



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: 8/26/2025 **VisitType:** Monitoring Visit

Arrival: 10:10 AM **Departure:** 1:00 PM

CCLC-62019

Little Minds Learning Center LLC

677 Old Macon Road Dublin, GA 31021 Laurens County
(478) 290-1180 littlemindslarningcenterllc@gmail.com

Process & QI Unit Consultant

Stacy Igarashi

Phone: (770) 405-7920

Fax: (404) 478-8021

stacy.igarashi@decal.ga.gov

Joint with: Melyn Smith

Mailing Address

Same

Quality Rated: No

<u>Compliance Zone Designation</u>			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.
08/26/2025	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
05/07/2025	TA Follow Up	NA	
04/01/2025	TA Follow Up	NA	

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: Infants (back left)	Infants	1	5	C	7	C	NA	NA	Nap,Floor Play
Main	B: Ones	Infants and One Year Olds	1	4	C	5	C	NA	NA	Floor Play
Main	C: Twos (front middle)	Two Year Olds	1	10	C	12	C	NA	NA	Outside
Main	D: Ones (front left)	One Year Olds	1	6	C	7	C	NA	NA	Outside
Main	E: Preschool (far right)	Three Year Olds	1	11	C	11	C	NA	NA	Centers
			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 42			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0				
Total # Children this Date: 36			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 42			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0				

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	Playground	41	C

Enrolled Children						
Under 1 years	1 years	2 years	3 years	4 years	5 years (Prekonly)	5 years and older
6	12	12	11	0	0	0

Comments

The purpose of this visit was to conduct a Monitoring Visit and follow up on previous rule violations.

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.decga.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@decga.gov for more information. Free technical assistance is available!



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

(Findings Report)

Date: 8/26/2025 **VisitType:** Monitoring Visit

Arrival: 10:10 AM **Departure:** 1:00 PM

CCLC-62019

Little Minds Learning Center LLC

677 Old Macon Road Dublin, GA 31021 Laurens County
(478) 290-1180 littlemindslearningcenterllc@gmail.com

Process & QI Unit Consultant

Stacy Igarashi

Phone: (770) 405-7920

Fax: (404) 478-8021

stacy.igarashi@decal.ga.gov

Joint with: Melyn Smith

Mailing Address
Same

The following information is associated with a MV:

Activities and Equipment

591-1-1-.03 Activities

Met

Correction Deadline: 8/27/2024

Prior Visits: 08/27/2024

Corrected on 8/26/2025

.03(1) - The previous citation was observed corrected on this date. Consultant observed all classrooms to have up to date lesson plans.

591-1-1-.12 Equipment & Toys(CR)

Not Met

Comment

A variety of equipment and toys were observed throughout the center on this date.

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.12(2) - Consultant discussed with Director to ensure the rugs in all classrooms were cleaned regularly to remove stains and dirt/residue.

Correction Deadline: 8/26/2025

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.12(4) - Consultant discussed with Director to ensure the top portion of the toy kitchen in classroom D (one-year-olds) was resecured to prevent a tipping hazard from becoming present.

Correction Deadline: 8/26/2025

Finding

591-1-1-.12(8) requires toys for children under three years of age to be age-appropriate; non-toxic and lead-free; too large to be swallowed by a child and not capable of causing asphyxiation or strangulation; free of sharp pieces, edges or points; free of small parts which may be pried off by a child, free of rust; and easily cleaned with a disinfectant daily. It was determined based on an observation that the following equipment was not in good repair:

-classroom C (two-year-olds) :

the soft blocks were observed to have bite marks and were discolored with brown residue and not clean
toys on the wooden shelf were observed to be discolored with brown residue and not clean

-classroom D (one-year-olds)

the soft blocks were observed to have bite marks

POI (Plan of Improvement)

Center staff will provide age-appropriate toys and remove any toys that are not age-appropriate in each room housing children under three years of age. The Center will implement a plan to train Staff to regularly examine toys for the listed hazards and remove toys when hazards are identified and to clean toys with a disinfectant daily.

Correction Deadline: 9/2/2025

591-1-1-.35 Swimming Pools & Water-related Activities(CR)**Met****Comment**

Center does not provide swimming activities.

Facility

591-1-1-.06 Bathrooms**Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.06(7) requires Center Staff to ensure bathrooms are cleaned daily with a disinfectant. It was determined based on observation that the training potty seats in classroom D (one-year-olds) were not cleaned following use. Urine was observed in two of the training pottys while the children / staff were observed to be outside on the playground.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will develop and implement a plan to ensure that bathrooms are cleaned and disinfected daily and that this is monitored daily.

Correction Deadline: 8/26/2025

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)**Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.25(13) requires that potentially hazardous equipment, materials and supplies be stored in a locked area inaccessible to children. It was determined based on observation the following hazards were accessible to children:
Classroom B (one-year-olds):

- two low cabinets had broken safety locks and contained empty plastic bags, a electrical power strip and cord

Classroom E (three-year-olds):

- low children's cubbies contained - four bags of baby wipes, two tubes of Destin diaper ointment, two tubes of sunscreen

- in the children's bathroom on the low counter- one box of rubber gloves and one bag of baby wipes

Classroom D (one-year-olds):

- low cabinet by the diaper table was unlocked and contained one container of disinfectant wipes

- low bathroom cabinet was unlocked and contained one bottle of toilet cleaner

- one toilet brush was observed stored on the floor next to the toilet

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will identify all hazardous items and keep them in a locked area inaccessible to children. The Center will inform all Staff about hazardous items and the safe storage of those items.

Correction Deadline: 8/26/2025

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.25(3) - Consultant discussed with Director to ensure all window sills, baseboards and walls are cleaned regularly to remove and prevent dirt and residue accumulation.

