



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: 1/16/2026 VisitType: Monitoring Visit

Arrival: 11:20 AM Departure: 2:00 PM

CCLC-36566

Easter Seals Child Development Center at Winder  
37 South Center St. Winder, GA 30680 Barrow County  
(470) 429-2100

Regional Consultant  
Lynn Schnitzer  
Phone: (678) 717-5720  
Fax: (770) 344-5683  
lynn.schnitzer@dec.al.ga.gov

Mailing Address  
Same

Quality Rated: ★ ★ ★

| Compliance Zone Designation |                  |               | <b>Compliance Zone Designation</b> - 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.<br><br><b>Good Standing</b> - Program is demonstrating an acceptable level of performance in meeting the rules.<br><b>Support</b> - Program performance is demonstrating a need for improvement in meeting rules.<br><b>Deficient</b> - Program is not demonstrating an acceptable level of performance in meeting the rules. |
|-----------------------------|------------------|---------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 01/16/2026                  | Monitoring Visit | Good Standing |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| 12/11/2024                  | Licensing Study  | Good Standing |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| 11/01/2023                  | 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                           | A- BacMiddle Back | Four Year Olds                     | 2                             | 11       | C    | 21         | C            | NA         | NA           | Clean Up,Circle Time,Transitioning |
| Main                           | B-2nd Left        | Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds | 3                             | 15       | C    | 20         | C            | NA         | NA           | Story,Transitioning,Lunch          |
| Main                           | C-1st Left        |                                    | 0                             | 0        | C    | 8          | C            | NA         | NA           |                                    |
| Main                           | D-1st Right       | One Year Olds and Two Year Olds    | 2                             | 7        | C    | 12         | C            | NA         | NA           | Nap                                |
| Main                           | E- 2nd Right      | GA PreK                            | 2                             | 15       | C    | 20         | C            | NA         | NA           | Transitioning,Lunch                |
| Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 81 |                   |                                    | Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0 |          |      |            |              |            |              |                                    |
| Total # Children this Date: 48 |                   |                                    | Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0 |          |      |            |              |            |              |                                    |

| Building | Playground | Playground Occupancy | Playground Compliance |
|----------|------------|----------------------|-----------------------|
| Main     | Playground | 38                   | C                     |

| Enrolled Children |         |         |         |         |                    |                   |
|-------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|--------------------|-------------------|
| Under 1 years     | 1 years | 2 years | 3 years | 4 years | 5 years (Prekonly) | 5 years and older |
| 0                 | 3       | 8       | 19      | 29      | 8                  | 0                 |

### Comments

The consultant discussed the visit report with the Director, Katherine Hunter, on January 16, 2026.

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](http://www.decalkoala.com) with the user id 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@decgal.ga.gov](mailto:qualityrated@decgal.ga.gov) for more information. Free technical assistance is available!**



**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

**Summary Report**

**Date:** 1/16/2026 **VisitType:** Monitoring Visit

**Arrival:** 11:20 AM **Departure:** 2:00 PM

**CCLC-36566**

**Easter Seals Child Development Center at Winder**  
37 South Center St. Winder, GA 30680 Barrow County  
(470) 429-2100

Regional Consultant  
Lynn Schnitzer  
Phone: (678) 717-5720  
Fax: (770) 344-5683  
lynn.schnitzer@dec.al.ga.gov

**Mailing Address**  
Same

The following information is associated with a Monitoring Visit:

**Activities and Equipment**

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

**Met**

**Comment**

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

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

**Met**

**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)**

**Met**

**Comment**

No hazards observed accessible to children on this date.

**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 there was a four inch gap under the gate on the left 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: 1/16/2026**

**Health and Hygiene**

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

**Met**

**Comment**

Staff stated proper knowledge of diapering procedures.

---

|                                |            |
|--------------------------------|------------|
| <b>591-1-1-.17 Hygiene(CR)</b> | <b>Met</b> |
|--------------------------------|------------|

**Comment**

Proper hand washing observed throughout the center on this date.

---

|                                    |            |
|------------------------------------|------------|
| <b>591-1-1-.20 Medications(CR)</b> | <b>Met</b> |
|------------------------------------|------------|

**Comment**

Documentation for medication dispensing observed completed on this date.

|  |               |
|--|---------------|
|  | <b>Safety</b> |
|--|---------------|

---

|                                   |            |
|-----------------------------------|------------|
| <b>591-1-1-.11 Discipline(CR)</b> | <b>Met</b> |
|-----------------------------------|------------|

**Comment**

Age-appropriate discussion and/or redirection observed.

---

|                                       |            |
|---------------------------------------|------------|
| <b>591-1-1-.36 Transportation(CR)</b> | <b>N/A</b> |
|---------------------------------------|------------|

**Comment**

Center does not provide routine transportation.

|  |                                         |
|--|-----------------------------------------|
|  | <b>Sleeping &amp; Resting Equipment</b> |
|--|-----------------------------------------|

---

|                                                               |            |
|---------------------------------------------------------------|------------|
| <b>591-1-1-.30 Safe Sleeping and Resting Requirements(CR)</b> | <b>Met</b> |
|---------------------------------------------------------------|------------|

**Comment**

Pleasant naptime environment observed.

**Comment**

591-1-1-.30(2) - Center does not serve infants. No enrolled children in cribs.

**Correction Deadline: 1/16/2026**

|  |                      |
|--|----------------------|
|  | <b>Staff Records</b> |
|--|----------------------|

---

|                             |                                                      |
|-----------------------------|------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Records Reviewed: 13</b> | <b>Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 1</b> |
|-----------------------------|------------------------------------------------------|

Staff # 5

Not Met

Date of Hire: 08/12/2025

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.09-Criminal Records Check Missing

---

|                                                                             |                |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|
| <b>591-1-1-.09 Criminal Records and Comprehensive Background Checks(CR)</b> | <b>Not Met</b> |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|

**Comment**

Director provided four files for employees hired since last visit December11, 2024.

**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 review of records that the center did not submit a portability request for staff #5's, date of hire August 12, 2025, satisfactory comprehensive determination letter. Staff member #5 was observed to have a satisfactory comprehensive determination letter dated for July 25, 2025. The consultant observed staff member #5 working in classroom B-2nd Left. The center director ported staff member #5's letter during the visit.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

**IMMEDIATE CORRECTION** - The Center will 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 ensure CRC rules are maintained.

**Correction Deadline: 1/16/2026**

---

**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 on this date.

---

**591-1-1-.33 Staff Training****Technical Assistance****Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.33(4) - Consultant discussed with director that she has until March 4, 2026, to obtain four clock hours of training in food nutrition planning, preparation, serving, proper dish washing and food storage. Safe Serve certification does not meet the requirements of the rule.

**Correction Deadline: 2/15/2026**

---

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

Staff observed to be compliant with applicable laws and regulations.

|                                 |
|---------------------------------|
| <b>Staffing and Supervision</b> |
|---------------------------------|

---

**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.