



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: 8/18/2026 **VisitType:** Monitoring Visit

Arrival: 11:55 AM **Departure:** 2:00 PM

CCLC-26100

First Baptist Church Children's Learning Center

311 N. Thornton Ave. Dalton, GA 30720 Whitfield County
(706) 226-3906

Regional Consultant

Megan OMary

Phone: (770) 876-1180

Fax:

megan.omary@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.
08/18/2026	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
01/21/2026	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
09/25/2025	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	101	Two Year Olds and Three Year Olds	2	9	C	11	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main	102	One Year Olds	1	5	C	8	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main	103	Two Year Olds	1	10	C	10	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main	104	One Year Olds	2	5	C	8	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main	107	One Year Olds	1	6	C	11	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main	110	Two Year Olds	4	11	C	14	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main	113	Three Year Olds	2	11	C	13	C	NA	NA	Outside
Main	114	Infants	3	10	C	14	C	NA	NA	Transitioning, Nap
Main	115	GA PreK	2	9	C	17	C	NA	NA	Outside
Main	116	Three Year Olds	2	10	C	18	C	NA	NA	Transitioning
Main	117	Infants and One Year Olds	3	5	C	18	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main	118	Three Year Olds	2	9	C	16	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main	Upstairs-211		0	0	C	14	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Main	Upstairs-212		0	0	C	15	C	NA	NA	
Main	Upstairs-213		0	0	C	15	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Main	Upstairs-214		0	0	C	12	C	NA	NA	Not In Use

Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 214

Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0

Total # Children this Date: 100

Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 214

Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0

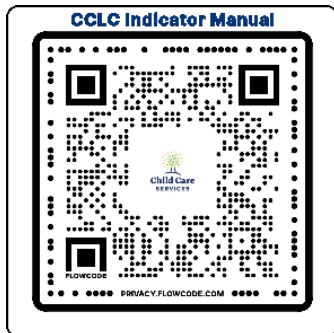
Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	Playground	88	C

Enrolled Children					
Infant (0-12 months)	Toddler (1-2 yrs)	Preschool (3-5yrs/full time care)	School Age (before/after care only)	GA PreK only	Summer Only
12	56	47	0	0	0

Comments

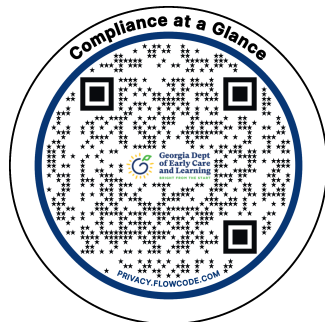
The findings of this report were reviewed with the Director.

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.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.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

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The following information is associated with a Monitoring Visit:

Activities and Equipment

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

Technical Assistance

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.12(1) - Please ensure the table in Room 117 has straps at each seat before children sit there to be fed.

Correction Deadline: 8/18/2026

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

Met

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)

Met

Correction Deadline: 1/23/2026

Corrected on 8/18/2026

.25(13) - The previous citation was observed correct on this date. There were no hazards in any classrooms.

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

Met

Comment

Playground observed to be clean and in good repair on this date.

Food Service

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

Met

Correction Deadline: 1/21/2026

Corrected on 8/18/2026

.15(3) - The previous citation was observed corrected on this date. There was not a crock pot in Room 117.

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****Comment**

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

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

Documentation for medication dispensing observed completed on this date.

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)**Met****Comment**

Center does not provide routine transportation.

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

Pleasant naptime environment observed.

Staff Records**Records Reviewed: 51****Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 4**

Staff # 10

Not Met

Date of Hire: 07/24/2017

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.09-Criminal Records Check Missing,.09-Criminal Records Check Dissatisfied

Staff # 17

Not Met

Date of Hire: 05/07/2021

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.09-Criminal Records Check Missing,.09-Criminal Records Check Dissatisfied

Staff # 33

Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.09-Criminal Records Check Missing,.09-Criminal Records Check Dissatisfied

Staff # 40

Not Met

Date of Hire: 02/26/2021

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.09-Criminal Records Check Missing,.09-Criminal Records Check Dissatisfied

Finding

591-1-1-.09(1)(a) requires that a Center ensure that every actual and potential Director, Employee and Provisional Employee of a Child Care Learning Center submit both a Records Check Application to the Department and Fingerprints to an authorized fingerprinting site. It was determined based on observation Staff #33 with a hire date January 30, 2026 did not have a satisfactory criminal records check or updated fingerprints on file.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

IMMEDIATE CORRECTION - The Center will [] to ensure that every actual and potential Director, Employee and Provisional Employee of a Child Care Learning Center submit both a Records Check Application to the Department and Fingerprints to an authorized fingerprinting site as required. The program's owner or an officer/member of the corporation must view the A to Z Background Check video units pertaining to this records check rule and return the signed affidavit within one week from this visit date. The Center will [] to ensure the CRC rules are maintained.

Correction Deadline: 8/18/2026

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 observation Staff #17 with a hire date of May 7, 2021, Staff #33 with a hire date of January 30, 2026 and Staff #40 with a hire date of February 26, 2021 did not have proof of a satisfactory criminal records check or fingerprints on file.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

IMMEDIATE CORRECTION - The Center will [] 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. The program's owner or an officer/member of the corporation must view the A to Z Background Check video units pertaining to this records check rule and return the signed affidavit within one week from this visit date. The center will [] to ensure the CRC rules are maintained.

Correction Deadline: 8/18/2026

Finding

591-1-1-.09(1)(l)3. requires the Center to immediately require a new Comprehensive Records Check Determination for a Director, Employee or Provisional Employee at least once every five years. It was determined based on observation Staff #17, with a hire date of May 7, 2021 and Staff #40 with a hire date of February 26, 2021 did not have a satisfactory criminal records check on file.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

IMMEDIATE CORRECTION - The Center will [] to ensure that each Director, Employee and Provisional Employee has a Comprehensive Records Check Determination on file that has been issued within the past five years. The program's owner or an officer/member of the corporation must view the A to Z Background Check video units pertaining to this records check rule and return the signed affidavit within one week from this visit date. The Center will [] to ensure CRC rules are maintained.

Correction Deadline: 8/18/2026

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

Met

Correction Deadline: 2/20/2026

Corrected on 8/18/2026

.14(1) - The previous citation was observed corrected on this date. All staff became CPR and First certified on August 3, 2026.

591-1-1-.31 Staff(CR)

Met

Comment

Staff observed to be compliant with applicable laws and regulations.

Staffing and Supervision

Comment

Center observed to maintain appropriate staff:child ratios.

Correction Deadline: 1/21/2026

Corrected on 8/18/2026

.32(7) - The previous citation was observed corrected on this date. Staff stated proper knowledge of mealtime supervision.