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: 7/28/2026 **VisitType:** Monitoring Visit **Arrival:** 8:30 AM **Departure:** 11:00 AM

CCLC-65386
Life Springs Academy
10608 Highway 109 Zebulon, GA 30295 Pike County
(770) 567-3921

Regional Consultant
Brandi Mangino
Phone: (404) 548-4987
Fax:
brandi.mangino@decal.ga.gov

Mailing Address
Same

Quality Rated: No

Compliance Zone Designation		
07/28/2026	Monitoring Visit	Support
02/09/2026	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing
07/16/2025	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

Total # Children this Date: Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.:

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance

Enrolled Children

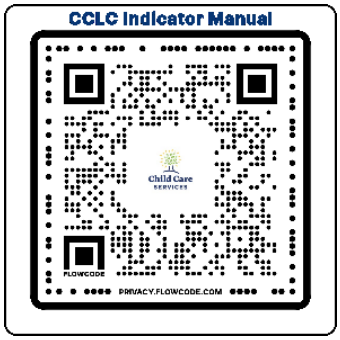
Under 1 years	1 years	2 years	3 years	4 years	5 years (Prekonly)	5 years and older
0	0	21	15	1	0	44

Comments
The purpose of the visit was to conduct a Monitoring Visit.

A 1-day letter was left on this date for one staff member.

A plan of Improvement will be submitted by August 11, 2026, the plan will include the date of correction, how the rule was corrected and how the rule will be maintained going forward.

Plan of Improvement: To Be Submitted 08/11/2026



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.



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.decal.ga.gov.

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@decal.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-.03 Activities **Technical Assistance**

Technical Assistance
Please ensure that each class had a daily schedule and lesson plans, even for the summer months.

Correction Deadline: 7/28/2026

591-1-1-.12 Equipment & Toys(CR) **Not Met**

Comment
Discussed adding equipment and toys to enhance variety in the classrooms to ensure that all center area and requirements are being met. The toys will need to be added by August 3, 2026.

Finding
591-1-1-.12(6) requires that a variety of age-appropriate toys and play materials be available, stored on low, open shelves accessible to children in each room or assigned area. It was determined based on observation that in Room 5 a block shelf was turned toward the wall and the toys were not accessible to children.

Correction Deadline: 8/27/2026

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 the following hazards were accessible to children in care:

Room 1 (Gym):
extension cord
grocery bag in the cubbies

Room 2:
hand sanitizer
vacuum
lysol wipes
glade bags
unknown cleaner
glade plug in
fragrance oil and burner

Room 3:
hand sanitizer
stapler

Room 6:
stapler
glade plug in refills

Room 8:
Expo markers
staplers
staples

Room 9:
glade plug in

Room 10:
plastic bags in the cubbies
stapler
hand sanitizer

Correction Deadline: 7/28/2026

Technical Assistance
Consultant disucssed:
Room 4:
gray carpet was in need of being cleaned

Room 8:
Alphabet rug was in need of being cleaned

Room 9:
both rugs were in need of being cleaned

Correction Deadline: 7/28/2026

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

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 fencing on both playground were not meeting the rule requirements in that area were measuring about two and half feet to three feet.

Correction Deadline: 7/28/2026

Finding
591-1-1-.26(8) requires climbing and swinging equipment to have a resilient surface beneath the equipment and the fall zone from such equipment must be adequately maintained by the Center to assure continuing resilient. It was determined based on observation that resilient surfacing on the back left playground was inadequate in that one inch was observed in areas around the slide when up to six inches is required.

Correction Deadline: 8/7/2026

Food Service

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

Correction Deadline: 2/9/2026

Corrected on 7/28/2026
.15(1) - Citation corrected and discussed with director

Correction Deadline: 2/9/2026

Corrected on 7/28/2026
.15(2)(g) - Citation corrected. Food sizes discussed with the director

Correction Deadline: 2/9/2026

Corrected on 7/28/2026
.15(4) - Citation corrected.

Health and Hygiene

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

Correction Deadline: 2/9/2026

Corrected on 7/28/2026
.10(4) - Citation corrected. Diapering requirements discussed.

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

Comment
Please ensure lids remain on trash containing organic waste.

Correction Deadline: 7/28/2026

Corrected on 7/28/2026
.17(6) - Citation corrected.

Correction Deadline: 2/9/2026

Corrected on 7/28/2026
.17(7) - Citation corrected.

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

Comment
Per the center no medication has been dispensed since the last regulatory visit.

Organization

591-1-1-.16 Governing Body & License **Met**

Correction Deadline: 7/28/2026

Corrected on 7/28/2026
.16(f) - Citation corrected.

Safety

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

Comment
Age-appropriate discussion and/or redirection observed.

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

Finding
591-1-1-.36(7)(d)2. requires that the second designated Staff person conduct a check of the vehicle immediately upon the completion of the first check of the vehicle. The responsible person shall physically walk through the entire vehicle; visually inspect all seat surfaces, under all seats and in all compartments or recesses in the vehicle's interior; and sign the passenger transportation checklist(s), indicating all of the children have exited the vehicle. There shall be continuous watchful oversight of the vehicle between the first check and second check. It was determined based on a review of records that on July 23, 2026, a field trip was taken to Columbus Coco-cola Space Science Center and a second check was not completed during the duration of the trip.

Correction Deadline: 7/28/2026

Recited on 7/28/2026

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

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

Technical Assistance
Please ensure the cots within classrooms are covered.

Correction Deadline: 8/7/2026

Staff Records

591-1-1-.09 Criminal Records and Comprehensive Background Checks(CR) **Not Met**

Finding
591-1-1-.09(1)(c) requires the Center to ensure that every Employee has a valid and current satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination on file prior to being present at the Center while any child is present for care or before an individual age 17 or older resides in the Center. The Comprehensive Records Check Determination must have a Records Check Clearance Date that is no older than the preceding 12 months of the hire date; provided, however, if the Employee has had a lapse of employment from the child care industry that lasted for 180 days (6 months) or longer, a new satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination is required. It was determined based on a review of records on staff member had an expired background check on July 22, 2026, and was present around check for a field trip on July 23,2026.

Correction Deadline: 7/28/2026

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**

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) **Not Met**

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 mealtime 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 a staff member in Room 7 was not seated while two 2-year-old children were eating breakfast. It was further determined, in Room 1, the children were running around and the staff member was on the phone texting. It was further determined, that in Room 6, a child walked out to the cubbies and the staff walked to the door and then back in the classroom leaving the child unsupervised.

Correction Deadline: 7/28/2026

Recited on 7/28/2026