



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: 3/19/2025 **VisitType:** Licensing Study

Arrival: 9:15 AM **Departure:** 1:20 PM

CCLC-677

Pickens County PreK

529 Head Start Road Tate, GA 30177 Pickens County
(770) 735-3434 tracey.timms@ndo.org

Regional Consultant

Randy Gaytan

Phone: (770) 357-7022

Fax: (770) 357-7021

randy.gaytan@decal.ga.gov

Mailing Address

Same

Quality Rated: ★ ★

<u>Compliance Zone Designation</u>			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.
03/19/2025	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
08/14/2024	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
04/30/2024	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	100 A	Four Year Olds	2	15	C	21	C	NA	NA	Outside
Main	200 B	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	2	13	C	21	C	NA	NA	Outside
Main	300 C		0	0	C	19	C	NA	NA	
Main	400 D	Four Year Olds	2	16	C	20	C	NA	NA	Centers
Main	500 E	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds and Five Year Olds	2	15	C	20	C	NA	NA	Centers
Main	600 F	Three Year Olds	2	13	C	20	C	NA	NA	Outside
Main	700 G	GA PreK	3	21	C	21	C	NA	NA	Centers
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 142					Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					
Total # Children this Date: 93					Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
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Enrolled Children						
Under 1 years	1 years	2 years	3 years	4 years	5 years (Prekonly)	5 years and older
0	0	0	19	49	36	0

Comments

The purpose of this visit was to conduct a licensing study.

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.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

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!



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(Findings Report)

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Mailing Address

Same

The following information is associated with a Licensing Study:

Activities and Equipment

Records Reviewed: 28

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 2

Staff # 17

Not Met

Date of Hire: 08/20/2019

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.09-Criminal Records Check Missing

Staff # 24

Not Met

Date of Hire: 02/27/2025

Reminder - Health & Safety training is required within 90 calendar days of hired

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.09-Criminal Records Check Missing

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

Met

Comment

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

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

N/A

Comment

Center does not provide swimming activities.

Children's Records

Records Reviewed: 28

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 2

Staff # 17

Not Met

Date of Hire: 08/20/2019

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.09-Criminal Records Check Missing

Staff # 24

Not Met

Date of Hire: 02/27/2025

Reminder - Health & Safety training is required within 90 calendar days of hired

Records Reviewed: 28

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 2

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.09-Criminal Records Check Missing

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

Met

Comment

Records were observed to be complete and well organized.

Facility

Records Reviewed: 28

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 2

Staff # 17

Not Met

Date of Hire: 08/20/2019

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.09-Criminal Records Check Missing

Staff # 24

Not Met

Date of Hire: 02/27/2025

Reminder - Health & Safety training is required within 90 calendar days of hired

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.09-Criminal Records Check Missing

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.

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

Met

Comment

Center appears clean and well maintained.

591-1-1-.26 Playgrounds(CR)

Met

Comment

Playground observed to be clean and in good repair.

Food Service

Records Reviewed: 28

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 2

Staff # 17

Not Met

Date of Hire: 08/20/2019

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.09-Criminal Records Check Missing

Staff # 24

Not Met

Date of Hire: 02/27/2025

Reminder - Health & Safety training is required within 90 calendar days of hired

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.09-Criminal Records Check Missing

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

Center menu meets USDA guidelines.

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

Kitchen appears clean and well organized.

Health and Hygiene**Records Reviewed: 28****Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 2**

Staff # 17

Not Met

Date of Hire: 08/20/2019

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.09-Criminal Records Check Missing

Staff # 24

Not Met

Date of Hire: 02/27/2025

Reminder - Health & Safety training is required within 90 calendar days of hired"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.09-Criminal Records Check Missing

591-1-1-.10 Diapering Areas & Practices(CR)**N/A****Comment**

No children enrolled who require diapering. School age children attend only for after school hours.

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

Staff were observed to remind children to wash hands.

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

Documentation for medication dispensing observed complete.

Organization**Records Reviewed: 28****Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 2**

Staff # 17

Not Met

Date of Hire: 08/20/2019

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.09-Criminal Records Check Missing

Staff # 24

Not Met

Date of Hire: 02/27/2025

Reminder - Health & Safety training is required within 90 calendar days of hired"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.09-Criminal Records Check Missing

591-1-1-.16 Governing Body & License**Technical Assistance****Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.16(f) - Reminded staff about submitting amendment.

