



**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:** 8/12/2026 **VisitType:** Licensing Study

**Arrival:** 10:00 AM **Departure:** 4:30 PM

**CCLC-17857**

**Southeastern Tech Child Development Center**

346 Kite Rd. Swainsboro, GA 30401 Emanuel County  
(478) 289-2240

Regional Consultant

Emily Patterson

Phone: (470) 532-4434

Fax:

emily.patterson@dec.al.ga.gov

Joint with: Kristy Turner

**Mailing Address**

Same

**Quality Rated:** ★ ★ ★

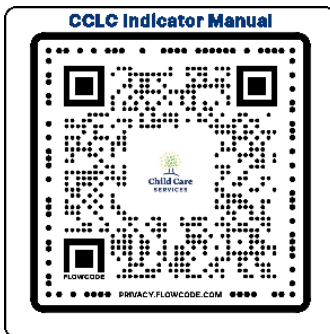
| Compliance Zone Designation |                  |               | <b>Compliance Zone Designation</b> - A summary measure of a program's 12 month monitoring history, as it pertains to child care health and safety rules. The three compliance zones are good standing, support, and deficient.<br><br><b>Good 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. |
|-----------------------------|------------------|---------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 08/12/2026                  | Licensing Study  | Good Standing |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| 02/11/2026                  | Monitoring Visit | Good Standing |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| 09/08/2025                  | Licensing Study  | Good Standing |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |

Data retrieval failed for the subreport, 'RatioCapacity', located at: Koala.Reports.Visits.RDLC.RatioCapacity.rdlc.

**Comments**

The Consultant reviewed the visit report with the Director. Staff #2, Staff #4 and Staff #5 have required credentials. Credentials will be entered at the next visit.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date



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.dec.al.ga.gov/CCS/RulesAndRegulations.aspx>.



For additional information regarding the full compliance inspection results of this program or any licensed program in the state, access the Child Care Services Compliance-at-a Glance website by scanning this QR code or visiting: <https://families.dec.al.ga.gov>.

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.al.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.

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#### 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 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.

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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](mailto:qualityrated@dec.al.ga.gov) for more information. Free technical assistance is available!**



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Summary Report

Date: 8/12/2026 VisitType: Licensing Study

Arrival: 10:00 AM Departure: 4:30 PM

CCLC-17857

Southeastern Tech Child Development Center  
346 Kite Rd. Swainsboro, GA 30401 Emanuel County  
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Joint with: Kristy Turner

Mailing Address  
Same

The following information is associated with a Licensing Study:

Activities and Equipment

591-1-1-.03 Activities

Met

Comment

Age-appropriate activities observed throughout the center.

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)

N/A

Comment

Center does not provide swimming activities.

Children's Records

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

Technical Assistance

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.08(1) - Please maintain a completed file for each child.

Correction Deadline: 8/12/2026

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)

Not Met

Finding

591-1-1-.25(11) requires that floor coverings be tight, smooth, free of odors and washable or cleanable. It was determined based on observation that the flooring by the door leading to the playground in Classroom 4105 was not tight or smooth as required.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

Floors will be maintained to be safe and sanitary.

**Correction Deadline: 9/11/2026**

**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 existed:

- Room 4102- There was a roll of trash bags on the counter in the bathroom accessible to children and the baseboard in the left corner by the door was hanging off exposing chipped paint and dry wall.
- Room 4105- There was a trash bag covering the toilet in the bathroom accessible to children.
- Room 4106- There was an unlocked cabinet under the sink with four boxes of gloves, one box of Swiffer labeled "Keep Out of Reach of Children", and one box of trash bags accessible to children and a broken baby gate which posed a potential pinching hazard.

**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: 8/12/2026**

**Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.25(8) - Please ensure all electrical outlets are in good repair and free of hazards.

**Correction Deadline: 8/12/2026**

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**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 the following fencing hazards existed in that:

- Main Back Playground- There was a loose board on the gate on the right which posed a potential pinching hazard.
- Main Front Playground- There were 13 bolts extending more than two threads on the double gate on the left leading to the parking lot and one bolt extending more than two threads on the gate on the right leading to the stairs.

**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: 8/21/2026**

**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 following potential playground hazards existed:

- Main Back Playground- There was an unlocked cabinet located under the porch with plastic bags of sand labeled "Keep Out of Reach of Children" accessible to children and water was observed dripping from the water fountain beneath the porch, resulting in standing water on the concrete porch surface.
- Main Front Playground- There was exposed weed barrier behind the grey and green shaded couch which posed a potential tripping hazard.

**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: 8/22/2026**

|                     |
|---------------------|
| <b>Food Service</b> |
|---------------------|

**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 children were served whole fish filets, french fries, slices of bread and green beans for lunch that were not cut in such a way as to minimize choking.

**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: 8/12/2026**

## 591-1-1-.18 Kitchen Operations

Met

**Comment**

Kitchen appears clean and well organized on this date.

**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 in classroom 4102 a two year old child had a pacifier attached to their clothing.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center will instruct Staff regarding this safety requirement.

**Correction Deadline: 8/12/2026**

## 591-1-1-.10 Diapering Areas &amp; 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.

**Policies and Procedures**

## 591-1-1-.27 Posted Notices

Met

**Comment**

Please make sure that all required signs are posted and up to date including the names of persons responsible for the administration of the Center in the administrator's absence.

**Safety**

## 591-1-1-.05 Animals

N/A

**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)

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.

**Staff Records****Records Reviewed: 10****Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 1**

Staff # 1

Not Met

Date of Hire: 03/10/2025

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(6)-Training Documentation Missing

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

Met

**Comment**

Consultant requested to view all Criminal Record checks for employees hired after last visit. Director stated that there have been no new hires since last visit

**Comment**

Criminal record checks were observed to be complete.

**591-1-1-.14 First Aid & CPR(CR)**

Technical Assistance

**Comment**

Evidence observed of 100% of center Staff certified in First Aid and CPR containing emergency care for infants and children on this date.

**Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.14(3) - Please replace the expired antibiotic ointment and insect-sting preparation to each first aid kit.

**Correction Deadline: 8/22/2026****591-1-1-.33 Staff Training**

Not Met

**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 Staff # 1 did not have evidence of at least two (2) hours in evidence based, developmentally appropriate language and literacy practice training 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: 9/11/2026****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.

**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 members were not seated within an arm's length away from children during mealtime in room 4102 and 4105.

**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: 8/12/2026**