1-.16 Governing Body & License****Technical Assistance****Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.16(f) - Consultant discussed with the provider that every time a change is made to the existing licensed spaces, an Amendment Application to the Department is required. The Director will submit an Amendment Application through their DECAL Koala account for rooms A and B being combined and for the Playground being divided into two spaces with a chain link fence.

**Correction Deadline: 12/10/2021**

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**Safety**

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

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

**Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.36 - Please ensure that any deficiencies noted on the Annual Vehicle inspection are addressed and documentation kept on file.

A current/completed inspection was observed for two 2008 Ford E 350 with license plate numbers BNN 5996 and BNN 5995 used in transporting children this date.

**Comment**

Consultant discussed vehicle seating capacities on this date and provided a 12/15 Passenger Van Fact Sheet from the agency website.

**Comment**

The vehicle was checked for compliance. Proper restraints were observed and discussed with the director.

**Comment**

Vehicle BNN 5996 had an approved fire extinguisher and first aid kit on this date. Van BNN 9595 was not currently used and will have an approved fire extinguisher available before being used to transport children.

**Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.36(7)(c)2. - Please ensure that there are no blanks on the checklist for absent children.

**Correction Deadline: 12/11/2021**

**Sleeping & Resting Equipment**

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

**Met**

**Comment**

Discussed SIDS and infant sleeping position.

**Staff Records**

**Records Reviewed: 16**

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

Staff # 1 Met

Date of Hire: 12/01/2001

Staff # 2 Met

Date of Hire: 07/01/2013

Staff # 3 Met

Date of Hire: 03/20/2019

Staff # 4 Met

Date of Hire: 09/15/2008

Staff # 5 Met

Date of Hire: 05/26/2021

Staff # 6 Met

Date of Hire: 05/20/2021

Staff # 7 Met

Date of Hire: 10/01/2021

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

**Records Reviewed: 16**

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

Staff # 8 Date of Hire: 08/02/2021	Met
Staff # 9 Date of Hire: 01/07/2019	Met
Staff # 10 Date of Hire: 04/19/2021	Met
Staff # 11 Date of Hire: 05/08/2018	Met
Staff # 12 Date of Hire: 08/05/2019	Met
Staff # 13 Date of Hire: 08/31/2021	Met
Staff # 14 Date of Hire: 04/19/2021	Met
Staff # 15 Date of Hire: 12/08/2021	Met <u>Reminder - Health &amp; Safety training is required within 90 calendar days of hired</u>
Staff # 16 Date of Hire: 10/29/2018	Met

**Staff Credentials Reviewed: 5**

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

**Met**

**Comment**

Criminal record checks were observed to be complete.

**Comment**

Director provided five files for employees hired since last visit.

**Comment**

Please ensure that applicants/staff are listing exact dates (including month/day/year) on 10 year work history form in order to determine any breaks in service from the child care industry.

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

**Met**

**Comment**

Discussed: Health and Safety Training and CPR/First Aid is required for each staff member with direct care responsibilities within 90 calendar days of their hire date.

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

**Met**

**Comment**

Discussed that all lead staff who do not already have one of the required credentials, must enroll in an approved education program within six (6) months of hire and complete degree within 18 months of enrollment. The Center must develop a written Professional Learning Plan (PLP) for newly hired teacher's who do not possess the educational credential or degree listed in 591-1-1-.31(2)(b)2.(i) through (xii), keep it in the employee file and make it available to the department for review.

**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**

Center observed to maintain appropriate staff:child ratios.

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

**Comment**

Adequate supervision observed on this date.