



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: 9/9/2025 **VisitType:** Complaint Investigation & Licensing Study **Arrival:** 11:20 AM **Departure:** 4:30 PM

CCLC-52252

Love and Grace Christian Academy

4164 Rainbow Drive Decatur, GA 30034 DeKalb County
(404) 288-2350

Regional Consultant

Jessica Johnson

Phone: (770) 357-5090

Fax:

jessica.johnson@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.
09/09/2025	Complaint Investigation & Licensing Study	Good Standing	
06/10/2025	Incident Investigation Closure	Good Standing	
06/10/2025	Incident Investigation/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	A-1L- Infants & 1's		0	0	C	10	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Main	B-Middle-3's & Up		0	0	C	71	C	100	C	
Main	C-Middle R-1's	One Year Olds and Two Year Olds and Three Year Olds	1	5	C	12	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main	D-Back-2's		0	0	C	20	C	NA	NA	Not In Use

Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 113

Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 128

Total # Children this Date: 5

Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 113

Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 128

Building @25 capacity limited by Building Department

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	Playground A-All Ages	98	C

Enrolled Children						
Under 1 years	1 years	2 years	3 years	4 years	5 years (Prekonly)	5 years and older
0	1	4	1	0	0	11

Comments

On this date, Jessica Johnson (JJ), Consultant, reviewed the visit report with Director Cleotha Griffith. JJ discussed and left a copy of the updated Child Care Weather watch Chart with the program today. Weather does not permit outdoor play when there is active precipitation or when weather advisories are in effect. Consult the Child Care Weather Watch Chart resource for further guidance, considering specific weather conditions.

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.decgal.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@decgal.ga.gov for more information. Free technical assistance is available!



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Summary Report

Date: 9/9/2025 **VisitType:** Complaint Investigation & Licensing **Arrival:** 11:20 AM **Departure:** 4:30 PM
Study

CCLC-52252

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The following information is associated with a Licensing Study Visit:

Activities and Equipment

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

Met

Comment

Equipment and furniture observed to be properly secured, as applicable.

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

Met

Comment

Center does not provide swimming activities.

Children's Records

Records Reviewed: 5

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 4

Child # 1

Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.08(1)(a)-Work Number Missing

Child # 2

Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.08(1)(a)-Work Number Missing

Child # 3

Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.08(1)(a)-Work Number Missing

Child # 4

Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.08(1)(a)-Work Number Missing

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

Technical Assistance

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.08(1) - Please ensure to update parent work contact information. Discussed not leaving any lines blank on the children enrollment packet.

Facility

591-1-1-.06 Bathrooms	Met
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Comment

Bathrooms observed to be clean and well maintained.

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

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

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

Please be mindful to keep items that pose a hazard inaccessible to children.

Comment

Please secure cleaning tools (i.e., broom, plunger) out of reach of children.

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

Discussed maintenance of resilient surface. Please fluff and redistribute.

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 two protruding nails were observed at the top and bottom fence separating the two playground on the right side.

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: 9/23/2025

Correction Deadline: 6/24/2025

Corrected on 9/9/2025

.26(8) - The previous citation was corrected on this date as six inches of mulch was observed around the yellow slide and stair ladder.

Health and Hygiene

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

Hand washing requirements for diapering were discussed with the director on this date.

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.10(5) - Please ensure that Center Staff not leave infants or children unattended while being diapered or having their clothes changed on the diaper changing surface.

Correction Deadline: 9/9/2025

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

Proper hand washing of children and staff was discussed with the director on this date.

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

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

Policies and Procedures

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.21(4) - Discussed updating the Center's policies and procedures to include the program's practices regarding the expulsion and suspension of children enrolled for care within the description of behavior management and discipline actions used by the Center.

Also discussed to ensure a description of the practices followed by the Center to prevent shaken baby syndrome and abusive head trauma in children up to five years of age that includes the following information: how to recognize, respond to, and report the signs and symptoms of shaken baby syndrome and abusive head trauma; strategies to assist staff members in understanding how to care for infants and how to cope with a crying, fussing, or distraught child; strategies to ensure staff members understand the brain development of children up to five years of age; and a list of prohibited behaviors when dealing with children.

Additional information can be found in the CCLC Indicator Manual found on DECAL's website at:

<https://www.dec.state.ga.us/CCS/RulesAndRegulations.aspx> or through the Center on Shaken Baby Syndrome found at: <https://dontshake.org/>.

Correction Deadline: 9/14/2025

Safety

591-1-1-.05 Animals**Not Evaluated****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)**Met****Comment**

Center does not participate in field trips at this time.

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

A current/completed inspection was observed for all vehicles used in transporting children this date.

Finding

591-1-1-.36(4)(a) requires an annual safety check for each vehicle. The annual safety check, completed by a trained individual, should include a check of the: tires, headlights, horn, taillights, turn signals, brake lights, brakes, suspension, exhaust system, steering, windows, windshields and windshield wipers. A copy of the annual safety check will be kept in the Center or on the vehicle and should include evidence of any repairs and/or replacements that were identified as needed on the inspection report. It was determined based on observation that all four tires appeared to be balding on the bus on this date.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will obtain the annual vehicle inspection.

Correction Deadline: 9/23/2025

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.36(4)(b) - Discussed monitoring the tape on the seats in the vehicle.

Correction Deadline: 9/10/2025

Correction Deadline: 6/10/2025

Corrected on 9/9/2025

.36(7)(c)2. - The previous citation was corrected on this date as the transportation documentation was observed complete.

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

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

Discussed SIDS and infant sleeping position. No infants were currently enrolled in the program as of this date.

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.

Correction Deadline: 6/10/2025

Corrected on 9/9/2025

.30(1)(b) - The previous citation was corrected on this date as children were observed sleeping on individual cots.

