



**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:** 4/29/2025 **VisitType:** Licensing Study

**Arrival:** 8:55 AM **Departure:** 11:05 AM

**CCLC-2683**

**Gingerbread House Child Care Center**

7227 Nashville Street Ringgold, GA 30736 Catoosa County  
(706) 935-9999 kidsprep@windstream.net

CCS Coordinator

Sondra Paster

Phone: (478) 314-5803

Fax: (478) 314-5811

sondra.paster@decal.ga.gov

Joint with: Yolanda Marable

**Mailing Address**

Same

**Quality Rated:** ★

| Compliance Zone Designation |                                |               | <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.<br><br><b>Good Standing</b> - Program is demonstrating an acceptable level of performance in meeting the rules.<br><b>Support</b> - Program performance is demonstrating a need for improvement in meeting rules.<br><b>Deficient</b> - Program is not demonstrating an acceptable level of performance in meeting the rules. |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 04/29/2025                  | Licensing Study                | Good Standing |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| 07/19/2024                  | Incident Investigation Closure | Good Standing |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| 06/24/2024                  | 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                  |
|---------------------------------|--------------------|------------------------------------|---------------------------------|----------|------|---------------------------------|--------------|------------|--------------|------------------------|
| Kidz Biz                        | G-Kidz Biz         | GA PreK                            | 1                               | 20       | C    | 63                              | C            | 88         | C            | Transitioning, Outside |
| Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 63  |                    |                                    | Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 285 |          |      |                                 |              |            |              |                        |
| Main                            | A-First Left Front | One Year Olds                      | 1                               | 8        | C    | 15                              | C            | NA         | NA           | Floor Play             |
| Main                            | B-First Left Back  | Infants                            | 1                               | 6        | C    | 11                              | C            | NA         | NA           | Floor Play             |
| Main                            | C-First Right      | Three Year Olds                    | 1                               | 15       | C    | 26                              | C            | 37         | C            | Centers                |
| Main                            | D-Rear Annex       | Three Year Olds and Five Year Olds | 1                               | 18       | C    | 47                              | C            | 66         | C            | Outside                |
| Main                            | E-2nd Left         | Two Year Olds                      | 2                               | 17       | C    | 26                              | C            | NA         | NA           | Outside                |
| Main                            | F-2nd Right        | Two Year Olds and Three Year Olds  | 2                               | 20       | C    | 30                              | C            | 42         | C            | Outside                |
| Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 155 |                    |                                    | Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 285 |          |      |                                 |              |            |              |                        |
| Total # Children this Date: 104 |                    |                                    | Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 218 |          |      | Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 285 |              |            |              |                        |

| Building | Playground | Playground Occupancy | Playground Compliance |
|----------|------------|----------------------|-----------------------|
|----------|------------|----------------------|-----------------------|

| <b>Enrolled Children</b> |                |                |                |                |                           |                          |
|--------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| <b>Under 1 years</b>     | <b>1 years</b> | <b>2 years</b> | <b>3 years</b> | <b>4 years</b> | <b>5 years (Prekonly)</b> | <b>5 years and older</b> |
| 6                        | 9              | 30             | 39             | 33             | 6                         | 25                       |

#### **Comments**

The purpose of the visit is to complete a licensing study.

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.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.

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#### **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](http://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.

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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:**

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 CAPS/ QR Provisional Status, allowing for scholarships while working toward an initial star rating. Provisional Status eligibility will be determined at the time of CAPS enrollment as part of the CAPS application process.

**Contact the Quality Rated help desk at 855-800-7747 or [qualityrated@decga.gov](mailto:qualityrated@decga.gov) for more information. Free technical assistance is available!**



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**(Findings Report)**

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Joint with: Yolanda Marable

**Mailing Address**

Same

The following information is associated with a Licensing Study:

**Activities and Equipment**

**Records Reviewed: 14**

**Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 3**

Staff # 2

Not Met

Date of Hire: 08/27/2019

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.09-Criminal Records Check Dissatisfied

Staff # 3

Not Met

Date of Hire: 08/02/2019

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.09-Criminal Records Check Dissatisfied

Staff # 11

Not Met

Date of Hire: 11/26/2019

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.09-Criminal Records Check Dissatisfied

**591-1-1-.03 Activities**

**Met**

**Comment**

Updated lesson plans observed.

