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: 2/16/2026 **VisitType:** Monitoring Visit **Arrival:** 11:00 AM **Departure:** 2:30 PM

CCLC-38251
Future Leaders Christian Academy Decatur
3514 Kensington Road Decatur, GA 30032 DeKalb County
(404) 426-9884

Regional Consultant
Evon Hewitt
Phone: ()
Fax:
evon.hewitt@decal.ga.gov

Mailing Address
Same

Quality Rated:

Compliance Zone Designation		
02/16/2026	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing
10/02/2025	TA Follow Up	NA
08/07/2025	TA Follow Up	NA

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.

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	One Year Olds and Two Year Olds and Four Year Olds	1	4	NC	12	C	NA	NA	Lunch
Main	B/2L		0	0	C	13	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Main	C/3L		0	0	C	18	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Main	D/3R		0	0	C	9	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Main	E/2R	Infants and One Year Olds	1	3	C	9	C	NA	NA	Lunch,Free Play
Main	F/1R		0	0	C	18	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
		Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 79			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					
Total # Children this Date: 7		Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 79			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	PG (Up & Lower)	78	C

Enrolled Children

Under 1 years	1 years	2 years	3 years	4 years	5 years (Prekonly)	5 years and older
1	6	5	0	3	0	6

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.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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Summary Report

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The following information is associated with a Monitoring Visit:

Activities and Equipment

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

Correction Deadline: 7/9/2025

Corrected on 2/16/2026
.12(4) - Previous citation corrected in that the Consultant did not observe any tipping hazards on this date.

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.

591-1-1-.25 Physical Plant - Safe Environment(CR) **Not Met**

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 A/1L
-There was a staff purse on the shelf located in the center of the classroom
-There was an unlocked cabinet beneath the diaper changing surface with two pack of assorted brand baby wipes and several plastic grocery bags located at the back right of the classroom.

Hallway
-There was a broom located at the left side of the hallway.

Classroom E/2R
-There was an unlocked cabinet beneath the diaper changing surface with a blue bin filled with plastic grocery bags located at the back left of the room.
-There was a Swiffer dust mop, a broom, and a dust pan located at the front left of the children's restroom.
-There was a Glade aerosol spray can and a bottle of Disinfex disinfecting wipes located on top of the handwashing sink in the children's bathroom.

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: 2/16/2026

Recited on 2/16/2026

Finding
591-1-1-.25(15) requires that any outside storage or equipment area be locked, separated from the children by a barrier or enclosure, and shall not be accessible to the children. It was determined based on observation that the door to the outdoor storage room was not locked on this date.

POI (Plan of Improvement)
Center Staff will routinely check outside storage or equipment areas to ensure they are locked or otherwise inaccessible to children.

Correction Deadline: 2/17/2026

Recited on 2/16/2026

Finding
591-1-1-.25(8) requires protective caps on all unused electrical outlets within children's reach and requires that electrical outlets in use be made inaccessible to children. It was determined based on observation that the following electrical hazards were accessible to children on this date:

Classroom F/1R
-There were four unused electrical outlets without protective caps located at the front left and front right of the classroom.
-There was an electrical cord hanging from the TV located at the front right of the classroom.
-There was two unused electrical outlets without protective caps located at the back right of the classroom.

Hallway
-There were two unused electrical outlets without protective caps located to the right of the shelf outside of classroom E/2R.

POI (Plan of Improvement)
The Center will train Staff to check outlets and replace protective caps when needed and identify and monitor how outlets in use are inaccessible to children.

Correction Deadline: 2/17/2026

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

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:

Main Playground (Up and Lower)
-There was a 4.5 inch bottom gap on the blue wooden fence/wall located at the back left of the playground causing a potential entrapment hazard on this date.
-There was a 7 inch top gap on the blue wooden fence that was leaning inward located at the back right of the playground
-There were approximately 11 protruding nails in the blue wooden fence located at the front left, front middle, and front back of the playground.
-There was a protruding screw on the blue wooden fence located at the bottom left middle 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: 3/16/2026

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 red metal car at the back right of the play had a damaged rubber tire with two holes, peeling rubber, and exposed steel belts accessible to children on this date. It was further determined that the blue fun hoop located at the front right of the playground was unsecure and leaning on this date.

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: 3/19/2026

Technical Assistance
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. The Consultant and Provider discussed ensuring that exposed tree roots on the playground are spray painted to prevent tripping hazards.

