



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: 1/8/2026 **VisitType:** Licensing Study **Arrival:** 12:20 PM **Departure:** 4:00 PM

CCLC-63536
Free Chapel Academy
 3001 McEver rd Gainesville, GA 30506 Hall County
 (678) 928-9515

Regional Consultant
 Brittany Lindsey
 Phone: (770) 405-7931
 Fax:
 brittany.lindsey@dec.al.ga.gov

Mailing Address
 Same

Quality Rated: No

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.
01/08/2026	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
05/27/2025	Complaint Closure	Good Standing	
03/17/2025	Monitoring Visit	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 Building	A - Duckling	Infants	2	8	C	12	C	NA	NA	Nap,Floor Play
Main Building	B - Bunnies	Infants	2	0	C	12	C	NA	NA	Floor Play
Main Building	C - Lambs	One Year Olds	2	10	C	14	C	NA	NA	Music
Main Building	D - Llamas	One Year Olds and Two Year Olds	2	8	C	14	C	NA	NA	Centers
Main Building	E - Alpacas	Two Year Olds	2	11	C	16	C	NA	NA	Centers
Main Building	F - Racoons		0	0	C	14	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Main Building	G - Bears	Two Year Olds and Three Year Olds	2	10	C	16	C	NA	NA	Centers
Main Building	H - Pandas	Three Year Olds	2	11	C	16	C	NA	NA	Centers
Main Building	I - Koala	Three Year Olds	1	9	C	16	C	NA	NA	Nap,Transitioning
Main Building	J - Kindergarten	Five Year Olds	1	7	C	16	C	NA	NA	Transitioning,Nap
Main Building	K - Giraffes		0	0	C	10	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Main Building	L - Elephants	Four Year Olds and Five Year Olds	2	9	C	16	C	NA	NA	Nap,Transitioning

Main Building	M - Lions	Four Year Olds	1	13	C	16	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main Building	N - Lower Elementary		0	0	C	22	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 210					Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					
Total # Children this Date: 96			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 210			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0				

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main Building	2 - 12 Years Olds	35	C
Main Building	2 to 12 Years Old	74	C
Main Building	6 Weeks to 23 Months	31	C

Enrolled Children						
Under 1 years	1 years	2 years	3 years	4 years	5 years (Prekonly)	5 years and older
25	15	26	39	20	13	0

Comments

no comments

Plan of Improvement: No Plan Developed

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 Licensing Study:

Activities and Equipment

591-1-1-.03 Activities

Met

Comment

Age-appropriate activities observed throughout the center.

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)

N/A

Comment

Center does not provide swimming activities.

Children's Records

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

Met

Comment

Parent authorizations obtained/completed.

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.

591-1-1-.25 Physical Plant - Safe Environment(CR)**Met****Comment**

No hazards observed accessible to children on this date.

Comment

The Center appeared clean and well maintained on this date.

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****Comment**

Center does not provide meals. Families bring meals from home that are checked by Center staff for USDA guidelines and review USDA recommendations with families on what foods to bring in to the center for children to eat.

591-1-1-.18 Kitchen Operations**Met****Comment**

Center does not have a kitchen to prep for meals. Meals are brought from home by families. Meals from home are checked by Center staff for USDA guidelines.

Health and Hygiene**591-1-1-.07 Children's Health****Met**

Correction Deadline: 5/23/2025

Corrected on 1/8/2026

.07(4) - The previous citation was observed corrected. The Consultant observed the center's medical emergency plan, communication system in notifying parents regarding concerns and incidents concerning their child, and training pertaining to the health and safety of the children in their care.

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

Proper diapering procedures observed.

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

Proper hand washing observed throughout the center on this date.

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

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

Policies and Procedures**591-1-1-.27 Posted Notices****Met****Comment**

Observed all required posted notices.

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

Correction Deadline: 5/23/2025

Corrected on 1/8/2026

.29(3) - The previous citation was observed corrected. The Consultant observed the center's procedures in notifying parents of incidents that occur with their child in care.

Safety

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.

Comment

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

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

Center does not participate in field trips at this time.

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

Center does not provide routine transportation.

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

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

Discussed SIDS and infant sleeping position.

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

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

Criminal record checks were observed to be complete.

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

Documentation observed of required staff training.

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

Center observed to maintain appropriate staff:child ratios.

591-1-1-.32 Supervision(CR)	Met
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Comment

Staff observed to provide direct supervision and be attentive to children's needs.