



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: 11/18/2025 VisitType: Licensing Study

Arrival: 10:15 AM Departure: 2:50 PM

CCLC-1473

Childcare Network #24

2131 Wrightsboro Rd. Augusta, GA 30904 Richmond County
(706) 733-0780

Regional Consultant

Evon Hewitt

Phone: ()

Fax:

evon.hewitt@decals.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.
11/18/2025	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
09/26/2024	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
11/01/2023	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	1st Left	Four Year Olds	1	18	C	30	C	NA	NA	Centers
Main	1st Right	Infants and One Year Olds	2	9	C	18	C	NA	NA	Nap,Feeding,Floor Play
Main	2nd Left	GA PreK	2	20	C	30	C	NA	NA	Story,Outside,Centers
Main	2nd Right - EHS1	One Year Olds	1	8	C	8	C	NA	NA	Lunch,Free Play
Main	2nd Right - EHS2		0	0	C	8	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Main	3rd Left		0	0	C	38	C	NA	NA	
Main	3rd Right	Two Year Olds	2	18	C	17	NC	NA	NA	Free Play,Floor Play
Main	4th Right - B		0	0	C	12	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Main	4th Right A	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	1	15	C	24	C	NA	NA	Story,Centers,Lunch
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 180			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0			Building @35 capacity limited by Fire Marshall Limitations				
Total # Children this Date: 88			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 180			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0				

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	Pre-K and School-Age	105	C
Main	Toddler	31	C

Enrolled Children						
Under 1 years	1 years	2 years	3 years	4 years	5 years (Prekonly)	5 years and older
10	12	22	19	32	0	59

Comments

The findings of this report were reviewed with the Provider on this date. Previous rule violations were observed/discussed.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date

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: 11/18/2025 **VisitType:** Licensing Study

Arrival: 10:15 AM **Departure:** 2:50 PM

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The following information is associated with a Licensing Study:

Activities and Equipment

591-1-1-.03 Activities

Technical Assistance

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.03(1) - requires the Center to provide a daily planned program of varied and developmentally appropriate activities to promote social, emotional, physical, cognitive, language and literacy growth. Center Staff shall use a variety of teaching methods to accommodate the needs of the children's different learning styles. The Consultant and Director discussed ensuring that activities are planned, varied, and developmentally appropriate as required.

Correction Deadline: 11/18/2025

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

Not Met

Comment

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

Finding

591-1-1-.12(2) requires that all equipment and furniture be free from hazardous conditions such as, but not limited to, sharp rough edges or toxic paint; and be kept clean. It was determined based on observation that in the Girls Hallway Bathroom (1st Left), the toilet tissue caddy between the second and third toilet was rusted with chipped paint on this date.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will ensure that equipment and furniture are used by the age-appropriate group of children.

Correction Deadline: 11/18/2025

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.

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 potential hazards were accessible to children on this date:

Classroom 1st Left

- There was a dust pan on the floor behind the classroom door at the front left of the room.
- There was a pack of Pampers wipes in a child's cubby at the front left of the room.

Classroom 1st Right

- There was a dust pan on the floor behind the classroom door at the front right of the room.

Classroom 2nd Left

- There was a pack of Sleep Over pampers inside a child's cubby at the front middle of the room.

2nd Right- EHS1

- There was a broom at the front left of the classroom near the cots.
- There was a plastic storage caddy with seven packs of assorted brand baby wipes at the front left of the room.

Classroom 3rd Right

- There was a broom behind the classroom door hanging from the wall at the front right of the room.

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: 11/19/2025

Recited on 11/18/2025

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 areas were not in good repair as required on this date:

2nd Left Classroom:

- The first sink used for handwashing at the front left of the room was rusted around the faucet display and drain.

Girls Hallway Bathroom (1st Left)

- The exhaust fan was not in working order as required on this date.

Boys Hallway Bathroom (2nd Left)

- The second toilet had rust around the base of the metal pipe behind the toilet seat.
- The exhaust fan was not in working order as required on this date.

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: 11/28/2025

Recited on 11/18/2025

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 following fencing hazards were accessible to children on this date:

Pre-K and School-Age Playground

- There was a 4 inch top to bottom gap between the red brick wall and the chain link fence post located at the front right of the playground causing a potential entrapment hazard.
- There were three protruding bolts measuring more than two threads on the chain link fence located at the front right corner of the playground near the brick wall.

Two's and Three's Playground

- There were four protruding bolts measuring more than two threads on the chain link fence gate located at the front left.
- There were nine protruding bolts measuring more than two threads on the chain link fence gate located at the front right of the playground.

Toddler Playground

- There were nine protruding bolts measuring more than two threads on the chain link fence gate located at the front right of the playground.
- There were 16 protruding bolts on the chain link fence gate located at the back right of the playground.

