



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: 8/4/2026

VisitType: Licensing Study

Arrival: 9:30 AM Departure: 3:00 PM

CCLC-304

Kids Haven

5480 Bells Ferry Rd. Acworth, GA 30102 Cherokee County
(770) 926-4937

Application Services Unit Consultant

Kedirile Knott

Phone: (470) 426-7314

Fax:

kedirile.knott@dec.al.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.
08/04/2026	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
01/14/2026	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
07/17/2025	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
			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	1L	Three Year Olds	1	4	C	20	C	NA	NA	Centers
Main	1R	GA PreK	3	13	C	21	C	NA	NA	Centers
Main	2L	Two Year Olds	1	6	C	15	C	NA	NA	Art
Main	2R	GA PreK	2	14	C	26	C	NA	NA	Circle Time
Main	3L	Infants and One Year Olds and Two Year Olds and Six Year Olds and Over	1	6	C	12	C	NA	NA	Free Play,Feeding
Main	Middle Back	Infants	1	2	C	12	C	NA	NA	Floor Play,Nap

Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 106

Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0

Total # Children this Date: 45

Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 106

Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0

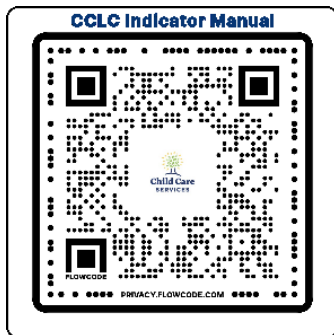
Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	A- Middle PG	35	C
Main	B- Left PG	12	C
Main	C-Right PG	90	C

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
4	12	8	1	28	0

Comments

The exit conference was conducted 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!



Summary Report

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The following information is associated with a Licensing Study:

Activities and Equipment

591-1-1-.03 Activities

Met

Comment

Age-appropriate activities observed throughout the Center.

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

Technical Assistance

Comment

A variety of equipment and toys were observed throughout the Center.

Technical Assistance

Please ensure that all toys and furniture that were not in good repair are repaired or replaced in all classrooms. The following equipment was discussed:

- Classroom 1R: There was a blue chair that was peeling in the manipulative area, and there was a blue couch that was peeling in the library area.

- Classroom 2L: There was a torn blue chair in the library area.

Correction Deadline: 8/4/2026

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

N/A

Comment

Per the Director, the Center does not provide swimming activities.

Children's Records

Records Reviewed: 5

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 3

Child # 1

Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.08(1)-Emergency Contact information Missing

Child # 2

Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.08(1)-Emergency Contact information Missing

Child # 5

Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.08(1)-Emergency Contact information Missing

Comment

Parent agreements observed obtained/completed.

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 child #1, child #2, and child #3 did not have name(s) and telephone numbers of who to contact in emergencies when the Parent cannot be reached.

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: 8/7/2026

Technical Assistance

Discussed ensuring that children's daily arrival and departure times were correctly recorded each time the Parent or authorized person dropped off and picked up the child. Discussed that the newly opened Georgia Pre-K Classrooms 1R and 2R had missing daily arrival and departure times for children during August 3, 2026, and August 4, 2026.

Correction Deadline: 8/4/2026

	Facility
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591-1-1-.06 Bathrooms

Not Met

Comment

Please monitor bathrooms for necessary supplies.

Finding

591-1-1-.06(4) requires a Center first licensed after March 1, 1991, and Centers that remodel or add to existing plumbing facilities, to have the bathroom area fully enclosed and ventilated to the outside of the building with either an open screened window or functioning exhaust fan and duct system and requires Centers without fully enclosed bathrooms to ensure there is adequate ventilation to control odors and adequate sanitation measures to prevent the spread of contagious diseases. It was determined based on observation that the bathrooms in Classroom 1L; Classroom 2L; Classroom 1R; and Classroom 2R did not have operable exhaust fans.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will fully enclose and ventilate bathroom areas, as required, and will provide adequate ventilation and sanitation in bathrooms that are not fully enclosed.

Correction Deadline: 9/3/2026

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 that the following hazardous items were accessible to children in the following classrooms:

1L

- An adult stapler was left on top of the children's art shelf.
- One container of Lysol wipes was left in an unlocked teacher cabinet on a low shelf.
- Two empty grocery bags were observed in a child's low hanging cubby.
- A Broom & dust pan were left in the back right corner of the classroom.

Middle Back

- One unplugged electrical phone charger cord and other cords were hanging from the kitchenette table and posed a tripping hazard to children and staff.

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: 8/4/2026

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 that a computer and speaker in Classroom 1L were plugged in and the cords were hanging from the teacher's desk and trailing on the floor. These cords posed a tripping hazard to children and staff.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will train Staff to check and monitor how cords in use are inaccessible to children.

Correction Deadline: 8/4/2026

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 the back right gate on Playground C -Right PG was not secured. The gate handle was unlatched and it had a locked pedlock on it. The silver wire mesh was not secured to the fence as it was pushed aside with minimal effort. Additionally, on the gate between Playground A-Middle -PG and Playground C-Right-PG there was one loose bolt that measured 11 threads instead of a minimum of 2 threads as required.

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: 8/4/2026

Technical Assistance

Please ensure that toys that are not in good repair are removed from the Playgrounds. Discussed that deflated balls, and the broken outdoor sink on Playground B-Left PG and the tricycle with mold-like residue and rust on the handles on Playground A-Middle PG needed to be repaired, replaced or removed.

Correction Deadline: 8/14/2026

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

Cube cheese was observed on the previous week's menu, Thursday, July 30, 2026. Please ensure that foods associated with young children's choking incidents, such as, but not limited to, peanuts, hot dogs, raw carrots, popcorn, fish with bones, cheese cubes, grapes and any other food of similar shape and size of the trachea/windpipe are not served to the children less than four (4) years of age.

Correction Deadline: 8/4/2026

Comment

Discussed proper steps for dishwashing.

Technical Assistance

Please ensure that all refrigerator temperatures are kept at 40 degrees or below.

Correction Deadline: 8/4/2026

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**

Please ensure lids remain on trash containing organic waste.

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

Per the Director, the Center currently does not dispense/administer medication.

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

Staff were observed to maintain a positive learning environment.

591-1-1-.36 Transportation(CR)**Met**

Correction Deadline: 1/15/2026

Corrected on 8/4/2026

The previous citation was observed corrected on this date. Complete transportation documentation with load and unload checks were completed for all children transported.

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

Discussed SIDS and infant sleeping position.

Comment

Pleasant naptime environment observed.

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

Correction Deadline: 1/14/2026

Corrected on 8/4/2026

The previous citation was observed corrected on this date. There were no staff with expired Comprehensive Records Check Determination Letters on file.

Correction Deadline: 1/14/2026

Corrected on 8/4/2026

The previous citation was observed corrected on this date. All staff had evidence of completed, satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination Letters on file with the Department.

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.

Comment

Please replace/add missing/expired item(s) in first aid kit(s).

591-1-1-.31 Staff(CR)**Met****Comment**

Discussed that all lead staff must enroll in an approved education program within 6 months of hire and complete degree within 18 months.

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.