



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: 9/17/2025 **VisitType:** Monitoring Visit

Arrival: 7:55 AM **Departure:** 11:45 AM

CCLC-13020

Special Blessings Learning Center, Inc
1821 Macon Road Perry, GA 31069 Houston County
(478) 987-0886

Regional Consultant
Charlene Story
Phone: (770) 405-7942
Fax: (770) 408-0759
charlene.story@decal.ga.gov

Mailing Address
Same

Quality Rated: ★

Compliance Zone Designation			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.
09/17/2025	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
08/01/2025	Complaint Closure	Deficient	
07/24/2025	Complaint Investigation Follow Up	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	One Year Olds	1	5	C	12	C	NA	NA	Free Play
Main	B	Three Year Olds	1	9	C	24	C	34	C	Centers
Main	C		0	0	C	10	C	NA	NA	
Main	D	Two Year Olds	1	8	C	13	C	NA	NA	Free Play
Main	E		0	0	C	20	C	NA	NA	
Main	F	Infants	1	1	C	10	C	NA	NA	Floor Play
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 89					Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 89					

Total # Children this Date: 23 Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 89 Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 89

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	Infant/Toddler right	12	C
Main	Preschool left	69	C
Main	Toddler right	18	C

Enrolled Children						
Under 1 years	1 years	2 years	3 years	4 years	5 years (Prekonly)	5 years and older
3	7	8	16	0	0	19

Comments

Transportation records and Staff CPR/First Aid certification were observed on this date.

An exit conference discussing the Monitoring visit report was conducted with the Director on this date. An email with the Monitoring visit report was sent to the Director for signature on this date.

Consultant discussed Required Reporting with the Director.

The CCS Consultant discussed and left a copy of the updated Child Care Weather Watch Chart with the program today. Weather does not permit outdoor play when there is active precipitation or when weather advisories are in effect. Consult the Child Care Weather Watch Chart resource for further guidance, considering specific weather conditions.

Plan of Improvement: Developed 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.decgal.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 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@decgal.ga.gov for more information. Free technical assistance is available!



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Summary 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

Equipment and furniture observed to be properly secured on this date.

591-1-1-.35 Swimming Pools & Water-related Activities(CR) N/A

Comment

Center does not provide swimming activities.

Facility

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

Comment

Licensed capacity observed to be met by center on this date.

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

Comment

No hazards observed accessible to children on this date.

591-1-1-.26 Playgrounds(CR) Technical Assistance

Comment

Discussed maintenance of resilient surface. Please fluff and redistribute.

Correction Deadline: 2/26/2025

Corrected on 9/17/2025

.26(4) - This citation was observed to be corrected on this date. Provider added height to the fencing and the fence was observed to measure 4 feet and 2 inches in height on both playgrounds.

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.26(9) - Consultant discussed with the Provider to ensure there are no hazards on the playground.

Correction Deadline: 9/17/2025

Health and Hygiene

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

Comment

Staff stated proper knowledge of diapering procedures.

Correction Deadline: 2/26/2025

Corrected on 9/17/2025

.17(7) - This citation was observed to be corrected on this date. Staff were observed to remind the children to wash their hands after using the bathroom and during center time.

591-1-1-.20 Medications(CR)

N/A

Comment

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

Policies and Procedures

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

591-1-1-.21(1)(a-o) - : Discussed updating the Center's policies and procedures to include the program's practices regarding the expulsion and suspension of children enrolled for care within the description of behavior management and discipline actions used by the Center.

Correction Deadline: 9/22/2025

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.21(1)(r) - New - Consultant discussed with the Director to ensure a description of the practices followed by the Center to prevent shaken baby syndrome and abusive head trauma in children up to five years of age that includes the following information: how to recognize, respond to, and report the signs and symptoms of shaken baby syndrome and abusive head trauma; strategies to assist staff members in understanding how to care for infants and how to cope with a crying, fussing, or distraught child; strategies to ensure staff members understand the brain development of children up to five years of age; and a list of prohibited behaviors when dealing with children.

Additional information can be found in the CCLC Indicator Manual found on DECAL's website at: <https://www.dec.al.ga.gov/CCS/RulesAndRegulations.aspx> or through the Center on Shaken Baby Syndrome found at: <https://dontshake.org/>.

Correction Deadline: 9/22/2025

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.21(2)(r) - New - Consultant discussed with the Director to ensure a description of the practices followed by the Center to prevent shaken baby syndrome and abusive head trauma in children up to five years of age that includes the following information: how to recognize, respond to, and report the signs and symptoms of shaken baby syndrome and abusive head trauma; strategies to assist staff members in understanding how to care for infants and how to cope with a crying, fussing, or distraught child; strategies to ensure staff members understand the brain development of children up to five years of age; and a list of prohibited behaviors when dealing with children.

