



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: 1/21/2026 **VisitType:** Licensing Study

Arrival: 8:35 AM **Departure:** 12:45 PM

CCLC-3212

Saint Luke Early Learning Center

300 11th Street Columbus, GA 31901 Muscogee County
 (706) 322-2703

Regional Consultant

Penny Svenson

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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.
01/21/2026	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
10/27/2025	TA Follow Up	NA	
09/16/2025	TA Follow Up	NA	

Ratios/License Capacity

Building	Room	Age Group	Staff	Children	NC/C	Max 35 SF.	35 SF. Comp.	Max 25 SF.	25 SF. Comp.	Notes
Bldg. 1	1st Left	Two Year Olds	1	9	C	17	C	NA	NA	Free Play,Centers,Breakfast
Bldg. 1	1st Right	One Year Olds	2	8	C	11	C	NA	NA	Diapering,Floor Play
Bldg. 1	2nd Left	One Year Olds	2	5	C	10	C	NA	NA	Free Play
Bldg. 1	2nd Right		0	0	C	11	C	NA	NA	
Bldg. 1	3rd Left	Infants	2	3	C	11	C	NA	NA	Floor Play
Bldg. 1	3rd Right		0	0	C	10	C	NA	NA	
Bldg. 1	4th Left	Two Year Olds	1	6	C	0	NC	NA	NA	Transitioning,Centers
Bldg. 1	4th Right	One Year Olds	2	8	C	11	C	NA	NA	Diapering,Centers
Bldg. 1	5th Left	One Year Olds and Two Year Olds	2	7	C	0	NC	NA	NA	Free Play,Centers
Bldg. 1	5th Right	Three Year Olds	2	5	C	15	C	NA	NA	Story
Bldg. 1	6th Left	Two Year Olds	1	6	C	0	NC	NA	NA	Centers,Free Play,Diapering
Bldg. 1	6th Right	Two Year Olds and Three Year Olds	2	10	C	17	C	NA	NA	Story
Bldg. 1	7th Left	Two Year Olds	1	6	C	0	NC	NA	NA	Transitioning,Centers,Diapering
Bldg. 1	7th Right	Two Year Olds	2	9	C	17	C	NA	NA	Free Play,Centers

Bldg. 1	8th Left	One Year Olds	2	8	C	0	NC	NA	NA	Centers
Bldg. 1	8th Right	Two Year Olds and Three Year Olds	2	9	C	18	C	NA	NA	Free Play,Centers
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 148					Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					
Bldg. II	1st Left	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	1	12	C	20	C	NA	NA	Art,Centers
Bldg. II	1st Right	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	2	14	C	20	C	NA	NA	Transitioning
Bldg. II	2nd Left	Three Year Olds	2	8	C	20	C	NA	NA	Free Play,Centers
Bldg. II	2nd Right	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	2	12	C	20	C	NA	NA	Transitioning
Bldg. II	3rd Left		0	0	C	20	C	NA	NA	
Bldg. II	3rd Right		0	0	C	20	C	NA	NA	
Bldg. II	4th Left		0	0	C	20	C	NA	NA	
Bldg. II	4th Right		0	0	C	20	C	NA	NA	
Bldg. II	4th Right		0	0	C	41	C	NA	NA	
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 201					Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					
Total # Children this Date: 145			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 349				Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0			

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Bldg. 1	A	35	C
Bldg. 1	B	45	C
Bldg. 1	C	75	C

Enrolled Children						
Under 1 years	1 years	2 years	3 years	4 years	5 years (Prekonly)	5 years and older
19	51	46	47	23	0	0

Comments

January 21, 2026--There were no citations on this date.

Plan of Improvement: No Plan Developed

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.dec.state.ga.us/CCS/Regulations.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@decals.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-.12 Equipment & Toys(CR)

Met

Comment

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

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

Met

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-.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

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

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

Met

Comment

Discussed maintenance of resilient surface. Please fluff and redistribute.

Comment

Trees located on the site or that encroach onto the site from adjacent properties may have structural issues that present an elevated level of risk. Consider having these trees inspected by a certified arborist to determine their structural integrity and associated levels of risk.

Food Service

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

Met

Comment

Please ensure that infant feeding forms are updated regularly.

591-1-1-.18 Kitchen Operations

Met

Comment

Please ensure that all food items are stored in airtight containers.

Health and Hygiene

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

Met

Comment

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

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

Met

Comment

Proper hand washing observed throughout the center on this date.

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

Met

Comment

Documentation for medication dispensing observed completed on this date.

Policies and Procedures

591-1-1-.27 Posted Notices

Met

Comment

Observed all required posted notices.

591-1-1-.29 Required Reporting

Met

Comment

Thank you for reporting as required.

Safety

591-1-1-.05 Animals

Met

Comment

Center does not keep animals on premises.

591-1-1-.11 Discipline(CR)

Met

Comment

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

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)

Met

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.

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-.09 Criminal Records Check(CR)	Met
Comment Criminal records checks were observed to be complete.	
591-1-1-.14 First Aid & CPR(CR)	Met
Comment Evidence observed of 100% of center Staff certified in First Aid and CPR containing emergency care for infants and children that were required to have the training by this date.	
591-1-1-.33 Staff Training	Met
Comment Documentation observed of required staff training.	
591-1-1-.31 Staff(CR)	Met
Comment Staff observed to be compliant with applicable laws and regulations.	
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 Staff observed to provide direct supervision and be attentive to children's needs.	