



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: 6/4/2026

VisitType: Monitoring Visit

Arrival: 2:15 PM

Departure: 5:00 PM

CCLC-52077

Candy Castle Christian Childcare

5488 Highway 441 South Nicholson, GA 30565 Jackson County
 (706) 983-9350

Regional Consultant

Lynn Schnitzer

Phone: (770) 344-5683

Fax: Lynn Schnitzer

lynn.schnitzer@dec.al.ga.gov

Mailing Address

Same

Quality Rated: No

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.
06/04/2026	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
01/28/2026	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
05/15/2025	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
Main	A-1L-Infants	Infants	1	6	C	12	C	NA	NA	Floor Play
Main	B-2L-Infants		0	0	C	12	C	NA	NA	
Main	C-3R-4's & Up	Four Year Olds	1	17	C	21	C	NA	NA	Outside
Main	D-Indoor Playground	Six Year Olds and Over	1	18	C	0	NC	NA	NA	
Main	E-2R Front-1's	One Year Olds and Two Year Olds	2	16	C	22	C	NA	NA	Floor Play, Diapering
Main	F-2R Back-Indoor Playground	Three Year Olds	1	14	C	0	NC	NA	NA	
Main	G-1R-Back-3's		0	0	C	21	C	NA	NA	
Main	H-1R Front-2's	Two Year Olds and Three Year Olds	1	14	NC	21	C	NA	NA	Snack
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 109					Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					
Total # Children this Date: 85					Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					

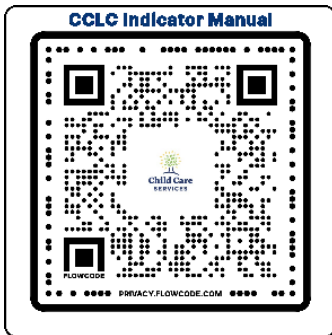
Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	Playground A-Infants, 1's & 2's	8	C
Main	Playground B-3's & Up	150	C

Enrolled Children						
Under 1 years	1 years	2 years	3 years	4 years	5 years (Prekonly)	5 years and older
6	12	15	21	21	0	30

Comments

The consultant discussed the visit report with the Director, Brittany Redmon, on June 4, 2026.

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.decal.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.decal.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)

Met

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.

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)

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 that a staff member's purse and baby wipe containers were on an open shelf within reach of children in classroom E - 2R Front - 1's. Further there were cleaning solutions on an open shelf in classroom D - 3R Back.

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: 6/4/2026

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

Not Met

Correction Deadline: 2/6/2026

Corrected on 6/4/2026

.26(4) - The previous citation was observed corrected on this date. The Consultant observed that the playground fence was in good repair.

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 there was splintered wood on the platform of the blue and yellow slide on playground B -3's & Up.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will repair the platform and daily checks of the equipment to ensure that the equipment is free of hazards, rust and splinters.

Correction Deadline: 6/14/2026

Health and Hygiene**591-1-1-.10 Diapering Areas & Practices(CR)****Met****Comment**

Proper diapering procedures observed.

591-1-1-.17 Hygiene(CR)**Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-17(7) requires that children wash their hands with liquid soap and warm running water upon arrival for care, when moving from one child care group to another, upon re-entering the child care area after outside play, before and after eating meals and snacks, handling or touching food, playing in water; after toileting and diapering, playing in sand, touching animals or pets, and contact with bodily fluids and after contamination by any other means. It was determined based on observation that the children did not wash their hands after eating their snack in classroom H - 1R Front - 2's.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will train Staff on required hand washing for children and Staff will ensure children's hands are washed when required. The Director will monitor for compliance.

Correction Deadline: 6/4/2026

591-1-1-.20 Medications(CR)**Met****Comment**

Documentation for medication dispensing observed completed on this date.

Organization**591-1-1-.16 Governing Body & License****Defer****Defer**

591-1-1-.16(f)-The previous citation was deferred due to needing to find the center's original licensing documents from the state file. .

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The director will submit an application for an amendment to add D and F as classrooms.

Correction Deadline: 6/15/2026

Recited on 1/1/0001

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)**Met****Comment**

Staff stated knowledge of SUIDS infant safe sleep requirements.

Correction Deadline: 1/28/2026

Corrected on 6/4/2026

.30(1)(b)3 - The previous citation was observed corrected on this date. The Consultant observed that there were sufficient sheets for the children's cots.

Staff Records

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

Director provided three files for employees hired since last visit January 28, 2026..

Correction Deadline: 1/28/2026

Corrected on 6/4/2026

.09(1)(a) - The previous citation was observed corrected on this date. The Consultant observed that center staff had submitted both a Records Check Application to the Department and Fingerprints to an authorized fingerprinting site.

Correction Deadline: 1/28/2026

Corrected on 6/4/2026

.09(1)(c) - The previous citation was observed corrected on this date. The Consultant observed that center staff had valid and current satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination letters on file.

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

At least one staff person with current and valid pediatric first aid and pediatric CPR observed in each classroom where children were present.

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

Correction Deadline: 3/27/2026

Corrected on 6/4/2026

.31(1)(b)2. - The previous citation was observed corrected on this date. The Consultant observed that the director had completed their 40-hour director's training on February 7, 2026.

Staffing and Supervision

591-1-1-.32 Staff:Child Ratios and Group Size(CR)**Not Met**

Correction Deadline: 1/28/2026

Corrected on 6/4/2026

.32(1) - The previous citation was observed corrected on this date. The Consultant observed that classrooms met the required staff:child ratios in single age classrooms on this date.

Finding

591-1-1-.32(2) requires the Center maintain Staff:child ratios in mixed-age groups based on the age of the youngest group of children that includes more than twenty percent of the total number of children in the mixed-age group. It was determined based on observation that the ratio was 1:14 (three 2-year-old children and eleven 3-year-old children) in classroom H - 1R Front 2's.. A ratio of 2:14 was required. Further, a center staff was left alone for approximately 30 seconds with 13 One-year-old children and two 2-year-old children in classroom E - 2R Front - 1's.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will provide adequate staff when there is a mixed-age group.

Correction Deadline: 6/4/2026

Recited on 6/4/2026

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 center staff left the children unattended on three occasions to answer the front door in classroom H - 1R Front - 2's.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center make arrangements to ensure that staff with child care duties are not monitoring the front door.

Correction Deadline: 6/4/2026