**Correction Deadline: 4/29/2025**

**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 in classrooms C, E, F and G, the pink and blue chairs and tables had sharp edges and chipped paint. Additionally there was three white shelves with chipping paint in room E, two blue shelves with chipping paint in room F, and three brown shelves with chipping paint in room G.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

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

Recited on 4/29/2025

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

**Met**

**Comment**

Swimming activities provided off site. The center will start swimming activities in June 2025.

**Children's Records**

**Records Reviewed: 14**

**Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 3**

Staff # 2

Not Met

Date of Hire: 08/27/2019

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.09-Criminal Records Check Dissatisfied

Staff # 3

Not Met

Date of Hire: 08/02/2019

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.09-Criminal Records Check Dissatisfied

Staff # 11

Not Met

Date of Hire: 11/26/2019

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.09-Criminal Records Check Dissatisfied

**591-1-1-.08 Children's Records**

**Met**

**Comment**

Parent agreements observed obtained/completed.

**Comment**

Parent authorizations obtained/completed.

**Facility**

**Records Reviewed: 14**

**Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 3**

Staff # 2

Not Met

Date of Hire: 08/27/2019

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.09-Criminal Records Check Dissatisfied

Staff # 3

Not Met

Date of Hire: 08/02/2019

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.09-Criminal Records Check Dissatisfied

Staff # 11

Not Met

Date of Hire: 11/26/2019

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.09-Criminal Records Check Dissatisfied

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

Licensed capacity observed to be met by center.

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**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)****Not Met****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 left and middle playgrounds had white and black wooden houses with chipped paint . It was further observed that the middle playground had rust on the monkey bars and eight rusted swings U-Hooks at the top.

**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: 5/13/2025**

**Recited on 4/29/2025**

|                     |
|---------------------|
| <b>Food Service</b> |
|---------------------|

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**Records Reviewed: 14****Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 3**

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Staff # 2

Not Met

Date of Hire: 08/27/2019

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.09-Criminal Records Check Dissatisfied

Staff # 3

Not Met

Date of Hire: 08/02/2019

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.09-Criminal Records Check Dissatisfied

Staff # 11

Not Met

Date of Hire: 11/26/2019

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.09-Criminal Records Check Dissatisfied

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**591-1-1-.15 Food Service & Nutrition****Met****Comment**

Center menu meets USDA guidelines.

**Comment**

Please ensure that infant feeding forms are updated regularly.

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**591-1-1-.18 Kitchen Operations****Met****Comment**

Kitchen appears clean and well organized.

## Health and Hygiene

Records Reviewed: 14

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 3

Staff # 2 Not Met

Date of Hire: 08/27/2019

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.09-Criminal Records Check Dissatisfied

Staff # 3 Not Met

Date of Hire: 08/02/2019

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.09-Criminal Records Check Dissatisfied

Staff # 11 Not Met

Date of Hire: 11/26/2019

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.09-Criminal Records Check Dissatisfied

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

**Comment**

Proper diapering procedures observed.

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

**Comment**

Proper hand washing observed throughout the center.

**591-1-1-20 Medications(CR)** N/A

**Comment**

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

## Safety

Records Reviewed: 14

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 3

Staff # 2 Not Met

Date of Hire: 08/27/2019

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.09-Criminal Records Check Dissatisfied

Staff # 3 Not Met

Date of Hire: 08/02/2019

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.09-Criminal Records Check Dissatisfied

Staff # 11 Not Met

Date of Hire: 11/26/2019

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.09-Criminal Records Check Dissatisfied

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|                            |            |
|----------------------------|------------|
| <b>591-1-1-.05 Animals</b> | <b>N/A</b> |
|----------------------------|------------|

**Comment**

Center does not keep animals on premises.

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|                                   |            |
|-----------------------------------|------------|
| <b>591-1-1-.11 Discipline(CR)</b> | <b>Met</b> |
|-----------------------------------|------------|

**Comment**

Age-appropriate discussion and/or redirection observed.

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|                                    |                      |
|------------------------------------|----------------------|
| <b>591-1-1-.13 Field Trips(CR)</b> | <b>Not Evaluated</b> |
|------------------------------------|----------------------|

**Comment**

The center does participate in field trips but had not completed any field trips as of this date.

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|                                       |                             |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| <b>591-1-1-.36 Transportation(CR)</b> | <b>Technical Assistance</b> |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------|

**Comment**

A current/completed inspection was observed for all vehicles used in transporting children this date.

**Comment**

Complete documentation of transportation observed.

**Comment**

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

**Technical Assistance**

The consultant discussed repairing the small hole on the the back of first left seat on bus#3 tag #LW1156.

