



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: 7/16/2026 **VisitType:** Licensing Study

Arrival: 10:05 AM **Departure:** 12:15 PM

CCLC-35740

The Learning Center

1518 Huie Road Lake City, GA 30260 Clayton County
(770) 960-1999

Regional Consultant

Nadia Bernard

Phone: (470) 512-2177

Fax:

nadia.bernard@dec.al.ga.gov

Mailing Address

Same

Quality Rated: ★ ★

<u>Compliance Zone Designation</u>			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.
07/16/2026	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
01/21/2026	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
08/06/2025	Licensing Study	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	Rm. A- Infants	Infants and One Year Olds	1	3	C	19	C	NA	NA	Floor Play, Feeding
Main	Rm. B- Afterschool	Six Year Olds and Over	1	12	C	18	C	NA	NA	TV
Main	Rm. C: 18mth - 2yrs	Two Year Olds and Three Year Olds	1	4	C	19	C	NA	NA	Centers
Main	Rm. D	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	1	7	C	20	C	NA	NA	Transitioning
			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 76			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0				
Total # Children this Date: 26			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 76			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0				

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	A- Infants - 1yrs	6	C
Main	B-2 TO 3yrs	54	C

Enrolled Children						
Under 1 years	1 years	2 years	3 years	4 years	5 years (Prekonly)	5 years and older
2	4	2	3	10	0	33

Comments

The report was reviewed and emailed to the director.

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!



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Summary Report

Date: 7/16/2026 VisitType: Licensing Study

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The following information is associated with a Licensing Study:

Activities and Equipment

591-1-1-.03 Activities

Met

Comment

Discussed enhancing daily schedule with planned activities.

Comment

Lesson Plans were observed to be posted and reflected the current weeks activities in each classroom.

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

Met

Comment

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

Comment

Equipment and furniture observed to be properly secured, as applicable.

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

Met

Comment

Swimming activities provided off site.

Children's Records

591-1-1-.08 Children's Records

Met

Comment

Records were observed to be complete and well organized.

Facility

591-1-1-.06 Bathrooms

Met

Comment

Bathrooms observed to be clean and well maintained.

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

Met

Comment

Licensed capacity observed to be routinely met by center on this date.

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 based on observation that the following items need attention:

Room A- The exhaust fan was dusty and needed to be cleaned.

Room C- The exhaust fan was dusty and needed to be cleaned.

Room D- The exhaust fan in the bathroom was dusty and needed to be cleaned.

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: 7/30/2026

Recited on 7/16/2026

591-1-1-.26 Playgrounds(CR)

Not Met

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 resiliency. It was determined based on observation that Playground A and B had 2 inches of resilient surface around fall zones when 6 inch of resilient surface was required.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will add additional resilient surfacing to the fall zones where needed and check daily, adding resilient surfacing as needed to maintain adequate resiliency.

Correction Deadline: 7/31/2026

Recited on 7/16/2026

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 Playground A and B had exposed tree roots causing a potential tripping hazard.

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. Please spray paint exposed roots.

Correction Deadline: 7/24/2026

Recited on 7/16/2026

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

Met

Comment

Center menu meets USDA guidelines.

591-1-1-.18 Kitchen Operations

Met

Comment

Kitchen appears clean and well organized on this date.

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

Met

Comment

Staff stated proper knowledge of diapering procedures.

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

Staff were observed to remind children to wash hands on this date.

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

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

Policies and Procedures	
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591-1-1-.21 Operational Policies & Procedures	Met
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Comment

Program observed complete emergency drills

591-1-1-.27 Posted Notices	Met
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Comment

Observed all required posted notices.

591-1-1-.29 Required Reporting	Met
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Comment

Discussed reporting requirements.

Safety	
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591-1-1-.05 Animals	N/A
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Comment

Center does not keep animals on premises.

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

Age-appropriate discussion and/or redirection observed.

591-1-1-.13 Field Trips(CR)	Met
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Comment

Please denote the full address of field trip destination.

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

591-1-1-.36(4)(a)- Evaluation of the previous citation was deferred on this date to the next regulatory visit. The vehicle used to transport children was not located at the Center.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will obtain the annual vehicle inspection.

Correction Deadline: 1/30/2026

Defer

591-1-1-.36(4)(b)- Evaluation of the previous citation was deferred on this date to the next regulatory visit. The vehicle used to transport children was not located at the Center.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

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

Correction Deadline: 1/30/2026

Defer

591-1-1-.36(4)(c)- Evaluation of the previous citation was deferred on this date to the next regulatory visit. The vehicle used to transport children was not located at the Center.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The center will ensure that each vehicle has a working fire extinguisher and that the fire extinguisher is kept out of reach of children.

Correction Deadline: 1/30/2026

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

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

Met

Comment

Discussed SIDS and infant sleeping position.

Comment

The correct number of mats, sheets and blankets were observed on this date. Cleaning and disinfecting of mats was discussed with the director on this date.

Staff Records

Records Reviewed: 10

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 1

Staff # 9

Not Met

Date of Hire: 10/31/2022

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(5)-10 Hrs. Annual Training

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

Met

Comment

Criminal record checks were observed to be complete.

591-1-1-.09 Criminal Records Check(CR)

Met

Comment

Director provided three file(s) for employees hired since last visit.

591-1-1-.14 First Aid & CPR(CR)

Not Met

Finding

591-1-1-.14(2)(b) requires that there must always be one staff person present in each classroom where children are present that has current and valid pediatric cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and pediatric first aid training. It was determined based on a observation that Staff # 10 in Room B - Afterschool and Staff # 3 in Room- 18mth- 2 yrs did not have current and valid pediatric cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and pediatric first aid training while children were present.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Director will schedule and/or position caregiver Staff throughout the Center to ensure at least one currently pediatric CPR and First Aid trained Staff person is present in each classroom where children are present.

Correction Deadline: 7/24/2026

591-1-1-.33 Staff Training

Not Met

Finding

591-1-1-.33(5)(a) requires that every calendar year after the first year of employment, all supervisory and caregiver Personnel, except independent contractors, Students-in-Training and volunteers, shall attend ten (10) clock hours of diverse training which is offered by an accredited college, university or vocational program or other Department-approved source. It was determined based on a review of records that Staff # 9 did complete annual training for the year 2025.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will plan and schedule the required 10 hours of annual training each year and follow up to ensure the training is completed.

Correction Deadline: 12/31/2026

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.