Additional information can be found in the CCLC Indicator Manual found on DECAL's website at: <https://www.dec.al.ga.gov/CCS/RulesAndRegulations.aspx> or through the Center on Shaken Baby Syndrome found at: <https://dontshake.org/>.

Correction Deadline: 9/22/2025

591-1-1-.29 Required Reporting

Met

Correction Deadline: 7/31/2025

Corrected on 9/17/2025

.29(3) - This citation was observed to be corrected on this date. Consultant discussed with the Director on when incidents are to be reported to the Department. Director stated that they are aware and are in the process of enrolling in the 40 Hour Director's Training.

Safety

591-1-1-.11 Discipline(CR)

Met

Comment

Age-appropriate discussion and redirection was observed.

Comment

Complete documentation of transportation observed on this date.

Van with tag numbers CPA4380 and RMU522 were inspected by the consultant and all seat belts were in working condition.

Consultant observed the first and second check conducted on the morning bus routes that returned from transporting the children on this date.

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

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

Technical Assistance

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.30(1)(b)1 - Consultant discussed with the Director to ensure mats are in good repair with no foam exposed.

Correction Deadline: 9/17/2025

Correction Deadline: 2/26/2025

Corrected on 9/17/2025

.30(2)(c) - This citation was observed to be corrected on this date. There were no infants observed sleeping. In addition, staff stated that infants are laid on their back when being laid in the cribs.

Staff Records

Records Reviewed: 8

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 1

Staff # 6

Not Met

Date of Hire: 01/07/2025

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.14(2)-CPR missing,.14(2)-First Aid Missing,.33(3)-Health & Safety Certificate

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

Met

Comment

Criminal record checks were observed to be complete.

591-1-1-.14 First Aid & CPR(CR)

Not Met

Finding

591-1-1-.14(1)(a) requires all Staff who provide direct care to children must obtain certification in a biennial training program in pediatric cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and a triennial training program in pediatric first aid within the first 45 days of employment. Current and valid evidence of the successful completion of such training shall be maintained on the Center's premises. The hours obtained completing this certification will not count towards the required annual training hours. It was determined based on review of staff records, staff member #6, who was hired on January 7, 2025, did not complete the CPR/First Aid training within the 90 days of hire that was required by the Department before July 1, 2025.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

All caregiver Staff will complete the required training. The Director will send copies via email verification of completed CPR/First Aid certification to the consultant upon completion and will develop a plan to ensure all caregiver Staff have completed this training within the first 45 days of employment and that evidence of successful completion of the training is on file available for inspection.

Correction Deadline: 9/17/2025

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.14(2)(b) - New - Discussed that effective July 1, 2025, new staff are required to obtain pediatric First Aid and pediatric CPR training within 45 days of employment. It was further discussed that programs must have at least one person with current pediatric First Aid and pediatric CPR training in each classroom at all times.

1 out of 9 center staff were observed to not have a current certified copy of CPR/First Aid on file for consultant to review.

591-1-1-.33 Staff Training**Not Met****Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.33(1) - : Discussed that all Employees, including volunteers, independent contractors, students-in-training, etc. should have a completed initial program orientation form on file.

Correction Deadline: 9/17/2025**Finding**

591-1-1-.33(3)(a)-(k) 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: a) prevention and control of infectious diseases (including immunizations); b) prevention of sudden infant death syndrome and use of safe sleeping practices; c) administration of medication, consistent with standards for parental consent; d) prevention of and response to emergencies due to food and allergic reactions; e) 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; f) prevention of shaken baby syndrome, abusive head trauma and child maltreatment; g) 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); h) handling and storage of hazardous materials and the appropriate disposal of bio contaminants; i) precautions in transporting children; j) recognition and reporting of child abuse and neglect; and k) child development to include all major domains: cognitive; social and emotional; physical development and motor skills; communication, language, and literacy; and approaches to play and learning. It was determined based on review of staff records that Staff Member #6, who was hired on January 7, 2025, had not completed the 10 Hour Health and Safety Orientation Training within 90 days of employment.

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: 10/17/2025**Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.33(5)(b)1. - New - Consultant discussed with the Director that effective July 1, 2025, all staff are required to obtain at least two hours in evidence based, developmentally appropriate language and literacy practices.

Correction Deadline: 10/17/2025**Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.33(5)(b)(2)(i)-(iv) - New - Consultant discussed with the Director that effective July 1, 2025, all staff are required to obtain at least two hours in on-going child development and health and safety related topics as part of their 10 hours of annual training.

Correction Deadline: 10/17/2025**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****Correction Deadline: 7/31/2025****Corrected on 9/17/2025**

.32(7) - This citation was observed to be corrected on this date. Staff were observed supervising the children in all classrooms on this date.