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: 2/19/2026 **VisitType:** Complaint Investigation & Licensing Study **Arrival:** 10:50 AM **Departure:** 4:45 PM

CCLC-63722
Red Zebra Learning Academy
55 Willis Road Sharpsburg, GA 30277 Coweta County
(678) 673-6800

Regional Consultant
Laura Swann
Phone: (706) 855-3454
Fax: (706) 434-7641
laura.swann@decal.ga.gov

Mailing Address
Same

Quality Rated:

Compliance Zone Designation

02/19/2026	Complaint Investigation & Licensing Study	Good Standing
08/06/2025	Complaint Investigation Follow Up	Good Standing
08/06/2025	Complaint Closure	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.

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 - Toddler (1 year old)		0	0	C	13	C	NA	NA	
Main	B - Infant Room	Infants	1	1	C	17	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main	C -Two year old	One Year Olds and Two Year Olds	1	10	NC	20	C	NA	NA	Transitioning,Lunch
Main	D - Pre K Room		0	0	C	18	C	NA	NA	
Main	E - Three Year old room	Two Year Olds and Three Year Olds	1	11	NC	30	C	NA	NA	Lunch,Centers,Transitioning
Main	F - Afterschool	Four Year Olds and Five Year Olds and Six Year Olds and Over	1	16	C	25	C	NA	NA	Centers
		Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 123			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					
Total # Children this Date: 38		Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 123			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	Back playground	95	C
Main	Left side playground	15	C
Main	Main Playground	137	C
Main	Right side playground	10	C

Enrolled Children						
Under 1 years	**1 years**	**2 years**	**3 years**	**4 years**	**5 years (Prekonly)**	**5 years and older**
1	7	8	16	10	0	19

Comments
Licensing study completed on February 19, 2026.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date

CCLC Indicator Manual

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.

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.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)

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@decal.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 Visit:

Activities and Equipment

591-1-1-.03 Activities — **Technical Assistance**

Technical Assistance
591-1-1-.03(2) - Please continue to monitor the classrooms for lesson plans to ensure all rooms have current lesson plans available.

Correction Deadline: 2/19/2026

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

Technical Assistance
591-1-1-.12(2) - Please continue to monitor the red, blue, green and yellow foam climbing equipment for wear when the protective coating is peeling off remove/replace.

Correction Deadline: 2/19/2026

591-1-1-.35 Swimming Pools & Water-related Activities(CR) — **N/A**

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) — **Not Met**

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 classrooms had hazards accessible to children in care:
Classroom C- Under the diaper changing table and handwashing sink, in unlocked drawers was diaper cream, a stapler, a staple remover, plastic trash bags, diapers in plastic bags, adult scissors, Vaseline, plug in air freshener refill, baby wipes and tacks.
Classroom F- Two children's book bags had hand sanitizer attached to them. On a low shelf were two "Lysol," disinfectant spray bottles and bleach water cleaner. On the teacher's table was a stapler and adult scissors.

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: 2/19/2026

Recited on 2/19/2026

Finding
591-1-1-.25(17) requires that the Center premises be free of plants and shrubs which are poisonous or hazardous. It was determined based on observation that on the rear playground, on the left side metal fencing, there were vines and bushes with thorns growing through the fence.

POI (Plan of Improvement)
The harmful item will be removed.

Correction Deadline: 2/26/2026

Technical Assistance
591-1-1-.25(3) - Please monitor the vents in the classrooms and restrooms to ensure they are cleaned and free from dust and dirt.

Correction Deadline: 2/19/2026

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 on the second section of the rear playground, back metal fencing, there was a gap at the bottom measuring 48 inches in length by 4 to 7 inches in width.

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: 2/26/2026

Technical Assistance
591-1-1-.26(6) - Please monitor the yellow coating on the swing chains and remove when it is coming apart with rough edges.

Correction Deadline: 3/1/2026

Finding
591-1-1-.26(8) requires climbing and swinging equipment to have a resilient surface beneath the equipment and the fall zone from such equipment must be adequately maintained by the Center to assure continuing resiliency. It was determined based on observation that on the rear playground there was no resilient surfacing under the swings and hanging bar with 6 inches is required.

POI (Plan of Improvement)
The Center will add additional resilient surfacing to the fall zones where needed and check daily, adding resilient surfacing as needed to maintain adequate resiliency.

Correction Deadline: 3/1/2026

Finding
591-1-1-.26(9) requires the playground to be kept clean, free from litter and free of hazards, such as but not limited to rocks, exposed tree roots and exposed sharp edges of concrete. It was determined based on observation that the following hazards were present on the following playgrounds:
Back playground- There was one active ant bed. Sticks were present. There were exposed tree roots. There were two holes measuring 22 inches length x 14 inches width x 4 inches depth and 21 inches length x 19 inches by 6 inches depth.
Main playground- There were exposed tree roots throughout. There was exposed black landscaping mat. There were sticks and pine cones present.

POI (Plan of Improvement)
The Center will remove any litter and fix or remove hazards from the playground and will routinely monitor the playground and remove litter and hazards.

Correction Deadline: 2/19/2026

Food Service

591-1-1-.18 Kitchen Operations **Technical Assistance**

Comment
Please ensure that all food items are stored in airtight containers.

Technical Assistance
591-1-1-.18(7) - Please continue to monitor the kitchen cabinets and drawers to ensure they are free from dust, dirt and grease accumulation.

Correction Deadline: 2/19/2026

Health and Hygiene

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

Comment
Staff stated proper knowledge of diapering procedures.

