



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: 1/9/2025 **VisitType:** Licensing Study **Arrival:** 8:40 AM **Departure:** 10:45 AM

CCLC-52927

Rays of Hope Childcare

745 West Moores Crossing Road Thomaston, GA 30286 Upson
 County
 (706) 647-0050 raysofhopechildcare@gmail.com

Regional Consultant

Brandi Mangino

Phone: (478) 314-9726

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brandi.mangino@dec.al.ga.gov

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.
01/09/2025	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
07/22/2024	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
02/20/2024	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
			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.

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 - (1R) 5-12 yrs		0	0	C	10	C	14	C	
Main	B- (2R) 1's	One Year Olds	1	5	C	9	C	NA	NA	Free Play, Diapering
Main	C- (3R) 2's	Two Year Olds	1	9	C	12	C	NA	NA	Centers
Main	D - (3L) 4's	GA PreK	2	18	C	21	C	NA	NA	Centers
Main	E - (2L) 3's	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	1	11	C	13	C	NA	NA	Centers
Main	F - (1L) 6wks-18mths	Infants and One Year Olds	1	7	C	19	C	NA	NA	Floor Play
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 84					Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 87					
Total # Children this Date: 50			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 84			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 87			Building @25 capacity limited by Health Department Limitations	

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	Playground A - 6wks-12 yrs	111	C

Enrolled Children						
Under 1 years	1 years	2 years	3 years	4 years	5 years (Prekonly)	5 years and older
9	8	10	11	19	0	16

Comments

Plan developed on this date.

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.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.

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 1 855-800-7747 or qualityrated@dec.al.ga.gov for more information. Free technical assistance is available!



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(Findings 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

Consultant discussed that detail lesson plans need to be posted for all classroom.

Correction Deadline: 1/9/2025

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

Technical Assistance

Comment

Discussed adding equipment and toys to enhance variety.

Technical Assistance

Consultant discussed to secure the kitchen set in Room C.

Correction Deadline: 1/9/2025

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

Not Evaluated

Comment

Center does not provide swimming activities.

Facility

591-1-1-.19 License Capacity(CR)

Met

Correction Deadline: 7/22/2024

Corrected on 1/9/2025

.19(1) - Citation observed to be corrected.

591-1-1-.25 Physical Plant - Safe Environment(CR)

Not Met

Technical Assistance

Consultant discussed to ensure that all electrical outlets are covered.

Room F: two ceiling tiles are in need of being replaced.

Correction Deadline: 2/8/2025

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 hazards were accessible:

-3rd Right:

baby wipes, plastic bags, ointment, and first aid kit under the unlocked diapering station

3rd Left:

trash bags, first aid kit, disinfectant wipes, and a staff bag were accessible to children

2nd Left:

plunger, toilet brush, and lysol cleaner in the restroom

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: 1/9/2025

Recited on 1/9/2025

591-1-1-.26 Playgrounds(CR)	Met
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Correction Deadline: 7/22/2024

Corrected on 1/9/2025

.26(8) - Citation observed to be corrected.

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

Please ensure that infant feeding forms are updated regularly.

	Health and Hygiene
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591-1-1-.10 Diapering Areas & Practices(CR)	Met
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Comment

Proper diapering procedures observed.

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

Staff were observed to remind children to wash hands.

591-1-1-.20 Medications(CR)	Not Evaluated
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Comment

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

	Safety
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591-1-1-.05 Animals	Not Evaluated
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Comment

Center does not keep animals on premises.

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

Age-appropriate discussion and/or redirection observed.

591-1-1-.13 Field Trips(CR)**Not Evaluated****Comment**

Center does not participate in field trips at this time.

591-1-1-.36 Transportation(CR)**Not Evaluated****Comment**

Center does not provide routine transportation.

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

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

Discussed SIDS and infant sleeping position.

Comment

The correct number of mats, sheets and blankets were observed on this date. Cleaning and disinfecting of mats was discussed with the director on this date.

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-.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.

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**

Correction Deadline: 7/22/2024

Corrected on 1/9/2025

.32(7) - Citation observed to be corrected.