



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: 3/5/2026 **VisitType:** Complaint Investigation & Licensing **Arrival:** 8:00 AM **Departure:** 12:00 PM
Study

CCLC-37427
Childcare Network #101
 1140 Cowan Road Griffin, GA 30223 Spalding County
 (770) 227-2232

Regional Consultant
 Brandi Mangino
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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.
03/05/2026	Complaint Investigation & Licensing Study	Good Standing	
11/05/2025	POI Follow Up	Good Standing	
10/08/2025	Monitoring Visit	Support	

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- 1st Right (Infants)		0	0	C	6	C	NA	NA	Breakfast,Floor Play,Transitioning
Main	B-1st Left (Infants)	Infants and One Year Olds	1	5	C	10	C	NA	NA	Transitioning,Breakfast,Floor Play
Main	C- 2nd Left (2's)	Two Year Olds	1	6	C	19	C	NA	NA	Breakfast,Transitioning
Main	D- School Age (2nd Right)		0	0	C	20	C	NA	NA	
Main	E-3rd Right) 3's	Three Year Olds	1	8	C	18	C	NA	NA	Breakfast
Main	F- 3rd Left (1's)		0	0	C	16	C	NA	NA	
Main	G-4th Left (PreK)		0	0	C	25	C	NA	NA	
Main	H-4th Right (PreK)	GA PreK	2	12	C	26	C	NA	NA	Circle Time
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 140			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0							
Total # Children this Date: 31			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 140							
			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0							

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	A- Infant	9	C
Main	B- Playground (Toddler)	15	C
Main	D- School Age	57	C
Main	E- Preschool	22	C

Enrolled Children						
Under 1 years	1 years	2 years	3 years	4 years	5 years (Prekonly)	5 years and older
4	10	18	8	13	13	26

Comments

The purpose of the visit was to conduct a Licensing Study.

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.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 Licensing Study Visit:

Activities and Equipment

591-1-1-.03 Activities

Not Met

Finding

591-1-1-.03(8) requires a center to provide individual attention to each child by responding promptly to the child's distress signals and need for comfort. It was determined based on observation that upon arrival to the 1st Left Classroom and an infant was on the floor crying. The staff member in the class was getting kids out of chairs and handwashing, and verbally tried to console the child. Another staff member walked into the classroom, the child was still crying and gathered supplies and left. The child was left crying on the floor and no individual attention was given or assistance to the staff member in the class to help console the child.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will provide staff training in when and how to respond appropriately to children's distress signals and need for comfort.

Correction Deadline: 3/5/2026

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

Met

Comment

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

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 bathrooms throughout were not being cleaned daily in the the bottom rims of the toilets had dust and particles. It was further determined that in the 4th Left Classroom toilet paper with a brown residue was left behind the toilet.

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: 3/5/2026

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****Comment**

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

Finding

591-1-1-.25(3) requires the Center and surrounding premises to be kept clean, free of debris and in good repair. Hygienic measures such as, but not limited to, screened windows and proper waste disposal procedures shall be utilized to minimize the presence of rodents, flies, roaches and other vermin at the Center. It was determined the following items were in need of being cleaned or repaired:

2nd Left Classroom:

the area rugs were observed to be stained and had debris on them

3rd Left Classroom:

area rugs were observed to be stained with debris on them

paint on the wall was chipping to the right of the exit door to the playground

4th Left:

blue area rug was stained

paint on the wall was observed to be chipping on the far back side to the left of the playground door

bolt on the bottom of the bathroom toilet was over two threads

The floors throughout the center hallways were observed to have debris

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will have the Center and surrounding areas cleaned, make repairs where needed, and remove all debris is removed. The Center will implement a plan to keep areas clean and in good repair that includes regular monitoring.