Staff Records

Records Reviewed: 7

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 2

Staff # 2

Not Met

Date of Hire: 01/30/2024

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.31(2)(b)2.-Staff Qualifications-Education Missing

Staff # 7

Not Met

Date of Hire: 03/25/2025

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

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

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

Not Met

Finding

591-1-1-.09(1)(c) requires the Center to ensure that every Employee has a valid and current satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination on file prior to being present at the Center while any child is present for care or before an individual age 17 or older resides in the Center. The Comprehensive Records Check Determination must have a Records Check Clearance Date that is no older than the preceding 12 months of the hire date; provided, however, if the Employee has had a lapse of employment from the child care industry that lasted for 180 days (6 months) or longer, a new satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination is required. It was determined based on a review of records that Staff #5 September 5, 2025 did not have a valid and current satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination on file prior to being present at the Center while children were present for care on this date.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

IMMEDIATE CORRECTION - The Center will review to ensure that every Employee has a valid and current satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination on file prior to being present at the Center while any child is present for care or before an individual age 17 or older resides in the Center. The Comprehensive Records Check Determination must have a Records Check Clearance Date that is no older than the preceding 12 months of the hire date; provided, however, if the Employee has had a lapse of employment from the child care industry that lasted for 180 days (6 months) or longer, a new satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination is required. The program's owner or an officer/member of the corporation must view the A to Z Background Check video units pertaining to this records check rule and return the signed affidavit within one week from this visit date. The center will review to ensure the CRC rules are maintained.

Correction Deadline: 9/9/2025

Finding

591-1-1-.09(1)(l)2. requires the Center to immediately require a new Comprehensive Records Check Determination for a Director, Employee or Provisional Employee when there has been a lapse of employment from the child care industry that lasted for 180 calendar days (6 months) or longer. It was determined on a review of records that Staff # 5 hired on September 5, 2025 did not have a valid and current satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination on file prior to being present at the Center while children were present for care on this date.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

IMMEDIATE CORRECTION - The Center will review and immediately require a new Comprehensive Records Check Determination for Directors, Employees or Provisional Employees Employee's when there has been a lapse of employment from the child care industry that lasted for 180 calendar days (6 months) or longer. The program's owner or an officer/member of the corporation must view the A to Z Background Check video units pertaining to this records check rule and return the signed affidavit within one week from this visit date. The Center will review to ensure CRC rules are maintained.

591-1-1-.14 First Aid & CPR(CR)**Not Met****Comment**

Complete first aid kits observed in center and on vehicles on this date.

Finding

591-1-1-.14(1)(a) requires all Staff who provide direct care to children must obtain certification in a biennial training program in pediatric cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and a triennial training program in pediatric first aid within the first 45 days of employment. Current and valid evidence of the successful completion of such training shall be maintained on the Center's premises. The hours obtained completing this certification will not count towards the required annual training hours. It was determined based on a review of records that Staff # 7 hired on March 25, 25 did not have a valid certification in a biennial training program in pediatric cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and a triennial training program in pediatric first aid within the first 45 days of employment.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

All caregiver Staff will complete the required training. The Director will send copies via email verification of completed CPR/First Aid certification to the Consultant upon completion and will develop a plan to ensure all caregiver Staff have completed this training within the first 45 days of employment and that evidence of successful completion of the training is on file available for inspection.

Correction Deadline: 10/9/2025**Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.14(1)(a) - Discussed that effective July 1, 2025, new staff are required to obtain pediatric First Aid and pediatric CPR training within 45 days of employment. It was further discussed that programs must have at least one person with current pediatric First Aid and pediatric CPR training in each classroom at all times. Discussed that the training must be done by certified or licensed health care professionals or trainers and must deal with the provision of emergency care to infants and children.

Correction Deadline: 10/9/2025

591-1-1-.33 Staff Training**Technical Assistance****Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.33(4) - Please ensure that within the first year of employment, the person with primary responsibility for food preparation shall have four clock hours of training in food nutrition planning, preparation, serving, proper dish washing and food storage.

Correction Deadline: 10/9/2025**Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.33(5)(a) - Discussed that effective July 1, 2025, all staff are required to obtain at least two hours in evidence based, developmentally appropriate language and literacy practices and at least two hours in on-going child development and health and safety related topics as part of their 10 hours of annual training.

Correction Deadline: 10/9/2025**Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.33(6) - Discussed that all Employees, including volunteers, independent contractors, students-in-training, etc. should have a completed initial program orientation form on file.

Correction Deadline: 9/19/2025

591-1-1-.31 Staff(CR)**Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.31(2)(b)2. requires teachers and lead caregivers to meet minimum academic requirements and qualifying experience at the time of employment. It was determined based on a review of records that Staff #2 hired on January 30, 2024, did not have the minimum academic requirements for the lead teacher position as of this date.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

A teacher/lead caregiver will be hired that meets the minimum academic requirements and qualifying work experience.

Correction Deadline: 10/9/2025

Staffing and Supervision

591-1-1-.32 Staff:Child Ratios and Group Size(CR)

Not Met

Finding

591-1-1-.32(4) requires that children under three years old be housed in separate physical areas from older children and cannot be mixed with older children except at specified times and circumstances. It was determined based observation that children younger than 3-years-old were housed with older children other than the first and last hour of operation.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will maintain separation of these children under three years old.

Correction Deadline: 9/9/2025

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

Met

Comment

Adequate supervision observed on this date.

The following information is associated with a Complaint Investigation Visit:

Health and Hygiene

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

Met

Correction Deadline: 6/10/2025

Corrected on 9/9/2025

.07(2) - The previous citation was corrected as no hazards were observed on this date.