



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: 9/24/2026 **VisitType:** Licensing Study

Arrival: 11:20 AM **Departure:** 2:40 PM

CCLC-970

Learning Safari Child Care and Learning Center

55 Marshall Road Milledgeville, GA 31061 Baldwin County
(478) 452-0555

Regional Consultant

Kajora McCoy

Phone: (678) 239-9361

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kajora.mccoy@decal.ga.gov

Mailing Address

Same

Quality Rated: ★ ★

<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.
09/24/2026	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
06/15/2026	TA Follow Up	NA	
05/18/2026	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
Bldg 1	1st Left	One Year Olds	2	9	C	14	C	NA	NA	Lunch
Bldg 1	1st Right	Infants	1	3	C	11	C	NA	NA	Floor Play
Bldg 1	2nd Left		0	0	C	14	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Bldg 1	2nd Right		0	0	C	11	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Bldg 1	3rd Left	Two Year Olds	3	12	C	18	C	NA	NA	Lunch
Bldg 1	3rd Right		0	0	C	13	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Bldg 1	4th Left(Back)		0	0	C	23	C	33	C	
Bldg 1	4th Right	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	1	7	C	20	C	NA	NA	Transitioning, Lunch
Bldg 1	5th Right (back)	Two Year Olds and Three Year Olds	1	41	C	20	NC	28	NC	Lunch, Transitioning
			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 144			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0				
Bldg 2	Bottom Level Left		0	0	C	47	C	65	C	Not In Use
Bldg 2	Bottom Level Right		0	0	C	26	C	37	C	Not In Use
Bldg 2	Left side 1st Right	GA PreK	1	19	C	20	C	NA	NA	Nap
Bldg 2	Left side 2nd Right	GA PreK	2	19	C	21	C	30	C	Nap
Bldg 2	Right side back		0	0	C	2	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Bldg 2	Right side Front Room		0	0	C	9	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 125			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0				
Total # Children this Date: 110			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 269			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0				

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Bldg 1	Back 3-12 yrs	75	C
Bldg 1	Left Front 2yr	36	C
Bldg 1	Right Back 1yr	13	C
Bldg 1	Right Front Infants	15	C

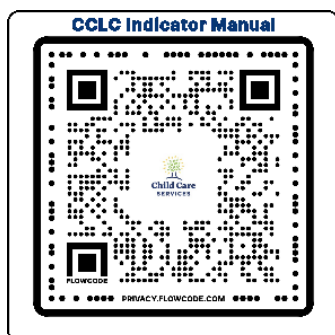
Enrolled Children					
Infant (0-12 months)	Toddler (1-2 yrs)	Preschool (3-5yrs/full time care)	School Age (before/after care only)	GA PreK only	Summer Only
4	24	11	11	38	0

Comments

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.

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

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date



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.state.ga.us/CCS/Regulations.aspx>.



For additional information regarding the full compliance inspection results of this program or any licensed program in the state, access the Child Care Services Compliance-at-a Glance website by scanning this QR code or visiting: <https://families.dec.state.ga.us>.

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 Licensing Study:

Activities and Equipment

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

Met

Comment

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

Comment

Discussed rotating toys to support the procedures of daily disinfecting.

Comment

Equipment and furniture observed to be properly secured, as applicable.

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

N/A

Comment

Center does not provide swimming activities.

Children's Records

Records Reviewed: 5

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 1

Child # 5

Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.08(1)(a)-Work Address Missing,.08(1)(a)-Work Number Missing

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

Not Met

Finding

591-1-1-.08(1) requires the Center Staff to maintain a file for each child while such child is in care and for one year after that child is no longer enrolled. In order for the file to be complete, the file shall contain the following: child's name, birth date, sex, address, living arrangement, name of school if applicable; names of both Parents, home and work addresses, and home and work telephone numbers; name(s) and addresses of the person(s) to whom the child may be released including address, telephone numbers, relationship to child and to Parent(s), and other identifying information; name(s) and telephone number(s) of person(s) to contact in emergencies when the Parent cannot be reached; name and telephone number of the child's primary source of health care; and a statement regarding known allergies, physical problems, mental health disorders, intellectual disabilities or developmental disabilities which limit the child's participation in the program. It was determined based on a review of records that the following information was missing:

-One of five records were missing the parents work address and phone number.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

Center staff will develop a plan that includes how to obtain all required information for currently enrolled children and how to ensure this is done for future enrollees as well. The plan will also include how and where to maintain files for the required amount of time. The plan will be implemented and followed.

