



**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:** 9/3/2026

**VisitType:** Licensing Study

**Arrival:** 10:40 AM **Departure:** 3:00 PM

**CCLC-134**

**The Sunshine House #131**

605 Henderson Drive Cartersville, GA 30120 Bartow County  
(770) 386-1258

Regional Consultant

Angela Hall

Phone: (404) 977-2140

Fax:

angela.hall@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. |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 09/03/2026                  | Licensing Study                | Good Standing |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| 06/22/2026                  | POI Follow Up                  | Good Standing |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| 06/18/2026                  | Incident Investigation Closure | 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 -1st Right       | Two Year Olds             | 2                           | 16       | C                           | 18         | C                           | NA         | NA           | Transitioning, Story, Lunch |
| Main                           | B- 2nd Right       | Three Year Olds           | 1                           | 15       | C                           | 28         | C                           | NA         | NA           | Nap                         |
| Main                           | C -1st Left        | Infants and One Year Olds | 2                           | 12       | C                           | 16         | C                           | NA         | NA           | Lunch, Nap                  |
| Main                           | D- 2nd Left        | One Year Olds             | 2                           | 8        | C                           | 15         | C                           | NA         | NA           | Lunch                       |
| Main                           | E - 3rd Left       | Two Year Olds             | 1                           | 10       | C                           | 16         | C                           | NA         | NA           | Lunch                       |
| Main                           | F - Middle Back    | Three Year Olds           | 2                           | 13       | C                           | 26         | C                           | NA         | NA           | Lunch                       |
| Main                           | G - Upstairs Right | Four Year Olds            | 2                           | 7        | C                           | 35         | C                           | NA         | NA           | Lunch                       |
| Main                           | H- Upstairs Left   | GA PreK                   | 2                           | 17       | C                           | 35         | C                           | NA         | NA           | Transitioning, Lunch, Music |
| Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.:    |                    |                           | 189                         |          | Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: |            | 0                           |            |              |                             |
| Total # Children this Date: 98 |                    |                           | Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: |          | 189                         |            | Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: |            |              |                             |
|                                |                    |                           |                             |          |                             |            | 0                           |            |              |                             |

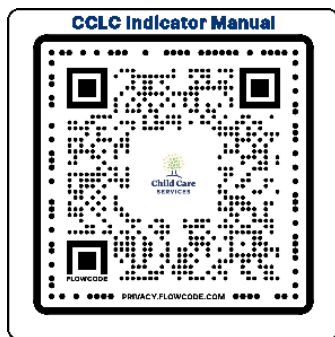
| Building | Playground | Playground Occupancy | Playground Compliance |
|----------|------------|----------------------|-----------------------|
| Main     | Back       | 346                  | C                     |

| Enrolled Children    |                   |                                   |                                     |              |             |
|----------------------|-------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------|-------------|
| Infant (0-12 months) | Toddler (1-2 yrs) | Preschool (3-5yrs/full time care) | School Age (before/after care only) | GA PreK only | Summer Only |
| 12                   | 36                | 37                                | 8                                   | 20           | 0           |

### Comments

The Consultant followed up on past citations. The Consultant reviewed and emailed the report to the Provider.

Plan of Improvement: No Plan Developed



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>.



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.decal.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

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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) - Consultant discussed lesson plans with Provider.

**Correction Deadline: 9/3/2026**

**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

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.

**Comment**

Please secure cleaning tools (i.e., broom, plunger) out of reach of children.

**591-1-1-.26 Playgrounds(CR)****Technical Assistance****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.

**Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.26(6) - Consultant discussed painting of playground structures.

**Correction Deadline: 9/13/2026**

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

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

**Comment**

Please ensure that infant feeding forms are updated regularly.

**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****Met**

**Correction Deadline: 6/18/2026**

**Corrected on 9/3/2026**

.07(2) - The previous citation was observed corrected. Consultant spoke with Provider who shared that they are aware of the policy surrounding contacting parents and it is in the parent handbook on this date.

**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**

Staff were observed to remind children to wash hands on this date.

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

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**591-1-1-.13 Field Trips(CR)** **Met**

**Comment**

Center does not participate in field trips at this time.

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**591-1-1-.36 Transportation(CR)** **Met**

**Comment**

Paperwork, checklist, permission forms, annual inspection form and proper check of the vehicle after transportation were discussed with the director.

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**Sleeping & Resting Equipment**

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

**Comment**

Please ensure that cribs/cots are labeled for individual use.

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**Staff Records**

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

**Comment**

Criminal record checks were observed to be complete.

**Comment**

Director provided four files for employees hired since last visit.

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**591-1-1-.09 Criminal Records Check(CR)** **Met**

**Comment**

Criminal records checks were observed to be complete.

**Comment**

Director provided four files for employees hired since last visit.

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

**Comment**

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

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

**Comment**

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

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**Staffing and Supervision**

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**591-1-1-.32 Staff:Child Ratios and Group Size(CR)** **Met**

**Comment**

Center observed to maintain appropriate staff:child ratios.

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

**Comment**

Adequate supervision observed on this date.