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: 3/27/2026 **VisitType:** Licensing Study **Arrival:** 9:30 AM **Departure:** 5:45 PM

CCLC-398
Scottdale Early Learning, Inc.
479 Warren Ave. Scottdale, GA 30079 DeKalb County
(404) 294-8362

Process & QI Unit Consultant
Melyn Smith
Phone: (706) 855-3455
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Joint with: Devanie Schay

Mailing Address
Same

Quality Rated: ★ ★

Compliance Zone Designation		
03/27/2026	Licensing Study	Good Standing
11/12/2025	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing
12/09/2024	Complaint Closure	Good Standing

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 - 1st Rt -Pre-K-1	GA PreK	2	16	C	23	C	NA	NA	Centers
Main	B -2nd Rt -Pre-K-2	GA PreK	2	12	C	23	C	NA	NA	Story,Circle Time
Main	C - 3rd Right	Infants and One Year Olds	2	6	C	12	C	NA	NA	Floor Play,Nap,Feeding
Main	D - 4th right	Two Year Olds and Three Year Olds	2	8	C	19	C	NA	NA	Nap,Transitioning,Story
Main	E- 2nd Left	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	2	14	C	20	C	NA	NA	Nap,Story
Main	F- 1st Left	One Year Olds and Two Year Olds	3	11	C	16	C	NA	NA	Story,Nap
		Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 113			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					
Total # Children this Date: 67		Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 113			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	Infant/Toddler	31	C
Main	Middle Playground	27	C
Main	Prek Playground	25	C

Enrolled Children						
Under 1 years	**1 years**	**2 years**	**3 years**	**4 years**	**5 years (Prekonly)**	**5 years and older**
3	5	3	8	16	14	0

Comments
The exit conference was conducted with the Director on this date. The Consultant discussed choking prevention and Chop Look Listen campaign resources on this date.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date

CCLC Indicator Manual

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!**

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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 week's activities in each classroom.

591-1-1-.12 Equipment & Toys(CR) **Not Met**

Finding
591-1-1-.12(2) requires that all equipment and furniture be free from hazardous conditions such as, but not limited to, sharp rough edges or toxic paint; and be kept clean. It was determined based on observation that the vinyl sofas, chairs, and climbing wedges had tears and patches of vinyl peeled off exposing the nonporous surface which prevented the furniture from being kept clean as required in Classrooms C-3rd Right, D-4th right, E-2nd Left, and F-1st Left on this date.

POI (Plan of Improvement)
The Center will ensure that equipment and furniture are in good repair and replace furniture as needed.

Correction Deadline: 4/10/2026

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-.19 License Capacity(CR) **Met**

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

Finding
591-1-1-.25(12) requires heating and cooling equipment to be protected to prevent children from touching it. Fans, space heaters, etc. shall be positioned or installed so as to be inaccessible to the children. It was determined based on observation that air purifiers and dehumidifiers were present and accessible to children on the floor and on top of shelves in Rooms A-1st Rt-Pre-K-1, B-2nd Rt-Pre-K-2, E-2nd Left, and F-1st Left on this date.

POI (Plan of Improvement)
The Center will remove, re-position, or re-install equipment, as needed, and will make all such equipment inaccessible to children.

Correction Deadline: 3/27/2026

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 present and accessible to children on this date:
- Room A-1st Rt-Pre-K-1: Bottles of hand sanitizer were present in the bathroom beside the handwashing sink and in the classroom on top of the block shelf. Diapering wipes were in children's cubbies on this date.
- Room B-2nd Rt-Pre-K-2: Flushable wipes and a tube of Blistex lip ointment were in a child's cubby. A box of gloves and loose trash bags were in two drawers of the plastic black and clear storage drawer unit located near the bathroom.
- Room D-4th right: Containers of toothpaste were in children's cubbies. Diapering wipes were located in low cubbies under the diaper changing table. Cleaning tools, which included a broom, dust pan, floor vacuum, and two Swiffer mops, were located in the back left corner of the children's bathroom.
- Room E-2nd Left: A red bin containing tubes of toothpaste and diapering wipes were located near the handwashing sink in the 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: 3/27/2026

Finding
591-1-1-.25(3) requires the Center and surrounding premises to be kept clean, free of debris and in good repair. Hygienic measures such as, but not limited to, screened windows and proper waste disposal procedures shall be utilized to minimize the presence of rodents, flies, roaches and other vermin at the Center. It was determined based on observation that the electrical outlet socket near the reading area in Room D-4th right was missing the outlet plate on this date. It was further determined that the metal ring around the pipe from the wall to the toilet was detached from the wall and had sharp edges on this date in the bathroom located in Room B-2nd Rt-Pre-K-2..