Correction Deadline: 10/1/2026

Recited on 9/24/2026

Facility

591-1-1-.06 Bathrooms **Met**

Comment

Bathrooms observed to be clean and well maintained.

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**

Comment

Please be mindful to keep items that pose a hazard inaccessible to children.

Comment

The Center appeared clean and well maintained on this date.

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

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.26(4) - Please ensure that nail threads are not longer than two threads.

Correction Deadline: 9/24/2026

Food Service

591-1-1-.15 Food Service & Nutrition **Not Met**

Comment

Center menu meets USDA guidelines.

Finding

591-1-1-.15(3) requires baby bottles and formula to be labeled with the individual child's name; supplied by the Parent daily in bottles; and refrigerated at a temperature of forty (40) degrees Fahrenheit or less. Only the current day's formula or breast milk shall be served. If formula must be provided by the Center, only commercially prepared, ready-to-feed formula shall be used. Refrigerated or frozen breast milk shall only be heated or thawed under warm running water or in a container of warm water. It was determined based on observation that the refrigerator in the 1st left classroom that contained infant bottles were refrigerated at 45 degrees when 40 degrees or less was required.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will train Staff to follow the required procedures, ensure that parents are fully informed, and will review and monitor regularly.

Correction Deadline: 9/24/2026

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

Comment

Kitchen appears clean and well organized on this date.

Health and Hygiene

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

Comment

Proper diapering procedures observed.

Comment

Staff stated proper knowledge of diapering procedures.

Comment

Please ensure lids remain on trash containing organic waste.

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.17(8) - Please ensure that staff wash hands when transitioning from one child care area to another.

Correction Deadline: 9/24/2026

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(3) - Please ensure that there is a review of emergency drills at least every six months as required.

Correction Deadline: 9/29/2026

591-1-1-.27 Posted Notices

Met

Comment

Observed all required posted notices.

591-1-1-.29 Required Reporting

Met

Comment

Thank you for reporting as required.

Safety

591-1-1-.05 Animals

Met

Comment

Animals maintained clean and appropriately caged.

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

Met

Comment

Age-appropriate discussion and/or redirection observed.

Comment

Staff were observed to maintain a positive learning environment on this date.

591-1-1-.13 Field Trips(CR)

N/A

Comment

Center does not participate in field trips at this time.

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

Met

Correction Deadline: 3/20/2026

Corrected on 9/24/2026

.36(7)(c)2. - This citation was corrected on this date. The Consultant reviewed transportation checklists that were complete with indicators for each child transported by the center as required.

Correction Deadline: 3/20/2026

Corrected on 9/24/2026

.36(7)(c)3. - This citation was corrected on this date. The Consultant reviewed transportation checklists that were complete with all required dates and times.

Correction Deadline: 3/20/2026

Corrected on 9/24/2026

.36(7)(d)1. - This citation was corrected on this date. The Consultant reviewed transportation checklists that were complete with first checks as required.

Correction Deadline: 3/19/2026

Corrected on 9/24/2026

.36(7)(d)2. - This citation was corrected on this date. The Consultant reviewed transportation checklists that were complete with second checks as required.

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

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

Not Met

Finding

591-1-1-.30(1)(b)1 requires that cots and mats are of sound construction and of sufficient size to accommodate comfortably the size and weight of the child; and that mats are in good repair, washable, covered with a waterproof material and at least two inches (2") thick. It was determined based on observation that the mats in Bldg 2 Left Side 1st Right and Bldg 2 Left side 2nd Right measured less than one inch when at least two inches was required.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will ensure that cots and mats are of sound construction and of sufficient size to accommodate the size and weight of the child and mats are in good repair, washable, covered with a waterproof material and is at least two inches thick.

Correction Deadline: 9/24/2026

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

Correction Deadline: 3/19/2026

Corrected on 9/24/2026

.14(1)(a) - This citation was corrected on this date. All staff had valid and current first aid and CPR within the first 45 days of hire as required.

Correction Deadline: 3/19/2026

Corrected on 9/24/2026

.14(2)(b) - This citation was corrected on this date. All staff had valid and current first aid and CPR as required.

Correction Deadline: 4/18/2026

Corrected on 9/24/2026

.14(2)(d) - This citation was corrected on this date. The Center Director had valid and current first aid and CPR as required.

591-1-1-.33 Staff Training

Met

Comment

Complete documentation of transportation observed. on this date.

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.

Comment

Adequate supervision observed on this date.