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

Investigation Report

Date: 8/28/2025 **VisitType:** Complaint Investigation Closure from CI/LS on 08/14/2025

CCLC-66386
Evans Kids and Company
1047 Furys Ferry Rd Evans, GA 30809 Columbia County
(706) 840-3822 kelsey@augkids.com

Regional Consultant
Christina Jennings
Phone: (404) 463-0970
Fax: (770) 342-3177
christina.jennings@decal.ga.gov
Joint with: Kati Cosby

Mailing Address
Same

Quality Rated: No

Compliance Zone Designation		
08/14/2025	Complaint Investigation & Licensing Study	Good Standing
03/31/2025	Initial Licensing Study	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.

Comments
The Consultant discussed the findings with the Provider. A 1-Day letter was emailed to the Provider on this date.

Advisement of Potential for Repeated Rule Violations during Pending Investigations

This report shall serve as official notice of potential rule violations. These potential rule violations have been detailed in this report and discussed with you by the consultant. The department shall conduct a thorough investigation to determine if in fact the alleged rule violation(s) should or should not be substantiated. Please be aware that the investigation may take some time to be finalized to ensure fairness and accuracy. During this investigation period, any violations of an identical rule or rules will require the department to treat any and all substantiated rule violations identified in the investigation as repeated rule violation(s).

Further, from time to time the department discovers additional rule violations during the course of an investigation. If there are new rule violation(s), your consultant shall inform you of the violation(s) as soon as possible. However, as stated above, any violations of identical rule(s) will require the department to treat any and all additional rule violations identified in the investigation as repeated rule violations.

All rule violations found in relation to a complaint or incident investigation will be associated with the date the investigation was closed.



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

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)

I have read and understand the Rules and Regulations for Child Care Learning Centers, 591-1-1. I acknowledge that the items noted in this report have been discussed with me and I have agreed to a Plan of Improvement (POI) as indicated in this report. I understand that correction of these deficiencies, while required, will not necessarily prevent DECAL from taking adverse action against this facility. I understand that if I disagree with any of the deficiencies cited, I have the right to refute them on this report or any other form that I choose to send to Child Care Services.

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Summary Report

Date: 8/28/2025 **VisitType:** Complaint Investigation Closure from CI/LS on 08/14/2025 **Arrival:** 10:45 AM **Departure:** 2:05 PM

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The following information is associated with a Complaint Closure:

Organization

591-1-1-.16 Governing Body & License **Not Met**

Finding Associated with Complaint
591-1-1-.16(g) requires the application for a License or Permit, including the Records Check Application, must be truthfully and fully completed. In the event that the Department has reason to believe that the application has not been completed truthfully, it may require additional verification of the facts alleged. The Department may refuse to issue or revoke a License or Permit where false statements have been made in connection with the application or any other documents submitted to the Department. It was determined based on an investigation that the Center submitted false information when submitting criminal records check applications for three out-of-state applicants. The Center submitted applications to falsely indicate that an Employee resided in-state during the previous five years when they were aware that the employee was an out-of-state resident. The Center originally indicated that one out of the three Employees resided outside of the state on an application that was submitted on February 7, 2024. The Center then submitted a new application for the same employee on March 24, 2025, and did not indicate that the employee resided outside of the state within the past five years. Investigative findings further revealed that on May 9, 2025, and May 22, 2025, the Center did not indicate that two different Employees had resided outside of the state within the past five years after one employee showed the Center an out of state driving permit.

Correction Deadline: 7/31/2025

Staff Records

591-1-1-.09 Criminal Records and Comprehensive Background Checks(CR) **Not Met**

Finding Associated with Complaint
591-1-1-.09(1)(c) requires the Center to ensure that every Employee has a valid and current satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination on file prior to being present at the Center while any child is present for care or before an individual age 17 or older resides in the Center. The Comprehensive Records Check Determination must have a Records Check Clearance Date that is no older than the preceding 12 months of the hire date; provided, however, if the Employee has had a lapse of employment from the child care industry that lasted for 180 days (6 months) or longer, a new satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination is required. It was determined based on investigative findings that three employees did not have a valid and current satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination on file as required.

Correction Deadline: 8/28/2025

Finding Associated with Complaint
591-1-1-.09(1)(h) requires the Center to ensure that every Provisional Employee requests child abuse and neglect registry information and criminal history documents from any U.S. state, territory or tribal land other than Georgia in which they have resided in the preceding five years and submit such documents to the Department in a timely manner. Failure to request out-of-state information will result in the issuance of an unsatisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination. It was determined based on investigative findings that on March 24, 2025, May 9, 2025, and May 22, 2025, the Center did not ensure that three employees submitted requests for child abuse and neglect registry information and criminal history documents as required. The Center completed the criminal records check applications to indicate that three employees had not been residents of other states in the past five years but was aware that the employees had been out-of-state residents.

Correction Deadline: 7/28/2025

591-1-1-.24 Personnel Records **Not Met**

Finding Associated with Complaint
591-1-1-.24(1) requires the center to maintain a personnel file on the Director, all Employees, Provisional Employees, Personnel, Staff, Students-in-Training, Volunteers, Clerical, Housekeeping, Maintenance, and other Support Staff for the duration of the term of employment plus one calendar year, and it shall contain the following: identifying information to include: name, date of birth, social security number, current address and current telephone number; employment history; as applicable to the position held: evidence of education and qualifying work experience; evidence of all training required by these rules which shall include: title of training, date of training, trainer's signature, location of training and number of clock hours obtained; a statement completed by the staff member that the information provided is true and accurate; any other records required by these rules; and as applicable to the position held, evidence of required orientation including date and signature of person providing the orientation; It was determined based on an investigation and a review of records that 23 out of 23 staff members did not have a complete personnel file that included identifying information as required.

Correction Deadline: 8/28/2025