



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: 5/27/2026 VisitType: Monitoring Visit

Arrival: 9:50 AM Departure: 12:30 PM

CCLC-2289

Bessie's Child Care

1842 Wrightsboro Road Augusta, GA 30904 Richmond County
(706) 481-9968

Regional Consultant

April Christian

Phone: ()

Fax: April Christian

april.christian@dec.al.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.
05/27/2026	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
12/16/2025	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
04/02/2025	Complaint Closure	Good Standing	
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

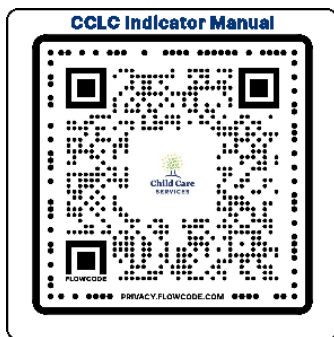
Building	Room	Age Group	Staff	Children	NC/C	Max 35 SF.	35 SF. Comp.	Max 25 SF.	25 SF. Comp.	Notes
I	A - 1st Right	One Year Olds	2	5	C	15	C	NA	NA	Art
I	B - 2nd Right	Infants	1	2	C	5	C	NA	NA	Floor Play,Nap
I	C - 1st Left		2	0	C	32	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
I	D- 2nd Left	Three Year Olds	1	8	C	12	C	NA	NA	Transitioning,Outside
I	E - 3rd Left	Six Year Olds and Over	2	21	C	44	C	NA	NA	Art
		Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 108			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					
II	F - Left Side	Two Year Olds	1	6	C	12	C	NA	NA	Free Play
II	G - Right Side	Three Year Olds	1	5	C	14	C	NA	NA	Free Play
		Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 26			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					
Total # Children this Date: 47		Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 134			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
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Enrolled Children						
Under 1 years	1 years	2 years	3 years	4 years	5 years (Prekonly)	5 years and older
2	8	7	10	0	0	34

Comments

The findings on this report were reviewed with the Director.



For additional information regarding any licensing topics discussed during this visit, please consult the Rules and Regulations Indicator Manual. This manual provides comprehensive clarification of each rule, including evaluation indicators, related best practices, and relevant considerations to support your program's continued and sustained compliance.

To access the Indicator Manual, please scan the QR code below or visit our website at <https://www.dec.al.ga.gov/CCS/RulesAndRegulations.aspx>.

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.al.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@dec.al.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)

Not Met

Finding

591-1-1-.12(2) requires that all equipment and furniture be free from hazardous conditions such as, but not limited to, sharp rough edges or toxic paint; and be kept clean. It was determined based on observation that the following potential hazards were observed:

Building I

Room A-1st Right

- There was a broken handle on the changing table causing sharp edges and a small hole.

Room B- 2nd Right

- There were three holes on the right side of the room above the white shelf causing potential entrapment.
- There was ripped fabric on the blue couch exposing the cushion material.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will ensure that equipment and furniture are used by the age- appropriate group of children.

Correction Deadline: 6/26/2026

Recited on 5/27/2026

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 routinely met by center on this date.

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

Met

Correction Deadline: 1/16/2026

Corrected on 5/27/2026

.25(13) - The previous citations were observed corrected on this date. The Consultant observed the hazards items storage safely and inaccessible to children.

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

Not Met

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.26(4) - The Consultant and the Director discussed ensuring the bottom of the back left white fence and the bottom of the middle silver gate on the back playground are filled to prevent entrapment.

Correction Deadline: 5/27/2026

Finding

591-1-1-.26(6) requires that playground equipment provide an opportunity for the children to engage in a variety of experiences and shall be age-appropriate. For example, toddlers shall not be permitted to swing in swings designed for School-age Children. The outdoor equipment shall be free of lead-based paint, sharp corners and shall be regularly maintained in such a way as to be free of rust and splinters that could pose significant safety hazard to the children. All equipment shall be arranged so as not to obstruct supervision of children. It was determined based on observation that the following hazards were accessible to children on this date:

Middle Playground

- The blue tractor had rust throughout the handles.
- The yellow car with large wheels had rust on the handles and the wheel was not properly secured.

Back Playground

- The blue seesaw had rust throughout the handles.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will provide a variety of age-appropriate equipment that is arranged so as not to obstruct supervision of children. Staff will check the equipment daily to ensure that the equipment is free of hazards, rust and splinters.

Correction Deadline: 6/26/2026

Recited on 5/27/2026

Health and Hygiene

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

Technical Assistance

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.10(4) - The Consultant and the Director discussed ensuring the diaper changing surface was smooth and nonporous,

Correction Deadline: 5/27/2026

591-1-1-.17 Hygiene(CR)

Met

Comment

Proper hand washing observed throughout the center on this date.

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

N/A

Comment

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

Safety

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

Met

Comment

Age-appropriate discussion and/or redirection observed.

591-1-1-.36 Transportation(CR)

Met

Comment

Complete documentation of transportation observed on this date.

Comment

The vehicle had an approved fire extinguisher and first aid kit on this date.

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

591-1-1-.30 Safe Sleeping and Resting Requirements(CR)**Met****Correction Deadline: 1/16/2026****Corrected on 5/27/2026**

.30(1)(a)3 - The previous citation was observed corrected on this date. The infant cribs sheet were tight-fitting as required.

Staff Records

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)**Met****Comment**

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

591-1-1-.33 Staff Training**Met****Correction Deadline: 1/16/2026****Corrected on 5/27/2026**

.33(6) - The previous citation was observed corrected on this date. The Consultant observed (10) Hours of 2025 Annual Training for staff.

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.