**Correction Deadline: 4/30/2025**

|                                         |
|-----------------------------------------|
| <b>Sleeping &amp; Resting Equipment</b> |
|-----------------------------------------|

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|                             |                                                      |
|-----------------------------|------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Records Reviewed: 14</b> | <b>Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 3</b> |
|-----------------------------|------------------------------------------------------|

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|           |         |
|-----------|---------|
| Staff # 2 | Not Met |
|-----------|---------|

Date of Hire: 08/27/2019

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.09-Criminal Records Check Dissatisfied

|           |         |
|-----------|---------|
| Staff # 3 | Not Met |
|-----------|---------|

Date of Hire: 08/02/2019

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.09-Criminal Records Check Dissatisfied

|            |         |
|------------|---------|
| Staff # 11 | Not Met |
|------------|---------|

Date of Hire: 11/26/2019

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.09-Criminal Records Check Dissatisfied

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|                                                               |            |
|---------------------------------------------------------------|------------|
| <b>591-1-1-.30 Safe Sleeping and Resting Requirements(CR)</b> | <b>Met</b> |
|---------------------------------------------------------------|------------|

**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.

|                      |
|----------------------|
| <b>Staff Records</b> |
|----------------------|

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|                             |                                                      |
|-----------------------------|------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Records Reviewed: 14</b> | <b>Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 3</b> |
|-----------------------------|------------------------------------------------------|

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|           |         |
|-----------|---------|
| Staff # 2 | Not Met |
|-----------|---------|

Date of Hire: 08/27/2019

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.09-Criminal Records Check Dissatisfied

Staff # 3

Not Met

Date of Hire: 08/02/2019

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.09-Criminal Records Check Dissatisfied

Staff # 11

Not Met

Date of Hire: 11/26/2019

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.09-Criminal Records Check Dissatisfied

**591-1-1-.09 Criminal Records and Comprehensive Background Checks(CR)****Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.09(1)(c) requires the Center to ensure that every Employee has a valid and current satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination on file prior to being present at the Center while any child is present for care or before an individual age 17 or older resides in the Center. The Comprehensive Records Check Determination must have a Records Check Clearance Date that is no older than the preceding 12 months of the hire date; provided, however, if the Employee has had a lapse of employment from the child care industry that lasted for 180 days (6 months) or longer, a new satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination is required. It was determined based on a review of files that staff number #2, #3 and #11 were observed to be present with expired criminal background checks that expired in August 2024 and November 2024.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

IMMEDIATE CORRECTION - The Center will ensure that every Employee has a valid and current satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination on file prior to being present at the Center while any child is present for care or before an individual age 17 or older resides in the Center. The Comprehensive Records Check Determination must have a Records Check Clearance Date that is no older than the preceding 12 months of the hire date; provided, however, if the Employee has had a lapse of employment from the child care industry that lasted for 180 days (6 months) or longer, a new satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination is required. The program's owner or an officer/member of the corporation must view the A to Z Background Check video units pertaining to this records check rule and return the signed affidavit within one week from this visit date. The center will ensure the CRC rules are maintained.

**Correction Deadline: 4/29/2025****Finding**

591-1-1-.09(1)(l)3. requires the Center to immediately require a new Comprehensive Records Check Determination for a Director, Employee or Provisional Employee at least once every five years. It was determined based on a review of files that staff number #2, #3 and #11 were observed to be present with expired criminal background checks that expired in August 2024 and November 2024.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

IMMEDIATE CORRECTION - The Center will ensure that each Director, Employee and Provisional Employee has a Comprehensive Records Check Determination on file that has been issued within the past five years. The program's owner or an officer/member of the corporation must view the A to Z Background Check video units pertaining to this records check rule and return the signed affidavit within one week from this visit date. The Center will ensure CRC rules are maintained.

**Correction Deadline: 4/29/2025****591-1-1-.14 First Aid & CPR****Met****Comment**

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

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

Staff observed to be compliant with applicable laws and regulations.

## Staffing and Supervision

Records Reviewed: 14

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 3

Staff # 2

Not Met

Date of Hire: 08/27/2019

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.09-Criminal Records Check Dissatisfied

Staff # 3

Not Met

Date of Hire: 08/02/2019

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.09-Criminal Records Check Dissatisfied

Staff # 11

Not Met

Date of Hire: 11/26/2019

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.09-Criminal Records Check Dissatisfied

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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**

Center observed to maintain appropriate staff:child ratios.