



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: 4/21/2026 VisitType: Complaint Investigation Follow Up Arrival: 10:05 AM Departure: 2:20 PM

CCLC-30343

Easter Seals Head Start, Barrow County

75 Maynard Street Winder, GA 30680 Barrow County
(770) 867-6167

Regional Consultant

Lynn Schnitzer

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lynn.schnitzer@decal.ga.gov

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.
04/21/2026	Complaint Closure	Good Standing	
04/21/2026	Complaint Investigation Follow Up	Good Standing	
01/07/2026	Incident Investigation Closure	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 GA Pre K	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	2	13	C	18	C	NA	NA	Centers
Main	B 2L		0	0	C	18	C	NA	NA	
Main	C 1R GA Pre K	GA PreK	2	22	C	18	NC	NA	NA	Outside
Main	D 2R GA Pre K	GA PreK	2	17	C	18	C	NA	NA	Outside
Main	E 3R	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds and Five Year Olds	2	13	C	16	C	NA	NA	Clean Up, Transitioning
Main	F 4R	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	2	12	C	15	C	NA	NA	Outside

Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 103

Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0

Total # Children this Date: 77

Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 103

Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	PG	93	C

Comments

The consultant discussed the visit report with the Director, Mekinzie Beasley, on April 21, 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.dec.al.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

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!



Summary Report

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The following information is associated with a Complaint Investigation Follow Up:

Activities and Equipment

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

Met

Correction Deadline: 1/6/2026

Corrected on 4/21/2026

.12(2) - The previous citation was observed corrected on this date. The Consultant observed the equipment and furniture be clean and in good repair.

Facility

591-1-1-.25 Physical Plant - Safe Environment(CR)

Not Met

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.25(13) - Consultant discussed with the director to ensure that the rough edges on the paper towel container are smoothed out or covered completely in classroom D 2R GA Pre K.

Correction Deadline: 4/21/2026

Finding

591-1-1-.25(8) requires protective caps on all unused electrical outlets within children's reach and requires that electrical outlets in use be made inaccessible to children. It was determined based on observation that there were uncovered outlets in the power strip in classroom D 2R GA Pre K.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will train Staff to check outlets and replace protective caps when needed and identify and monitor how outlets in use are inaccessible to children.

Correction Deadline: 4/21/2026

Recited on 4/21/2026

Health and Hygiene

591-1-1-.07 Children's Health

Met

Correction Deadline: 1/7/2026

Corrected on 4/21/2026

.07(2) - The previous citation was observed corrected on this date. The director stated that staff have been retrained to notify administrators and parents of any incident and to write an incident report.

Policies and Procedures

Correction Deadline: 1/11/2026

Corrected on 4/21/2026

.21(3) - The previous citation was observed corrected on this date. The Consultant observed documentation that the center conducted a lock-down drill since the previous visit.

Safety

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

Met

Correction Deadline: 1/7/2026

Corrected on 4/21/2026

.36(7)(b) - The previous citation was observed corrected on this date. The Consultant observed that the emergency medical information records were completed for children receiving transportation services.

Correction Deadline: 1/7/2026

Corrected on 4/21/2026

.36(7)(c)2. - The previous citation was observed corrected on this date. The Consultant observed that center staff documented in writing when children entered and exited the vehicle.

Correction Deadline: 1/7/2026

Corrected on 4/21/2026

.36(7)(c)3. - The previous citation was observed corrected on this date. The Consultant observed that center staff documented in writing the date and time of arrival and departure each time the vehicle departs from the Center, and was loaded or unloaded.

Correction Deadline: 1/7/2026

Corrected on 4/21/2026

.36(7)(d)1. - The previous citation was observed corrected on this date. The Consultant observed that center staff documented the first check of the vehicle when arriving at and returning from transportation routes.

Correction Deadline: 1/6/2026

Corrected on 4/21/2026

.36(7)(d)2. - The previous citation was observed corrected on this date. The Consultant observed that center staff documented the second check of the vehicle when arriving at and returning from transportation routes.

Staff Records

591-1-1-.33 Staff Training

Met

Correction Deadline: 2/5/2026

Corrected on 4/21/2026

.33(5)(a) - The previous citation was observed corrected on this date. The Director stated that the corporate office is reviewing staff training to ensure that staff complete the required ten hours of annual training.