Correction Deadline: 8/26/2025

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.25(8) - Consultant discussed with Director to ensure all electrical outlets were covered in all classrooms and areas accessible to children.

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

591-1-1-.26(4) - Consultant discussed with Director to ensure the bolts were cut on both gates where more than two threads were present and bolts were sanded so that rough edges were not present. Consultant also discussed with Director that the bottom of the fencing by the right corner should be resecured, as well as the gap on the right side of the fencing around the A/C unit should be covered so that the gap measured less than three and a half inches.

Correction Deadline: 8/26/2025**Prior Visits: 06/13/2024****Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.26(9) - Consultant discussed with Director that the exposed concrete by the back left corner and the small area where a piece of material was missing covering the crawl space were repaired or covered.

Correction Deadline: 8/26/2025**Food Service****591-1-1-.15 Food Service & Nutrition****Technical Assistance****Comment**

Please ensure that infant feeding forms are updated regularly.

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.15(4) - Consultant discussed with Director to ensure children are strapped in with the provided safety straps when in the feeding chairs in classroom B. Also discussed, please ensure children do not eat while walking around or crawling on the floor.

Correction Deadline: 8/26/2025**Health and Hygiene****591-1-1-.07 Children's Health****Technical Assistance****Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.07(5) - Consultant discussed with Director to ensure children did not wear necklaces or pacifier attachments while at the center.

Correction Deadline: 8/26/2025**591-1-1-.10 Diapering Areas & Practices(CR)****Met****Comment**

Staff stated proper knowledge of diapering procedures.

591-1-1-.17 Hygiene(CR)**Met****Comment**

Staff were observed to remind children to wash hands on this date.

591-1-1-.20 Medications(CR)**Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.20(4) requires the Center to keep medication in a cabinet or container that is locked or otherwise not accessible to the children and to be stored separate from cleaning chemicals, supplies or poisons. Medications requiring refrigeration shall be placed in a leak-proof container in a refrigerator that is not accessible to the children. It was determined based on observation that one tube of Nystatin ointment was stored in a low child's cubby, accessible to children.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will train Staff on the safe and proper storage of medication and monitor to ensure that the rule is met.

Correction Deadline: 8/26/2025**Policies and Procedures**

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. Also discussed 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

Correction Deadline: 8/31/2025

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

Age-appropriate discussion and/or redirection observed.

591-1-1-.36 Transportation(CR)**N/A****Comment**

Center does not provide routine transportation.

Sleeping & Resting Equipment**591-1-1-.30 Safe Sleeping and Resting Requirements(CR)****Not Met****Comment**

Discussed SIDS and infant sleeping position.

Comment

The correct number of mats, sheets and blankets were observed on this date. Cleaning and disinfecting of mats was discussed with the director on this date.

Finding

591-1-1-.30(1)(a)3 requires that each crib shall have only an individual, tight-fitting sheet which is changed daily or more often as needed and prior to a change of occupant. It was determined based on an observation that three cribs had sheets that were too big and were observed to have the material tied in a knot to fit the mattresses.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The center will ensure that each crib has an individual, tight-fitting sheet which is changed daily or more often as needed and prior to a change of occupant.

Correction Deadline: 8/26/2025

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.30(1)(b)2 - Consultant discussed with Director to ensure cots were stored where sheets and blankets were not touching another child's bedding.

Correction Deadline: 8/26/2025

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

Criminal record checks were observed to be complete.

Comment

Director provided seven file(s) for employees hired since last visit.

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.14(1)(a) - : Discussed that effective July 1, 2025, new staff were 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

Correction Deadline: 9/25/2025

591-1-1-.24 Personnel Records**Met**

Correction Deadline: 9/13/2024

Prior Visits: 08/27/2024

Corrected on 8/26/2025

.24(1) - The previous citation was observed corrected, all staff were observed to have a complete file.

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

591-1-1-.33(2)(a)-(n) - Discussed that all Employees, including volunteers, independent contractors, students-in-training, etc. should have a completed initial program orientation form on file.

Correction Deadline: 8/27/2025

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.33(5)(b)1. - New - • Discussed that effective July 1, 2025, all staff are required to obtain at least two hours in evidence based, developmentally appropriate language and literacy practices and 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: 9/25/2025

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

Correction Deadline: 9/13/2024

Prior Visits: 06/13/2024

Corrected on 8/26/2025

.31(5)(b) - The previous citation was observed corrected. All staff were observed to have complete files.

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)**Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.32(7) requires that children be supervised at all times appropriate to the individual age, needs and capabilities of each child. Such supervision must include, but not be limited to, indoor and outdoor activities, mealtimes, naptime, transportation, field trips, and transitions between activities. "Supervision" means that the appropriate number of Staff members are physically present in the area where children are being cared for and are providing watchful oversight to the children, volunteers and Students-in-Training. The persons supervising in the child care area must be alert, positioned to maximize their ability to hear and see the children at all times, and able to respond promptly to the needs and actions of the children being supervised, as well as the actions of the volunteers and Students-in-Training, and provide timely attention to the children's actions and needs. Staff shall be attentive and participating with all children during mealtimes and shall be seated within an arm's length away from children thirty-six (36) months of age and younger. It was determined based on observation that staff in classroom B (five one-year-olds) C (10 two-year-olds) and D (five one-year-olds) were not seated within an arm's length during lunch time. It was also determined based on observation that staff did not maintain supervision of their assigned children, when staff members from classrooms B, C and D were observed to leave their classroom areas to obtain the food from the lunch cart and access cots from the common/hall area.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will train Staff and monitor to ensure they are providing supervision and watchful oversight to the children at all times.

Correction Deadline: 8/26/2025