



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: 3/23/2026 VisitType: Monitoring Visit

Arrival: 9:50 AM Departure: 3:00 PM

CCLC-67371
Foundations Early Learning Center
62 Doty Court Richmond Hill, GA 31324 Bryan County
(912) 445-9084

Regional Consultant
Kristy Turner
Phone: (470) 373-3232
Fax:
kristy.turner@dec.al.ga.gov

Mailing Address
Same

Quality Rated: No

<u>Compliance Zone Designation</u>		
03/23/2026	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing
09/17/2025	Initial Licensing Study	Good Standing

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.

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: Infant 1	Infants	3	9	C	17	C	NA	NA	Floor Play
Main	B: Infant 2	Infants and One Year Olds	1	4	C	17	C	NA	NA	Circle Time
Main	C: Toddler 1	One Year Olds	1	5	C	20	C	NA	NA	Free Play
Main	D: Toddler 2	One Year Olds	2	5	C	20	C	NA	NA	Outside
Main	E: Step Up 2	Two Year Olds	1	9	C	23	C	NA	NA	Outside
Main	F: Step Up 1	Two Year Olds	1	5	C	23	C	NA	NA	Outside
Main	G: Preschool 1	Three Year Olds	2	14	C	15	C	NA	NA	Transitioning
Main	H: Preschool 2	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	1	10	C	15	C	NA	NA	Circle Time
Main	I: Pre-K 2	Four Year Olds and Five Year Olds	1	7	C	18	C	NA	NA	Circle Time
Main	J: School Age		0	0	C	28	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Main	K: PreK 1	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds and Five Year Olds	2	10	C	18	C	NA	NA	Circle Time
			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 214			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0				
Total # Children this Date: 78			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 214			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0				

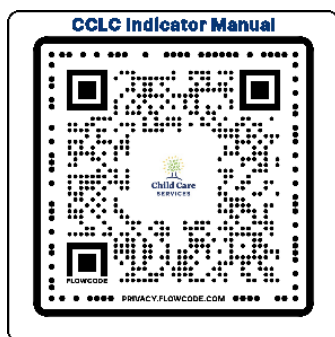
Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	A: Infants (Front)	36	C
Main	B: Preschool/Afterschool (Left)	56	C
Main	C: Twos and Threes (Back)	175	C

Enrolled Children						
Under 1 years	1 years	2 years	3 years	4 years	5 years (Prekonly)	5 years and older
19	22	16	27	18	0	11

Comments

The visit report was completed on March 23, 2026. It was discussed and reviewed with the Director Michaela Edmonds. The Consultant emailed the language and literacy training information. The Consultant emailed the technical assistance resources.

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 Monitoring Visit:

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.

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

N/A

Comment

Center does not provide swimming activities.

Facility

591-1-1-.06 Bathrooms

Technical Assistance

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.06(6) - The Consultant discussed with the Provider to ensure that all bathrooms were equipped with liquid soap and individual paper towels as required.

Correction Deadline: 3/23/2026

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

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 in the Main E: Step Up 2 classroom that the following potential hazardous equipment materials and supplies were accessible to the children in care:

- Staff member's purse was located in an unlocked cabinet door.
- Pull-ups in the original plastic packaging was located on the shelf by the phone.

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: 4/17/2026

Finding

591-1-1-.26(4) requires that playgrounds be protected from traffic or other hazards by a (4) four foot high fence or other barrier approved by this Department. Fencing material shall not present a hazard to children and shall be maintained so as to prevent children from leaving the playground area by any means other than through an approved access route. Fence gates shall be kept closed except when persons are entering or exiting the area. It was determined based on observation that on the Main C: Two and Threes (Back) Playground, the bottom left side fence near the gate was broken at the frame. Additionally, the right side fence had a detached section at the bottom.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will routinely check the fence to determine if it is in good repair and remains at least 4 feet high, and will repair any hazards. The Center will train Staff to identify and report any fence hazards and to keep the fence gates closed when not in use.