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) **N/A**

Comment
The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

Policies and Procedures

591-1-1-.21 Operational Policies & Procedures **Not Met**

Finding
591-1-1-.21(3) requires that the Center conduct drills for fire, tornado and other emergency situations. The fire drills will be conducted monthly and tornado and other emergency situation drills will be conducted every six months. The Center shall maintain documentation of the dates and times of these drills for two years. It was determined based on a review of records that fire drills were not conducted in July, August, September, October, November or December 2025. Also, fire drills were not conducted in January 2026. In addition, the second tornado and lock down drills were not conducted in 2025 as required.

POI (Plan of Improvement)
The Center will hold the drills as required and keep the documentation of the drills on file for two years.

Correction Deadline: 2/24/2026

Safety

591-1-1-.05 Animals **Met**

Comment
Animals maintained clean and appropriately caged.

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

Comment
Age-appropriate discussion and/or redirection observed.

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

Comment
Center does not participate in field trips at this time.

591-1-1-.36 Transportation(CR) **Not Met**

Finding
591-1-1-.36(4)(b) requires that the interior of a transportation vehicle be clean, in safe repair and free of hazardous items, objects and/or other non-essential items which could cause injury. It was determined based on observation that the interior of the vehicle had candy wrappers, paper, valentine's cards and dirt present.

POI (Plan of Improvement)
The center will maintain that all transportation vehicles are clean, in safe repair, and free from hazards.

Correction Deadline: 2/20/2026

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: 3**

Staff # 7 Not Met

Date of Hire: 11/20/2025

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.14(2)-CPR missing,.14(2)-First Aid Missing

Staff # 8 Not Met

Date of Hire: 11/20/2025

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.14(2)-CPR missing,.14(2)-First Aid Missing

Staff # 10 Not Met

Date of Hire: 08/15/2025

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.09-Criminal Records Check Missing

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

Finding
591-1-1-.09(1)(a) requires that a Center ensure that every actual and potential Director, Employee and Provisional Employee of a Child Care Learning Center submit both a Records Check Application to the Department and Fingerprints to an authorized fingerprinting site. It was determined based on a review of records that staff #10 had not completed a Records Check Application to the Department and Fingerprints to an authorized fingerprinting site.

POI (Plan of Improvement)
IMMEDIATE CORRECTION - The Center will review decal koala to ensure that every actual and potential Director, Employee and Provisional Employee of a Child Care Learning Center submit both a Records Check Application to the Department and Fingerprints to an authorized fingerprinting site as required. 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 watch videos to ensure the CRC rules are maintained.

Correction Deadline: 2/19/2026

Finding
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 a review of records that staff #10 had not completed a current satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination on file prior to being present at the Center.

POI (Plan of Improvement)
IMMEDIATE CORRECTION - The Center will review Decal Koala 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. 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 review videos to ensure the CRC rules are maintained.

Correction Deadline: 2/19/2026

591-1-1-.14 First Aid & CPR(CR) **Not Met**

Finding
591-1-1-.14(1)(a) requires all Staff who provide direct care to children must obtain certification in a biennial training program in pediatric cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and a triennial training program in pediatric first aid within the first 45 days of employment. Current and valid evidence of the successful completion of such training shall be maintained on the Center's premises. The hours obtained completing this certification will not count towards the required annual training hours. It was determined based on a review of records that staff # 7 & 8 had not obtained in pediatric cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and a triennial training program in pediatric first aid within the first 45 days of employment.

POI (Plan of Improvement)
All caregiver Staff will complete the required training. The Director will send copies via email verification of completed CPR/First Aid certification to the consultant upon completion and will develop a plan to ensure all caregiver Staff have completed this training within the first 45 days of employment and that evidence of successful completion of the training is on file available for inspection.

Correction Deadline: 2/26/2026

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

Technical Assistance
591-1-1-.33(5)(a) - Discussed staff training. Please obtain required documentation.

Correction Deadline: 3/21/2026

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) **Not Met**

Finding
591-1-1-.32(2) requires the Center maintain Staff:child ratios in mixed-age groups based on the age of the youngest group of children that includes more than twenty percent of the total number of children in the mixed-age group. It was determined based on observation that in classroom C there were seven one-year-old children with three two-year-old with one staff member. One additional staff member was required.

POI (Plan of Improvement)
The Center will provide adequate staff when there is a mixed-age group.

Correction Deadline: 2/19/2026

Finding
591-1-1-.32(4) requires that children under three years old be housed in separate physical areas from older children and cannot be mixed with older children except at specified times and circumstances. It was determined based on observation and staff statements that in classroom E there were two two-year-old children with nine three-year-old children at approximately 11:05 a.m.. Children under three-years-old can only be mixed with children over three-years-old from 6:00 a.m. - 7:00 a.m and 5:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.. Ratios must still be met when mixed.

POI (Plan of Improvement)
The Center will maintain separation of these children under three years old. Children under three-years-old can only be mixed with children over three-years-old from 6:00 a.m. - 7:00 a.m and 5:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.. Ratios must still be met when mixed.

Correction Deadline: 2/19/2026

The following information is associated with a Complaint Investigation Visit:

Food Service

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

Correction Deadline: 8/6/2025

Corrected on 2/19/2026
.15(2)(a) - Correction observed on this date. Babies were held when fed. Bottles were not propped

Health and Hygiene

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

Correction Deadline: 8/6/2025

Corrected on 2/19/2026
.17(2) - Correction observed on this date. Children were observed to be dry, clean and comfortable.

Staffing and Supervision

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

Correction Deadline: 8/6/2025

Corrected on 2/19/2026
.32(7) - Correction observed on this date. Staff were present in the classroom as required.