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: 4/9/2026 **VisitType:** Licensing Study **Arrival:** 9:20 AM **Departure:** 11:50 AM

CCLC-51677
Rocking Horse Childcare Center
40 A Harold Ragan Drive Blakely, GA 39823 Early County
(229) 723-6498

Regional Consultant
Angela Williams-Jackson
Phone: (404) 710-3984
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Mailing Address
Same

Quality Rated:

Compliance Zone Designation		
04/09/2026	Licensing Study	Good Standing
10/21/2025	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing
02/04/2025	LS POI Follow Up	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	E:1L	Six Year Olds and Over	1	3	C	7	C	NA	NA	TV
Main	Room A	Infants and One Year Olds	1	3	C	15	C	NA	NA	Floor Play
Main	Room B		0	0	C	19	C	NA	NA	
Main	Room C	Two Year Olds	1	5	C	21	C	NA	NA	Free Play
Main	Room D	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	1	6	C	26	C	NA	NA	Circle Time
		Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 88			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					
Total # Children this Date: 17		Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 88			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	Playground A (Infant)	13	C
Main	Playground B (Toddler)	12	C
Main	Playground C (3 - 12 yrs)	38	C

Enrolled Children

Under 1 years	1 years	2 years	3 years	4 years	5 years (Prekonly)	5 years and older
1	2	8	4	9	6	10

Comments
The Center was left with repeated citations. The Consultant discussed the Chop, Look, Listen information with the Director.

CCLC Indicator Manual

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

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.decal.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@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 Licensing Study:

Activities and Equipment

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

Correction Deadline: 11/20/2025

Corrected on 4/9/2026
The previous citation was observed corrected on this date. The children had access to all toys and play materials.

591-1-1-.35 Swimming Pools & Water-related Activities(CR) **N/A**

Comment
Center does not provide swimming activities.

Children's Records

Records Reviewed: 5	**Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 4**

Child # 1 Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.08(1)-Allergies and Disabilities,.08(1)-Doctor, Clinic, Phone Numbers,.08(1)-Emergency Contact information Missing

Child # 2 Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.08(1)-Emergency Contact information Missing,.08(1)-Doctor, Clinic, Phone Numbers,.08(1)-Allergies and Disabilities

Child # 3 Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.08(1)-Address Missing,.08(1)-Allergies and Disabilities,.08(1)-DOB Missing,.08(1)-Doctor, Clinic, Phone Numbers,.08(1)-Emergency Contact information Missing,.08(1)-Living arrangements if not with both parents,.08(1)-Name of School,.08(1)-Name Missing,.08(1)-No Record,.08(1)-Parent Names, Work Numbers,.08(1)-Sex Missing

Child # 4 Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.08(1)-Allergies and Disabilities,.08(1)-Doctor, Clinic, Phone Numbers

591-1-1-.08 Children's Records — Not Met

Finding
591-1-1-.08(1) requires the Center Staff to maintain a file for each child while such child is in care and for one year after that child is no longer enrolled. In order for the file to be complete, the file shall contain the following: child's name, birth date, sex, address, living arrangement, name of school if applicable; names of both Parents, home and work addresses, and home and work telephone numbers; name(s) and addresses of the person(s) to whom the child may be released including address, telephone numbers, relationship to child and to Parent(s), and other identifying information; name(s) and telephone number(s) of person(s) to contact in emergencies when the Parent cannot be reached; name and telephone number of the child's primary source of health care; and a statement regarding known allergies, physical problems, mental health disorders, intellectual disabilities or developmental disabilities which limit the child's participation in the program. It was determined based on a review of records that four out of five children's records were missing allergies, physician, person(s) to be released to, and emergency contact information as required.

POI (Plan of Improvement)
Center staff will develop a plan that includes how to obtain all required information for currently enrolled children and how to ensure this is done for future enrollees as well. The plan will also include how and where to maintain files for the required amount of time. The plan will be implemented and followed.

Correction Deadline: 4/9/2026

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 the two toilets in Room D were with green stains on the silver pipes and debris on the toilet seats and the back of the toilet bowl posing a sanitation hazard.