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: 12/5/2025

Recited on 11/18/2025

Finding

591-1-1-.26(6) requires that playground equipment provide an opportunity for the children to engage in a variety of experiences and shall be age-appropriate. For example, toddlers shall not be permitted to swing in swings designed for School-age Children. The outdoor equipment shall be free of lead-based paint, sharp corners and shall be regularly maintained in such a way as to be free of rust and splinters that could pose significant safety hazard to the children. All equipment shall be arranged so as not to obstruct supervision of children. It was determined based on observation that the following playground equipment hazards were accessible to children on this date:

Pre-K and School-Age Playground

- The basketball goal at the middle right of the playground was missing the backboard, the rim, and had a piece of metal with sharp rusted corners.

Two's and Three's Playground

- The wooden barrier at the left side of the playground had splintered wood and a protruding nail.
- The basketball pole at the front middle of the playground had chipping paint.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will provide a variety of age-appropriate equipment that is arranged so as not to obstruct supervision of children. Staff will check the equipment daily to ensure that the equipment is free of hazards, rust and splinters.

Correction Deadline: 12/5/2025

Recited on 11/18/2025

Correction Deadline: 11/29/2023

Corrected on 11/18/2025

.26(9) - Previous citation corrected in that the Consultant observed the playgrounds to be clean and in good repair as required on this date.

Health and Hygiene

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

Proper diapering procedures observed.

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

Please ensure lids remain on trash containing organic waste.

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.

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

Center does not keep animals on premises.

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

Age-appropriate discussion and/or redirection observed.

591-1-1-.13 Field Trips(CR)**Not Evaluated****Comment**

Center does not participate in field trips at this time.

591-1-1-.36 Transportation(CR)**Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.36(7)(d)2. requires that the second designated Staff person conduct a check of the vehicle immediately upon the completion of the first check of the vehicle. The responsible person shall physically walk through the entire vehicle; visually inspect all seat surfaces, under all seats and in all compartments or recesses in the vehicle's interior; and sign the passenger transportation checklist(s), indicating all of the children have exited the vehicle. There shall be continuous watchful oversight of the vehicle between the first check and second check. It was determined based on a review of records that the Center failed to document in writing the second check of the vehicle during the morning and afternoon routes on Wednesday, November 5, 2025 through Friday, November 7, 2025, from the Center to Lake Forest Elementary School and from Lake Forest Elementary School to the Center.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will train Staff who are or may be involved in transporting children in how to thoroughly inspect a vehicle and properly complete transportation documentation. The Center will review and monitor.

Correction Deadline: 11/18/2025**Sleeping & Resting Equipment****591-1-1-.30 Safe Sleeping and Resting Requirements(CR)****Technical Assistance****Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.30(1)(a)3 - requires that each crib shall have only an individual, tight-fitting sheet which is changed daily or more often as needed and prior to a change of occupant. The Consultant and Provider discussed ensuring that crib sheets are tight-fitting as required.

Correction Deadline: 11/18/2025**Correction Deadline: 9/26/2024****Corrected on 11/18/2025**

.30(2)(c) - Previous citation corrected in that the Consultant observed children to sleep in the required equipment 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-.09 Criminal Records Check(CR)	Met
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Comment

Criminal records checks were observed to be complete.

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

Evidence observed of 100% of center Staff certified in First Aid and CPR containing emergency care for infants and children on this date.

591-1-1-.33 Staff Training	Not Met
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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 the following Staff did not have documentation of completing 10 hours of annual training for the 2024 calendar year as required:

Staff #3, hired on October 2, 2023

Staff #unknown, hired on November 7, 2023

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: 12/18/2025

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)	Not Met
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Finding

591-1-1-.32(7) requires that children be supervised at all times appropriate to the individual age, needs and capabilities of each child. Such supervision must include, but not be limited to, indoor and outdoor activities, mealtimes, naptime, transportation, field trips, and transitions between activities. "Supervision" means that the appropriate number of Staff members are physically present in the area where children are being cared for and are providing watchful oversight to the children, volunteers and Students-in-Training. The persons supervising in the child care area must be alert, positioned to maximize their ability to hear and see the children at all times, and able to respond promptly to the needs and actions of the children being supervised, as well as the actions of the volunteers and Students-in-Training, and provide timely attention to the children's actions and needs. Staff shall be attentive and participating with all children during mealtimes and shall be seated within an arm's length away from children thirty-six (36) months of age and younger. It was determined based on observation that the Staff in classroom 2nd Right- EHS1 was not seated within an arm's length away from children thirty-six (36) months of age and younger on this date.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will train Staff and monitor to ensure they are providing supervision and watchful oversight to the children at all times.

Correction Deadline: 11/18/2025