Correction Deadline: 2/16/2026

Health and Hygiene

591-1-1-.07 Children's Health **Not Met**

Finding
591-1-1-.07(5) requires Center Staff to not permit children to wear around their necks or attach to their clothing pacifiers or other hazardous items. It was determined based on observation that a child in classroom A/1L had a pacifier clip attached to their clothing on this date.

POI (Plan of Improvement)
The Center will instruct Staff regarding this safety requirement.

Correction Deadline: 2/16/2026

Recited on 2/16/2026

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-.11 Discipline(CR) **Met**

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

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

Correction Deadline: 7/10/2025

Corrected on 2/16/2026
.36(4)(b) - Previous citation corrected in that the Consultant observed the vehicle used for the transportation of children (Tag # CXQ7556) to be clean and in safe repair on this date.

Correction Deadline: 7/9/2025

Corrected on 2/16/2026
.36(4)(c) - Previous citation corrected in that the Consultant observed the vehicle used for transportation of children (Tag# CXQ7556) to have a fire extinguisher in working order and a first aid kit on this date.

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

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

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

Comment
Criminal record checks were observed to be complete.

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

Finding
Previously Cited: 591-1-1-.14(2) requires a Staff member who is trained in CPR and first aid to be on the premises and on any field trip whenever any child is present. In addition, Staff who provide direct care to children must satisfactorily obtain certification in first aid and CPR by December 29, 2016 if employed prior to September 30, 2016 and within 90 days of their hire date if employed after September 30, 2016. It was determined based on a review of records that Staff #3, hired on June 24, 2024, Staff #4, hire date unknown, Staff #5, hired on August 22, 2022, Staff #6, hire date unknown, Staff #7, hire date unknown, Staff #8, hire date unknown, did not have evidence of completing First Aid /CPR training on file on this date.

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 #4, hired February 12, 2024, did not have documentation of completing the Skills portion of their CPR/First Aid training as required on this date.

POI (Plan of Improvement)
Previously Cited: The Center will develop a schedule to ensure there is always a staff person with current first aid and CPR training present and will develop and implement a plan to ensure all staff members have satisfactorily completed first aid and CPR training by the specified date.

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: 2/27/2026

Recited on 2/16/2026

Finding
591-1-1-.14(3) requires the Center to have a first aid kit in each building of the Center and in any vehicle used by the Center for transportation of children, that contains scissors, tweezers, gauze pads, adhesive tape, thermometer, band-aids, assorted sizes, antibacterial ointment, insect-sting preparation, an antiseptic cleansing solution, triangular bandages, rubber gloves, protective eye wear, a protective face mask, and a cold pack. The first aid kit, together with a first aid instruction manual which must be kept with the kit at all times, shall be stored so that it is not accessible to children but is easily accessible to Staff. It was determined based on observation that the Center's first aid kit was missing a cold pack, a triangular bandage and a pair of tweezers on this date.

POI (Plan of Improvement)
Center Staff will provide any missing first aid kits, add any missing items to each first aid kit and will develop and use a plan for checking the kits and replacing missing items in each kit in the future. First aid kits and instruction manuals will be stored so that they kits are not accessible to children but are easily accessible to Center Staff.

Correction Deadline: 2/20/2026

Recited on 2/16/2026

591-1-1-.33 Staff Training **Met**

Correction Deadline: 8/8/2025

Corrected on 2/16/2026
.33(3)(a)-(k) - Previous citation corrected in that the Consultant observed all Staff to have documentation of completing health and safety training within the first 90 days of employment as required.

Correction Deadline: 12/31/2025

Corrected on 2/16/2026
.33(5) - Previous citation corrected in that the Consultant observed all staff to have documentation of completing 10 hours of annual training for the 2025 calendar year as required.

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

Correction Deadline: 7/9/2025

Corrected on 2/16/2026
.31(1)(a) - Previous citation corrected in that the Consultant was present and provided access to the requested documents on this date.

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 on observation that classroom A/1L housed one 1-year-old child, one 2-year-old child, and one four 4-year-old child present during the visit.

POI (Plan of Improvement)
The Center will maintain separation of these children under three years old.

Correction Deadline: 2/16/2026

591-1-1-.32 Supervision(CR) **Not Met**

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 Staff failed to provide watchful oversight when an eight-year-old child was left alone in classroom F/1R for approximately four minutes When Staff came to open the front door for the Consultant and gather requested documentation on this date. It was further determined that Staff in classrooms A/1L and E/2R were 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: 2/16/2026