Correction Deadline: 3/12/2026

591-1-1-.26 Playgrounds(CR)**Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.26(9) requires the playground to be kept clean, free from litter and free of hazards, such as but not limited to rocks, exposed tree roots and exposed sharp edges of concrete. It was determined based on observation that the Right side playground had gumballs throughout. It was further determined that the shade over the swings on the right side was covered in moss and in need of being cleaned.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will remove any litter and fix or remove hazards from the playground and will routinely monitor the playground and remove litter and hazards.

Correction Deadline: 3/12/2026

Food Service

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

Correction Deadline: 11/5/2025

Corrected on 3/5/2026

.15(2) - Citation observed to be corrected.

591-1-1-.18 Kitchen Operations**Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.18(8) requires that containers of food be stored above the floor on clean surfaces protected from splash and other contamination. Containers for food storage other than the original container or package in which the food was obtained shall be impervious and non-absorbent, have tight-fitting lids or covers and labeled as to contents. It was determined based on observation that canned vegetables, barbecue sauce, and mamwhich were stored on floor.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will designate an appropriate area for the storage of containers of food, will make available containers, lids, and covers, and will train Staff on proper storage and labeling.

Correction Deadline: 3/5/2026

Finding

591-1-1-.18(9) requires cleaning materials to be stored separately from food. It was determined based on observation that canned food was stored on a shelf and bottles of cleaning solution was hanging on the same shelf next to the food items.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will establish and maintain separate storage areas for food and cleaning materials.

Correction Deadline: 3/5/2026

Health and Hygiene**591-1-1-.10 Diapering Areas & Practices(CR)****Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.10(4) requires that if diapers are changed on a diaper changing surface, the surface shall be smooth, nonporous, and equipped with a guard or rails to prevent falls. Between each diaper change, the diaper changing surface shall be cleaned with a disinfectant and dried with a single-use disposable towel. It was determined based on observation that the diapering station in the 2nd Left Classroom was not properly cleaned in that dirt and debris was still present.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will ensure there is a smooth, nonporous changing surface that has a guard or rails for safety in each classroom that houses children wearing diapers. Center Staff will be trained and have adequate supplies to properly clean the diaper changing surface between each diaper change.

Correction Deadline: 3/5/2026

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

Correction Deadline: 3/5/2026

Corrected on 3/5/2026

.17(8) - Citation corrected.

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

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

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

Age-appropriate discussion and/or redirection observed.

591-1-1-.36 Transportation(CR)**Not Met****Technical Assistance**

Consultant discussed transportation training requirements and ensuring that the training is BETS approved and the two-hour training course.

Correction Deadline: 3/15/2026

Finding

591-1-1-.36(4)(b) requires that the interior of a transportation vehicle be clean, in safe repair and free of hazardous items, objects and/or other non-essential items which could cause injury. It was determined based on observation that bus ending in 2956 had the first aid kit and vinyl gloves in plastic containers in the back of the bus that were accessible to children in care and not secured.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The center will maintain that all transportation vehicles are clean, in safe repair, and free from hazards.

Correction Deadline: 3/6/2026

Finding

591-1-1-.36(7)(c)3. requires that the driver or other designated person document in writing the date and time of arrival and departure each time the vehicle departs from the Center, is loaded or unloaded at each school and when the vehicle returns to the Center; each time the vehicle departs from the Center, arrives at the location where any child is picked up or dropped off and when the vehicle returns to the Center; each time the vehicle leaves the Center, arrives at a field trip destination, leaves a field trip destination, and returns to the Center. It was determined based on a review of records that a departure time during afternoon transportation to Beaverbrook was not listed.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will ensure that each date and time of arrival and departure is documented by the driver or designated person with training, review and monitoring.

Correction Deadline: 3/6/2026

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

591-1-1-.30 Safe Sleeping and Resting Requirements(CR)**Met****Technical Assistance**

Please ensure that cots are securely covered where no climbing or tripping hazards are present.