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: 4/9/2026

591-1-1-.19 License Capacity(CR) — Met

Comment
Licensed capacity observed to be routinely met by the 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 were accessible to children posing a hazard:
Room B
- There was bleach, Lysol spray, and hand lotion on the yellow counters.

Room D
- Inside the bathroom were grocery bags on top of low shelves.

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: 4/9/2026

Technical Assistance
The Consultant discussed with the Director to the debris inside the sink at the back of Room E: 1L is maintained and the mats on the floor in Room A.

Correction Deadline: 4/9/2026

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 in Room E: 1L near the television there were two loose hanging cords and a surge plug plugged into an outlet with no protective caps posing a strangulation and electrocution hazard. Additionally, on the right side of the back of the room were black loose hanging cords.

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: 4/9/2026

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 on playground A there were four wood planks missing from the fence posing an entrapment hazard.

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: 4/9/2026

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 following were accessible to children on the playground posing a safety hazard:
Playground A
- A yellow water house laying across the ground.
- Active spider and web on the green slide.

Playground B
- Had large rocks throughout the ground near the back door that leads to classroom C.
- The concrete near the back door of classroom C was not flush with the resilient surface on the left side, right side and the front side posing a tripping hazard to children.

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: 4/16/2026

Recited on 4/9/2026

Food Service

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 there were a pan of mashed potatoes and a bowl of watermelon inside the refrigerator not properly stored without lids posing a contamination hazard.

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: 4/9/2026

Health and Hygiene

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

Correction Deadline: 10/21/2025

Corrected on 4/9/2026
The previous citation was observed corrected on this date. There were no changing pads on the changing tables.

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

Finding
591-1-1-.17(2) requires that Personnel, to the extent possible, keep children clean, dry and comfortable. It was determined based on observation there were two 1-year-old children in Room A with running noses posing a hazard.

POI (Plan of Improvement)
The Center will train staff, review regularly, and monitor.

Correction Deadline: 4/9/2026

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

Comment
The Provider currently does not dispense or administer medication.

Policies and Procedures

591-1-1-.21 Operational Policies & Procedures **Not Met**

Finding
591-1-1-.21(3) requires that the Center conduct drills for fire, tornado and other emergency situations. The fire drills will be conducted monthly and tornado and other emergency situation drills will be conducted every six months. The Center shall maintain documentation of the dates and times of these drills for two years. It was determined based on observation that the Center did not have evidence of the smoke detector check and fire extinguisher check conducted February 2026 through March 2026 as required.

POI (Plan of Improvement)
The Center will hold the drills as required and keep the documentation of the drills on file for two years.

Correction Deadline: 4/14/2026

Safety

591-1-1-.05 Animals **N/A**

Comment
Center does not keep animals on the premises.

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

Comment
Age-appropriate discussion and redirection observed.

591-1-1-.13 Field Trips(CR) **N/A**

Comment
Center does not participate in field trips at this time.

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
Discussed SIDS and infant sleeping position.

Staff Records

Staff # 2 Not Met

Date of Hire: 01/09/2024

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.31(2)(b)2.-Staff Qualifications-Education Missing

Staff # 5 Not Met

Date of Hire: 02/12/2024

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.31(2)(b)2.-Staff Qualifications-Education Missing

Staff # 6 Not Met

Date of Hire: 03/23/2026

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

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.31(2)(b)2.-Staff Qualifications-Education Missing

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

Comment
Director provided one file for employees hired since the last visit.

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-.33 Staff Training **Met**

Comment
Documentation observed of required staff training.

591-1-1-.31 Staff(CR) **Not Met**

Finding
591-1-1-.31(2)(c) requires the Center to maintain a copy and/or written verification of the credential or degree awarded to the lead teacher that is required by these rules in the lead teacher's file, to make the document available for inspection and to provide the document to Department staff upon request. It was determined based on observation that a lead teacher, staff member #2, #5, and #6, in Room A, Room C, and Room E: 1: did not have evidence of educational credentials as required.

POI (Plan of Improvement)
The Center will review lead teacher records to ensure the required documentation is on file and will obtain and file it if not found.

Correction Deadline: 5/7/2026

Recited on 4/9/2026

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.