POI (Plan of Improvement)
The Center will have the Center and surrounding areas cleaned, make repairs where needed, and remove all debris is removed. The Center will implement a plan to keep areas clean and in good repair that includes regular monitoring.

Correction Deadline: 4/3/2026

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 electrical outlets and open outlets on extension cords located near the listening area and the CD player did not have protective covers as required in Rooms A-1st Rt-Pre-K-1, B-2nd Rt-Pre-K-2, and D-4th right. Electrical cords were accessible to children and plugged in to outlets near the screens, CD player, and listening areas in Rooms A-1st Rt--Pre-K-1 and B-2nd Rt-Pre-K-2.

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. Staff will also check all electrical cords to ensure they are secured and out of reach of children when plugged in.

Correction Deadline: 3/27/2026

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 was present on this date:
-Infant/Toddler Playground: The exterior fence on the right by the wooded area had gaps at the bottom that measured 4.5 to 5 inches and was 47 inches in height, when 48 inches in height was required. The interior chain link fence between the Infant/Toddler Playground and the Middle Playground had loose and extended fencing material protruding from the fence in the second section from the gate.
-Middle Playground: The exterior fence on the right by the wooded area was 47 inches in height, when 48 inches in height was required and had branches and vines protruding through the fence.
-Pre-K Playground: The fence enclosing the HVAC units measured 47 inches in height, when 48 inches in height was required.

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: 4/10/2026

Correction Deadline: 12/5/2025

Corrected on 3/27/2026
.26(8) - The previous citation was observed corrected on this date. Resilient surface material was added to the Pre-K Playground and Middle Playground and measured 6 inches in depth. The rubber mats located at the end of the slides were flush to the ground on this date.

Food Service

591-1-1-.15 Food Service & Nutrition — Not Met

Finding

591-1-1-.15(2)(f) requires that food for infants or children less than one (1) year of age be cut into pieces one-quarter inch or smaller and food for toddlers shall be cut into pieces one-half inch or smaller to prevent choking. It was determined based on observation that fish fillets, hush puppies, and tater tots were served to all children present for lunch without being cut into pieces one-quarter inch or smaller for infants and one-half inch or smaller for toddlers, creating choking hazards. Whole tater tots and hush puppies were observed on the floor in Room C-3rd Right after the infants and 1-year-old children had finished lunch and transitioned to nap time.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will ensure that food for infants and children less than one (1) year of age is cut into pieces one-quarter inch or smaller and food for toddlers is cut into pieces one-half inch or smaller to prevent choking.

Correction Deadline: 3/27/2026

Finding

591-1-1-.15(3) requires baby bottles and formula to be labeled with the individual child's name; supplied by the Parent daily in bottles; and refrigerated at a temperature of forty (40) degrees Fahrenheit or less. Only the current day's formula or breast milk shall be served. If formula must be provided by the Center, only commercially prepared, ready-to-feed formula shall be used. Refrigerated or frozen breast milk shall only be heated or thawed under warm running water or in a container of warm water. It was determined based on observation that two of three infant bottles located in the refrigerator in Room C-3rd Right were not labeled with the individual child's name on this date.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will train Staff to follow the required procedures, ensure that parents are fully informed, and will review and monitor regularly. Staff will have tape and markers on hand to label any unlabeled bottles brought in by parents.

Correction Deadline: 3/27/2026

Health and Hygiene

591-1-1-.07 Children's Health **Technical Assistance**

Technical Assistance
591-1-1-.07(5) - The Consultant discussed with the Director to ensure children were not allowed to wear necklaces around their necks, as one infant in Room C-3rd Right and one child in Room A-1st Rt-Pre-K-1 were observed to wear necklaces on this date.

Correction Deadline: 3/27/2026

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

Comment
Staff stated proper knowledge of diapering procedures.

Finding
591-1-1-.10(4) requires that if diapers are changed on a diaper changing surface, the surface shall be smooth, nonporous, and equipped with a guard or rails to prevent falls. Between each diaper change, the diaper changing surface shall be cleaned with a disinfectant and dried with a single-use disposable towel. It was determined based on observation that the diaper changing pad in Room C-3rd Right had a tear with foam exposed on one side.