Correction Deadline: 3/15/2026

Technical Assistance

Consultant discussed the mats in the 2nd Left Classroom would need to be replaced due to exposed foam. The room was not in use.

Correction Deadline: 3/5/2026

Staff Records

Records Reviewed: 10**Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 3**

Staff # 3

Not Met

Date of Hire: 04/29/2025

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(3)-Health & Safety Certificate,.33(5)-10 Hrs. Annual Training,.36(3)(a-b)-2 hrs. Transportation Training missing,.14(2)-First Aid Missing,.14(2)-CPR missing

Staff # 8

Not Met

Date of Hire: 06/17/2025

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.14(2)-First Aid Missing,.14(2)-CPR missing

Staff # 9

Not Met

Date of Hire: 01/27/2026

Reminder - Health & Safety training is required within 90 calendar days of hired

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.14(2)-First Aid Missing,.14(2)-CPR missing

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

591-1-1-.14(1)(b) requires the training must be done by certified or licensed health care professionals or trainers and must deal with the provision of emergency care to infants and children. It was determined based on a review of records that staff member #3, #9 and #10 were within classroom and were not certified in child/pediatric first aid and CPR.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

All caregiver Staff must successfully complete a biennial training program in cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and a triennial training program in first aid taught by certified or licensed health care professionals or trainers and must deal with the provision of emergency care to infants and children. The Director will send copies via email of verification of completed CPR/First Aid certification to the Consultant upon completion.

Correction Deadline: 4/4/2026

Finding

591-1-1-.14(2)(c) requires that during any field trip or transportation of children, there must always be a staff member present who has current evidence of the successful completion of pediatric cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and pediatric first aid. It was determined based on a review of records that staff member #3 provided transportation the week of February 9, 2026 and was not certified in pediatric first aid and CPR.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Director will schedule and/or position caregiver Staff to ensure at least one currently pediatric CPR and First Aid trained Staff person is present during all field trips or transportation of children.

Correction Deadline: 3/5/2026

591-1-1-.33 Staff Training**Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.33(3)(a)-(k) requires each Staff member with direct care responsibilities to complete health and safety orientation training within the first 90 days of employment. The state-approved training hours obtained will count toward required first year training hours. The training must address the following health and safety topics:

a) prevention and control of infectious diseases (including immunizations); b) prevention of sudden infant death syndrome and use of safe sleeping practices; c) administration of medication, consistent with standards for parental consent; d) prevention of and response to emergencies due to food and allergic reactions; e) building and physical premises safety, including identification of and protection from hazards that can cause bodily injury such as electrical hazards, bodies of water, and vehicular traffic; f) prevention of shaken baby syndrome, abusive head trauma and child maltreatment; g) emergency preparedness and response planning for emergencies resulting from a natural disaster or a human-caused event (such as violence at a child care facility); h) handling and storage of hazardous materials and the appropriate disposal of bio contaminants; i) precautions in transporting children; j) recognition and reporting of child abuse and neglect; and k) child development to include all major domains: cognitive; social and emotional; physical development and motor skills; communication, language, and literacy; and approaches to play and learning. It was determined based on a review of records that staff member #3 was hired on 2/25/2025 and the health and safety orientation on file was from 2023 and not a year within the hire date.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will develop and implement a plan to schedule and track this training for all employees based on their hire dates and will ensure that the training includes all required components as required.

Correction Deadline: 4/4/2026

Correction Deadline: 3/5/2026

Corrected on 3/5/2026

.33(5)(a) - Citation corrected.

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

Discussed that all lead staff must enroll in an approved education program within 6 months of hire and complete degree within 18 months.

Staffing and Supervision

591-1-1-.32 Staff:Child Ratios and Group Size(CR)**Met****Comment**

Center observed to maintain appropriate staff:child ratios.

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 the 2nd Left Classroom the staff member was cleaning the room and a 2-year-old had an apple sitting at the table.

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: 3/5/2026

Recited on 3/5/2026