Correction Deadline: 4/17/2026

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.26(9) - The Consultant discussed with the Provider to ensure that the playground was kept clean and free of litter as required.

Correction Deadline: 3/23/2026

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

Staff stated proper knowledge of diapering procedures.

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.10(6) - The Consultant discussed with the Provider to ensure that Center Staff remove all materials that might harm a child off the diaper changing table as required.

Correction Deadline: 3/23/2026

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.10(9) - The Consultant discussed with the Provider to ensure that Center Staff do not use the area used for diapering for food preparation and to keep the diapering area clear of formulas, food, food utensils and food preparation items as required.

Correction Deadline: 3/23/2026

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

Proper hand washing observed throughout the center on this date.

591-1-1-.20 Medications(CR)**Technical Assistance****Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.20(5) - The Consultant discussed with the Provider to ensure that medicines no which are no longer to be dispensed or expired shall be returned to the child's Parent(s) immediately as required.

Correction Deadline: 3/23/2026

Policies and Procedures**591-1-1-.21 Operational Policies & Procedures****Technical Assistance****Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.21(1)(a-o) - The Consultant discussed with the Provider on updating the Center's policies and procedures include the program's practices regarding the expulsion and suspension of children enrolled for care as required.

Correction Deadline: 3/28/2026

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.21(2)(r) - New - The Provider discussed with the Provider 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.decal.ga.gov/CCS/RulesAndRegulations.aspx> or through the Center on Shaken Baby Syndrome found at: <https://dontshake.org/>

Correction Deadline: 3/28/2026

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

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

591-1-1-.36 Transportation(CR)**Technical Assistance****Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.36(7)(c)2. - The Consultant discussed with the Provider to ensure that the driver documents with a check mark each time a child exits the vehicle.

Correction Deadline: 3/24/2026

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.36(7)(d)2. - The Consultant discussed with the Provider to ensure that a second check was signed by the second designated person as required.

Correction Deadline: 3/23/2026

Sleeping & Resting Equipment**591-1-1-.30 Safe Sleeping and Resting Requirements(CR)****Met****Comment**

Discussed SIDS and infant sleeping position.

Staff Records**Records Reviewed: 28****Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 1**

Staff # 11

Not Met

Date of Hire: 12/10/2025

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

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

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

Criminal record checks were observed to be complete.

Comment

Director provided 27 Staff files for employees and 21 newly hired since the last visit.

Finding

591-1-1-.14(1)(a) requires all Staff who provide direct care to children must obtain certification in a biennial training program in pediatric cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and a triennial training program in pediatric first aid within the first 45 days of employment. Current and valid evidence of the successful completion of such training shall be maintained on the Center's premises. The hours obtained completing this certification will not count towards the required annual training hours. It was determined based on a review of records that Staff #11 hired on December 10, 2025, did not have evidence of a certification in a biennial training program in pediatric cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and a triennial training program in pediatric first aid within the first 45 days of employment as required.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

All caregiver Staff will complete the required training. The Director will send copies via email verification of completed CPR/First Aid certification to the consultant upon completion and will develop a plan to ensure all caregiver Staff have completed this training within the first 45 days of employment and that evidence of successful completion of the training is on file available for inspection.

Correction Deadline: 3/23/2026

591-1-1-.33 Staff Training**Technical Assistance****Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.33(1) - The Consultant discussed with the Provider that all Employees, including volunteers, independent contractors, students-in-training, etc. should have a completed initial program orientation form on file.

Correction Deadline: 3/23/2026

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.33(5)(b)1. - New -The Consultant discussed with the Provider that effective July 1, 2025, all staff are required to obtain at least two hours in evidence based, developmentally appropriate language and literacy practices and at least two hours in on-going child development and health and safety related topics as part of their 10 hours of annual training.

Correction Deadline: 4/22/2026

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.

591-1-1-.32 Supervision(CR)**Met****Comment**

Adequate supervision observed on this date.