POI (Plan of Improvement)
The Center will ensure there is a smooth, nonporous changing surface that has a guard or rails for safety in each classroom that houses children wearing diapers. The Center will remove and/or replace any diaper changing pad observed to have tears. Center Staff will be trained and have adequate supplies to properly clean the diaper changing surface between each diaper change.

Correction Deadline: 3/27/2026

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.

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

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

Comment
Pleasant naptime environment observed.

Records Reviewed: 20 **Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 7**

Staff # 2 Not Met

Date of Hire: 09/30/2025

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.14(2)-CPR missing,.14(2)-First Aid Missing,.33(3)-Health & Safety Certificate

Staff # 3 Not Met

Date of Hire: 01/30/2020

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(5)-10 Hrs. Annual Training

Staff # 6 Not Met

Date of Hire: 02/02/2018

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(5)-10 Hrs. Annual Training

Staff # 9 Not Met

Date of Hire: 05/01/2023

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(5)-10 Hrs. Annual Training,.24(1)-Evidence of Orientation Missing

Staff # 11 Not Met

Date of Hire: 08/06/2018

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(5)-10 Hrs. Annual Training

Staff # 17 Not Met

Date of Hire: 05/23/2023

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(5)-10 Hrs. Annual Training

Staff # 18 Not Met

Date of Hire: 01/11/2021

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(5)-10 Hrs. Annual Training

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**

Comment
At least one staff person with current and valid pediatric first aid and pediatric CPR observed in each classroom where children were present.

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 #2, hired September 30, 2025, did not complete certification in first aid and CPR within 45 days of hire as required.

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: 3/27/2026

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

Finding
591-1-1-.33(3)(a)-(k) requires each Staff member with direct care responsibilities to complete health and safety orientation training within the first 90 days of employment. The state-approved training hours obtained will count toward required first year training hours. The training must address the following health and safety topics: a)prevention and control of infectious diseases (including immunizations); b) prevention of sudden infant death syndrome and use of safe sleeping practices; c) administration of medication, consistent with standards for parental consent; d) prevention of and response to emergencies due to food and allergic reactions; e) building and physical premises safety, including identification of and protection from hazards that can cause bodily injury such as electrical hazards, bodies of water, and vehicular traffic; f) prevention of shaken baby syndrome, abusive head trauma and child maltreatment; g) emergency preparedness and response planning for emergencies resulting from a natural disaster or a human-caused event (such as violence at a child care facility); h) handling and storage of hazardous materials and the appropriate disposal of bio contaminants; i) precautions in transporting children; j) recognition and reporting of child abuse and neglect; and k) child development to include all major domains:cognitive; social and emotional; physical development and motor skills; communication, language, and literacy; and approaches to play and learning. It was determined based on a review of records that Staff #2, hired September 30, 2025, did not have evidence of completing the Health and Safety Orientation training within 90 days of hire, as required.

POI (Plan of Improvement)
The Center will develop and implement a plan to schedule and track this training for all employees based on their hire dates and will ensure that the training includes all required components as required.

Correction Deadline: 4/26/2026

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 a review of records that 7 of 20 staff were lacking evidence of completion of 10 clock hours of annual training for 2025.

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: 12/31/2026

Finding
591-1-1-.33(5)(b)1. requires the annual ten (10) clock hours of training shall include at least two (2) hours in evidence based, developmentally appropriate language and literacy practices. It was determined based on a review of records that 7 of 20 staff were lacking evidence of completing at least 2 hours in evidence based, developmentally appropriate language and literacy practices for 2025 on this date, as required.

POI (Plan of Improvement)
The Center will plan and schedule the required 10 hours of annual training each year to include a least two (2) hours in evidence based, developmentally appropriate language and literacy practices and follow up to ensure the training is completed.

Correction Deadline: 12/31/2026

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

Comment
Staff observed to be compliant with applicable laws and regulations.

591-1-1-.32 Staff:Child Ratios and Group Size(CR) **Not Met**

Finding
591-1-1-.32(2) requires the Center maintain Staff:child ratios in mixed-age groups based on the age of the youngest group of children that includes more than twenty percent of the total number of children in the mixed-age group. It was determined based on observation that a ratio of 1:11 was present in Room F-1st Left during nap time, consisting of six 1-year-old chldren and five 2-year-old children Room F-1st Left. A second staff person was needed to meet the minimum ratio of 1:8 since 1-year-old children made up more than 20% of the group.

POI (Plan of Improvement)
The Center will provide adequate staff when there is a mixed-age group.

Correction Deadline: 3/27/2026

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

Comment
Adequate supervision observed on this date.