



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: 2/18/2026 **VisitType:** Licensing Study

Arrival: 9:15 AM **Departure:** 12:00 PM

CCLC-39267

Childcare of Excellence

3350 Old Louisville Road Augusta, GA 30906 Richmond County
(706) 284-8455

Regional Consultant

April Christian

Phone: ()

Fax:

april.christian@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. 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.
02/18/2026	Licensing Study	Support	
12/17/2025	TA Follow Up	NA	
11/06/2025	TA Follow Up	NA	

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	Main	Infants and Two Year Olds and Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	1	7	C	12	C	NA	NA	Free Play,Breakfast
Main	Upstairs		0	0	C	10	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 22			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0							
Total # Children this Date: 7			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 22			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0				

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	Main-Play Yard	73	C

Enrolled Children						
Under 1 years	1 years	2 years	3 years	4 years	5 years (Prekonly)	5 years and older
2	3	4	4	4	0	4

Comments

The findings of this report were reviewed with the Director on this date.

Plan of Improvement: To Be Submitted 03/04/2026



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.decal.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.decal.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@decal.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

Lesson Plans were observed to be posted and reflected the current weeks activities in each classroom.

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

Technical Assistance

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.12(2)- Please ensure the Main Classroom bathroom tub hot and cold water knobs are repaired to prevent exposed sharp edges.

Correction Deadline: 2/18/2026

Correction Deadline: 8/16/2025

Corrected on 2/18/2026

.12(4) -The previous citation was observed corrected on this date. The unsecured white wooden bookshelf was secured to the wall and the two baby walkers were placed side by side to prevent a tipping hazard in the Main classroom

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

Records were observed to be complete and well organized.

Facility

591-1-1-.06 Bathrooms

Met

Comment

Please monitor bathrooms for necessary supplies.

591-1-1-.19 License Capacity(CR)

Met

Comment

Licensed capacity observed to be routinely met by center on this date.

Correction Deadline: 8/16/2025

Corrected on 2/18/2026

The previous citation was observed to be corrected. The back porch was in good repair and did not pose any hazards. The flooring in the main bathroom was replaced and there were no rusted staples. The spider webs below the first left cabinet was removed.

591-1-1-.26 Playgrounds(CR)**Not Met**

Correction Deadline: 9/15/2025

Corrected on 2/18/2026

.26(4) The previous citation was observed corrected on this date. The back right fence was repaired with a wooden plank to secure the fence upright and close the entrapment hazard.

Correction Deadline: 8/15/2025

Corrected on 2/18/2026

.26(6) - The previous citation was observed corrected on this date. The wooden slat in the middle of the second picnic table was replaced.

Finding

591-1-1-.26(9) requires the playground to be kept clean, free from litter and free of hazards, such as but not limited to rocks, exposed tree roots and exposed sharp edges of concrete. It was determined based on observation that the following playground hazards were observed on this date:

- Thorny vines and branches were located through the left, back, and right sides of the fencing.
- There were several exposed tree roots causing tripping hazards located on the right side near the large tree.

Correction Deadline: 3/18/2026

Recited on 2/18/2026

Food Service

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

Comment

Please ensure that infant feeding forms are updated regularly.

591-1-1-.18 Kitchen Operations Met

Comment

Please ensure that all food items are stored in airtight containers.

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

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

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

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

Comment

Center does not participate in field trips at this time.

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

Comment

Complete documentation of transportation observed on this date.

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

591-1-1-.30 Safe Sleeping and Resting Requirements(CR) Not Met

Finding

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. It was determined based on observation that two out of three crib sheets were not tight- fitting while in use in the Main Classroom.

Correction Deadline: 3/18/2026

Recited on 2/18/2026

Staff Records

591-1-1-.09 Criminal Records and Comprehensive Background Checks(CR)**Met****Correction Deadline: 7/16/2025****Corrected on 2/18/2026**

.09(1)(a) - The previous citation was observed corrected on this date. The Consultant observed documentation of satisfactory comprehensive criminal records check determination letters on the file for all staff on this date.

Correction Deadline: 7/16/2025**Corrected on 2/18/2026**

.09(1)(c) - The previous citation was observed corrected on this date. The Consultant observed documentation of satisfactory comprehensive criminal records check determination letters on the file for all staff on this date.

591-1-1-.09 Criminal Records Check(CR)**Met****Comment**

Criminal records checks were observed to be complete.

591-1-1-.14 First Aid & CPR(CR)**Met****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**Met****Correction Deadline: 12/31/2025****Corrected on 2/18/2026**

.33(5) - The previous citation was observed corrected on this date. The Consultant observed documentation of staff completing ten hours of annual training for the 2025 calendar year as required.

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)**Technical Assistance****Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.32(4) - The Consultant and the Director discussed ensuring children under three-years-old are not housed in the same area as older children.

Correction Deadline: 2/18/2026

591-1-1-.32 Supervision(CR)**Technical Assistance****Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.32(7) - The Consultant and the Director discussed ensuring staff are scheduled appropriately to participate with all children during mealtime and shall be seated within an arm's length to prevent choking.

Correction Deadline: 2/18/2026