



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: 9/15/2025 **VisitType:** Licensing Study

Arrival: 9:30 AM **Departure:** 12:15 PM

CCLC-1385

Kids' Stop Learning Center

533 Grassdale Rd Cartersville, GA 30121 Bartow County
(770) 386-7867

Regional Consultant

Sharnette Glenn

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Mailing Address

533 Grassdale Rd
Cartersville, GA 30121-1913

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.
09/15/2025	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
05/30/2025	Incident Investigation Closure	Good Standing	
05/08/2025	Incident Investigation & Follow Up	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	Left Pre-K Wing-1R		0	0	C	37	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Main	Left Pre-K Wing-End of Hall	GA PreK	2	16	C	28	C	NA	NA	Outside
Main	1L -Right Wing Infant/Toddler Side	Two Year Olds	1	10	C	12	C	NA	NA	Outside
Main	2L- Right Wing-Infant Toddler Side	One Year Olds	1	4	C	13	C	NA	NA	Free Play
Main	3 L-Right Wing	One Year Olds	1	5	C	13	C	NA	NA	Free Play
Main	4L Right Wing	Infants	2	12	C	15	C	NA	NA	Nap,Feeding,Floor Play
Main	E- Front Room Upon Entrance	Three Year Olds	2	27	C	34	C	NA	NA	Outside
Main	Middle Hallway-Back Pre-K	GA PreK	4	30	C	39	C	NA	NA	Circle Time
Main	Middle Rm b/f Dining Rm	Two Year Olds	2	11	C	18	C	NA	NA	Outside
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 209			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0							
Total # Children this Date: 115			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0							

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	back playground (toddler)	25	C
Main	left side (Pre-K/ASP)	81	C
Main	right side playground (infant/toddler)	35	C

Enrolled Children						
Under 1 years	1 years	2 years	3 years	4 years	5 years (Prekonly)	5 years and older
12	12	26	23	50	0	34

Comments

The consultant reviewed the weather chart and new rule changes that took effect on July 1, 2025. The consultant went over the report with the provider.

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



Summary Report

Date: 9/15/2025 **VisitType:** Licensing Study

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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(2) - The consultant worked with the provider to ensure that lesson plans are posted weekly, with the correct date noted for the current week.

Correction Deadline: 9/15/2025

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

Met

Comment

Discussed adding equipment and toys to enhance variety.

Comment

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

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

Met

Comment

Pool not in use at this time, gates observed locked.

Children's Records

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

Met

Comment

Parent agreements observed obtained/completed.

Comment

Parent authorizations obtained/completed.

Comment

Records were observed to be complete and well organized.

Correction Deadline: 5/30/2025

Corrected on 9/15/2025

.08(6) - The previous citation was corrected. The consultant reviewed the sign-in and out sheets for all classrooms on today's visit.

Facility

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 on this date.

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

Comment

No hazards observed accessible to children on this date.

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

Comment

Playground observed to be clean and in good repair on this date.

Food Service

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

Comment

Center menu meets USDA guidelines.

Comment

Please ensure that bottles are covered and fully labeled with child's full name.

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

Comment

Discussed proper steps for dishwashing on this date.

Comment

Kitchen appears clean and well organized on this date.

Health and Hygiene

591-1-1-.10 Diapering Areas & Practices(CR) **Not Met**

Comment

Staff stated proper knowledge of diapering procedures.

Finding

591-1-1-.10(1) requires Centers first licensed after March 1, 1991, and Centers that are renovated after March 1, 1991, to provide ventilation in the diapering areas with functioning exhaust fans and a duct system or by the required amount of window space provided by operable windows when open. It was determined based on observation that in classroom 4L, the ventilation is not working properly.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The responsible person(s) at the center will ensure that the exhaust fans and duct systems are functioning or that the required amount of operable window space is provided in each diapering area.

Correction Deadline: 9/19/2025

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.

Policies and Procedures

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

Comment

Program observed complete emergency drills

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.

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**

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

Comment

Complete documentation of transportation observed on this date.

Comment

The vehicle had an approved fire extinguisher and first aid kit on this date.

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

Discussed SIDS and infant sleeping position.

Comment

Pleasant naptime environment observed.

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**Records Reviewed: 25****Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 8**

Staff # 1

Not Met

Date of Hire: 02/20/2024

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(3)-Health & Safety Certificate

Staff # 9

Not Met

Date of Hire: 09/15/2023

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(5)-10 Hrs. Annual Training

Staff # 16

Not Met

Date of Hire: 07/02/2021

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

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

Staff # 17

Not Met

Date of Hire: 07/26/2024

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.24(1)-Evidence of Orientation Missing

Staff # 22	Not Met
Date of Hire: 08/24/2015	
<u>"Missing/Incomplete Components"</u>	
.33(5)-10 Hrs. Annual Training	
Staff # 23	Not Met
Date of Hire: 03/03/2017	
<u>"Missing/Incomplete Components"</u>	
.31(2)(b)2.-Staff Qualifications-Education Missing	
Staff # 24	Not Met
Date of Hire: 10/17/2022	
<u>"Missing/Incomplete Components"</u>	
.31(2)(b)2.-Staff Qualifications-Education Missing	
Staff # 25	Not Met
Date of Hire: 04/01/2025	
<u>"Missing/Incomplete Components"</u>	
.33(3)-Health & Safety Certificate	

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

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

Comment

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

591-1-1-.33 Staff Training	Not Met
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Comment

Discussed staff training. Please obtain required documentation.

Finding

591-1-1-.33(1) requires all Employees and Provisional Employees to receive Initial Center orientation prior to assignment to children or task. It was determined based on the review of files that staff member #17 did not have evidence of their initial center orientation training form on file.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will develop and provide orientation for all new Staff prior to their assignment to children or task.

Correction Deadline: 9/15/2025

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 the review of files that staff members #9 and #22 did not have evidence of their annual 10-hour training for 2024 on file.

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: 10/15/2025

Comment

Discussed that all lead staff must enroll in an approved education program within 6 months of hire and complete degree within 18 months.

Comment

Staff observed to be compliant with applicable laws and regulations.

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 the review of files that staff members #16, #23, and #24 did not have evidence of their education credentials on file.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

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

Correction Deadline: 9/15/2025

Staffing and Supervision**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**

Adequate supervision observed on this date.