



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: 3/25/2026 **VisitType:** MV POI Follow Up

Arrival: 10:50 AM **Departure:** 2:45 PM

CCLC-35299

Apple Tree Prep

810 Olympic Drive Athens, GA 30601 Clarke County
(706) 546-9446

CCS Coordinator

Margarita Collier

Phone: (770) 342-7934

Fax: (678) 891-5989

margarita.collier@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.
03/25/2026	MV POI Follow Up	Good Standing	
12/24/2025	Incident Investigation Closure	Good Standing	
11/14/2025	Incident Investigation & Follow Up	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	1L	Infants	2	8	C	18	C	NA	NA	Feeding,Nap,Free Play,Floor Play
Main	1R	GA PreK	2	16	C	20	C	NA	NA	Outside,Transitioning,Nap,Lunch
Main	2L	Infants and One Year Olds	1	5	C	17	C	NA	NA	Story,Transitioning,Lunch,Circle Time
Main	2R	Three Year Olds	2	20	C	20	C	NA	NA	Lunch
Main	3L	One Year Olds	1	8	C	21	C	NA	NA	Lunch
Main	3R	Four Year Olds	1	6	C	22	C	NA	NA	Transitioning,Lunch,Nap
Main	4L	One Year Olds	1	8	C	19	C	NA	NA	Transitioning,Lunch
Main	5L	Three Year Olds	1	15	C	20	C	NA	NA	Lunch,Nap,Transitioning
Main	6L	Two Year Olds	2	19	C	20	C	NA	NA	Nap
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 177					Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					
Total # Children this Date: 105					Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					

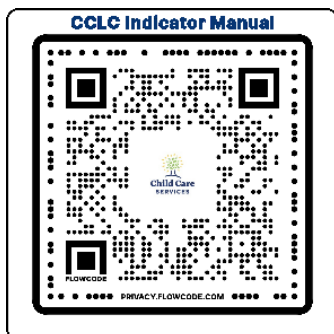
Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	Playground A - Infant/Toddler	25	C
Main	Playground B - Preschool	48	C
Main	Playground C - Field	38	C

Comments

Discussed the following with the Director during the visit:

- Chop, Look, Listen Handouts.
- Updated care learning center indicator manual
- Discussed the amendment process for Playground C-Field

Plan of Improvement: No Plan Developed



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.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

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.dec.al.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@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 MV POI Follow Up:

Activities and Equipment

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

Technical Assistance

Technical Assistance

Discussed monitoring toys and equipment for normal wear and tear.

Correction Deadline: 3/25/2026

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

Technical Assistance

Discussed hazardous items being stored in a locked cabinet and/or container inaccessible to the children.

Correction Deadline: 3/25/2026

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 observation that the toilet tissue holder was not secured to the wall located in the first back-right restroom in classroom 3R.

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. The Center will repair the toilet tissue holder in classroom 3R and will monitor the tissue holders in each restroom for normal wear and tear.

Correction Deadline: 3/25/2026

Technical Assistance

Per the Director, Playground C-Field has not been used by the Center since the summer of 2025. The Consultant discussed submitting an amendment to have Playground C-Field removed from the Center's licensed space via DECAL KOALA (amendment type capacity decrease) to ensure that the playground area is no longer counted as licensed space.

Correction Deadline: 3/25/2026

Food Service

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

Technical Assistance

Technical Assistance

Discussed ensuring that infant bottles are labeled with the child's first and last name.

Correction Deadline: 3/25/2026

Health and Hygiene

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

Met

Correction Deadline: 12/24/2025

Corrected on 3/25/2026

The previous citation was observed to be corrected. Staff were retrained regarding parental notification of children's injuries and/or discomfort. Furthermore, Staff are required to notify the Director or any potential incidents to ensure parents are notified in a timely manner.

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

Technical Assistance

Technical Assistance

Discussed monitoring the diaper changing pads for normal wear and tear.

Correction Deadline: 3/25/2026

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

Met

Correction Deadline: 12/24/2025

Corrected on 3/25/2026

The previous citation was observed to be corrected. Staff were observed to ensure that all children were clean, dry, and comfortable. Staff were observed to change children's diapers as needed and clean the children as needed during mealtime.

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

N/A

Comment

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

Safety

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

Met

Comment

Age-appropriate discussion and/or redirection observed.

Comment

Staff were observed to maintain a positive learning environment on this date.

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

Pleasant naptime environment observed.

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: 16****Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 1**

Staff # 12

Not Met

Date of Hire: 12/04/2023

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.14(2)-First Aid Missing,.14(2)-CPR missing

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

The Director provided six files for staff hired since the previous visit was conducted on November 14, 2025. The Consultant observed six of six newly hired Staff to have evidence of a current satisfactory comprehensive determination letter on file.

591-1-1-.14 First Aid & CPR(CR)**Not Met****Correction Deadline: 10/23/2025****Corrected on 3/25/2026**

The previous citation was observed to be corrected. The Consultant observed all Staff providing care for the children in each classroom to have evidence of a current first aid and CPR card on file.

Finding

591-1-1-.14(2)(d) requires the Center Director must have current evidence of successful completion of pediatric cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and pediatric first aid at all times. It was determined based on review of records that Staff #12, date of hire December 4, 2023, did not have evidence of a current first aid and CPR training card on file. Staff #12's previous first aid and CPR training card expired on March 4, 2026.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center Director must successfully complete a biennial training program in cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and a triennial training program in first aid taught by certified or licensed health care professionals or trainers and must deal with the provision of emergency care to infants and children. The Director will send copies via email of verification of completed CPR/First Aid certification to the Consultant upon completion. The Director has a first aid and CPR training class scheduled for April 2026.

Correction Deadline: 4/24/2026**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****Correction Deadline: 12/24/2025****Corrected on 3/25/2026**

The previous citation was observed to be corrected. The Consultant observed all Staff to provide direct supervision and attention to the children present for care during the visit.