



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: 3/30/2026 **VisitType:** POI Follow Up

Arrival: 8:15 AM **Departure:** 9:45 AM

CCLC-58059
Stonewell Academy
204 Park Lane Thomaston, GA 30286 Upson County
(706) 938-0835

Regional Consultant
Brandi Mangino
Phone: (478) 314-9726
Fax: (478) 599-0169
brandi.mangino@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. 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.
03/30/2026	POI Follow Up	Support	
03/05/2026	TA Follow Up	NA	
01/12/2026	Licensing Study	Deficient	

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	Two Year Olds	1	5	C	13	C	NA	NA	Breakfast
Main	B	Infants and One Year Olds	1	6	C	12	C	NA	NA	Feeding, Floor Play, Nap
Main	C		0	0	C	9	C	NA	NA	
Main	D	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	1	10	C	9	NC	NA	NA	Breakfast
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 43					Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					
Total # Children this Date: 21			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 43			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0				

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	Playground	3	C
Main	Right (Large)	12	C

Comments

The purpose of the visit was to conduct a Plan of Improvement follow-up.

A plan of improvement will need to be submitted through decal koala by April 14, 2026.

Plan of Improvement: To Be Submitted 04/14/2026



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

You have received permission to operate and the form received with this report is intended to serve as a temporary license which is **valid for thirty(30) days**. Your actual license/ will be emailed to you upon receipt of the licensing fee. You may pay the licensing fee either online at <http://www.dec.al.ga.gov/> or by certified check or money order mailed to: Bright from the Start, 2 Martin Luther King Jr. Drive SE, Suite 670 East Tower, Atlanta, GA 30334

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 POI Follow Up:

Activities and Equipment

591-1-1-.03 Activities

Not Met

Correction Deadline: 1/12/2026

Corrected on 3/30/2026

.03(2) - Citation observed to be corrected.

Finding

591-1-1-.03(9) requires center staff to refrain from engaging in, or allowing children or other adults to engage in, activities that could be detrimental to a child's health or well-being, such as but not limited to, horse play, rough play, wrestling, and picking up a child in a manner that could cause injury. It was determined based on observation that in Room B an infant was placed in a crib. Consultant and staff member observed the infant trying to climb out of the crib, the staff sat down and continued to allow the infant to climb the railing of the crib and was removed after consultant asked the child to be removed out of the crib as the child showed no interest in being confined or taking a nap.

Correction Deadline: 3/30/2026

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

Technical Assistance

Technical Assistance

Consultant discussed the stacked chairs and television in Room B need to be secured.

Facility**591-1-1-.19 License Capacity(CR)****Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.19(1) requires a Center to provide 35 square feet of usable space per child, which will determine the Center's License capacity. It was determined based on observation that Room D had 10 children present in a class that was licensed for nine children.

Correction Deadline: 3/30/2026**591-1-1-.26 Playgrounds(CR)****Met****Correction Deadline: 8/7/2024****Corrected on 3/30/2026****.26(9) - Citation corrected.****Food Service****591-1-1-.15 Food Service & Nutrition****Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.15(1) requires that meals and snacks are served, with serving sizes dependent upon the age of the child, that meet nutritional guidelines as established by the United States Department of Agriculture Child and Adult Care Food Program. Meals and snacks shall be varied daily, and additional servings of nutritious food shall be offered to children over and above the required daily minimum, if not contraindicated by special diets. It was determined based on observation that USDA guidelines were not met in that only cereal and milk were served for breakfast.

Correction Deadline: 3/30/2026**Finding**

591-1-1-.15(4) requires that a feeding chair or similar equipment designed for feeding children shall be provided for the use of each child being fed who is capable of sitting up but who is unable to sit unassisted at a table and must be cleaned with a disinfectant after each use. Such chair or similar equipment shall have a broad base to prevent tipping, a surface that the child cannot raise, a strap or other device which prevents the child from sliding out of the chair, and a feeding surface free of cracks. It was determined based on observation that in Room B an infant was provided a bottle and placed in a rocker and not a feeding chair.

Correction Deadline: 3/30/2026

Correction Deadline: 1/12/2026

Corrected on 3/30/2026

.15(7) - Citation was observed to be corrected based on the menu posted.

Health and Hygiene

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

Met

Correction Deadline: 1/12/2026

Corrected on 3/30/2026

.10(2) - Citation corrected.

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

Met

Correction Deadline: 1/12/2026

Corrected on 3/30/2026

.17(7) - Citation corrected.

Policies and Procedures

591-1-1-.21 Operational Policies & Procedures

Met

Correction Deadline: 1/12/2026

Corrected on 3/30/2026

.21(2)(r) - Citation observed to be corrected.

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

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

Not Met

Correction Deadline: 1/12/2026

Corrected on 3/30/2026

.30(1)(a)2 - Citation observed to be corrected.

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 observation that five of nine crib sheets were not tight-fitting.

Correction Deadline: 3/30/2026

Staff Records

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

Not Met

Correction Deadline: 1/12/2026

Corrected on 3/30/2026

.14(1)(a) - Citation observed to be corrected. Consultant discussed one staff member is coming up on 45-days and the first aid and CPR does not listed pediatric.

Correction Deadline: 1/14/2026

Corrected on 3/30/2026

.14(1)(b) - Citation observed to be corrected.

Correction Deadline: 9/6/2024

Corrected on 3/30/2026

.14(2) - Citation observed to be corrected.

Finding

591-1-1-.14(2)(b) requires that there must always be one staff person present in each classroom where children are present that has current and valid pediatric cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and pediatric first aid training. It was determined based on a review of records that Room A had two staff members present, but upon arrival the staff member that had the required first aid and CPR was walking down the center hallway, and the staff member was observed in the hallway one other time when required to remain in the classroom.

Correction Deadline: 3/30/2026

Recited on 3/30/2026

591-1-1-.33 Staff Training

Defer

Correction Deadline: 1/12/2026

Corrected on 3/30/2026

.33(1) - Citation observed to be corrected.

Correction Deadline: 2/11/2026

Corrected on 3/30/2026

.33(3)(a)-(k) - Citation observed to be corrected.

Correction Deadline: 2/11/2026

Corrected on 3/30/2026

.33(4) - Citation observed to be corrected.

Defer

591-1-1-.33(5)(b)(1)-Citation will be deferred until the first regulatory visit of 2027 as staff have until December 31, 2026 to completed annual training for the 2026 year.

Correction Deadline: 2/11/2026

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

Defer

Defer

591-1-1-.31(2)(c)-Citation will be deferred until the next regulatory visit. The staff member has enrolled and will finish by September 30, 2026.

Correction Deadline: 1/12/2026

Staffing and Supervision

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 in Room A staff did not remained seated the entire time children were eating, and when sitting staff were not positioned to be within arms length of all children eating. It was further determined that in Room B and infant had a bottle and the staff member was not seated within arms length.

Correction Deadline: 3/30/2026