Policies and Procedures

Records Reviewed: 28**Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 2**

Staff # 17

Not Met

Date of Hire: 08/20/2019

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.09-Criminal Records Check Missing

Staff # 24

Not Met

Date of Hire: 02/27/2025

Reminder - Health & Safety training is required within 90 calendar days of hired"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.09-Criminal Records Check Missing

591-1-1-.21 Operational Policies & Procedures**Met****Comment**

Program observed complete emergency drills

Safety

Records Reviewed: 28**Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 2**

Staff # 17

Not Met

Date of Hire: 08/20/2019

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.09-Criminal Records Check Missing

Staff # 24

Not Met

Date of Hire: 02/27/2025

Reminder - Health & Safety training is required within 90 calendar days of hired"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.09-Criminal Records Check Missing

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.

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)**N/A****Comment**

Center does not provide routine transportation.

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

Staff # 17

Not Met

Date of Hire: 08/20/2019

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.09-Criminal Records Check Missing

Staff # 24

Not Met

Date of Hire: 02/27/2025

Reminder - Health & Safety training is required within 90 calendar days of hired"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.09-Criminal Records Check Missing

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

Staff # 17

Not Met

Date of Hire: 08/20/2019

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.09-Criminal Records Check Missing

Staff # 24

Not Met

Date of Hire: 02/27/2025

Reminder - Health & Safety training is required within 90 calendar days of hired"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.09-Criminal Records Check 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 member #17 was hired on February 12, 2025 and did not have a valid and current satisfactory comprehensive records check determination on file. The staff member was not present.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

IMMEDIATE CORRECTION - The Center will routinely review the therapist list 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 follow the guidelines presented in the training videos to ensure the CRC rules are maintained.

Correction Deadline: 3/19/2025**Finding**

591-1-1-.09(1)(j) requires that for portability for Directors, Employees and Provisional Employees, excluding Students-in-Training, only the most recently issued determination letter is eligible for portability and must be ported electronically. A Center may accept a satisfactory Fingerprint Records Check Determination letter or a satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination letter issued by the Department if the Records Check Clearance Date is within the preceding 12 months from the hire date, the individual has not had a lapse of employment from the child care industry that lasted for 180 days (6 months) or longer, and the Center does not know or reasonably should not know that the individual's satisfactory status has changed. It was determined based on a review of records that staff #24, who was hired on February 27, 2025, had a satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination letter that had not been ported onto this license number.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

IMMEDIATE CORRECTION - The Center will routinely review files for all those required to have a determination letter to ensure that only the most recently issued determination letter is electronically ported for Directors, Employees and Provisional Employees, excluding Students-in-Training. A Center may accept a satisfactory Fingerprint Records Check Determination letter or a satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination letter issued by the Department if the Records Check Clearance Date is within the preceding 12 months from the hire date, the individual has not had a lapse of employment from the child care industry that lasted for 180 days (6 months) or longer, and the Center does not know or reasonably should not know that the individual's satisfactory status has changed. 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 follow the guidelines presented in the training videos to ensure CRC rules are maintained.

Correction Deadline: 3/19/2025**Finding**

591-1-1-.09(1)(l)3. requires the Center to immediately require a new Comprehensive Records Check Determination for a Director, Employee or Provisional Employee at least once every five years. It was determined based on a review of records that staff member #17 had a satisfactory determination letter that had expired on July 29, 2024.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

IMMEDIATE CORRECTION - The Center will routinely review the expiration dates of therapists to ensure that each Director, Employee and Provisional Employee has a Comprehensive Records Check Determination on file that has been issued within the past five years. 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 follow the guidelines presented in the training videos to ensure CRC rules are maintained.

Correction Deadline: 3/19/2025

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

Director provided five file(s) for employees hired since last visit.

591-1-1-.14 First Aid & CPR	Met
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Comment

Evidence observed of 50% of center staff certified in First Aid and CPR.

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

Records Reviewed: 28

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 2
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Staff # 17

Not Met

Date of Hire: 08/20/2019

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.09-Criminal Records Check Missing

Staff # 24

Not Met

Date of Hire: 02/27/2025

Reminder - Health & Safety training is required within 90
calendar days of hired"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.09-Criminal Records Check Missing

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**

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