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: 8/17/2026 **VisitType:** Complaint Investigation & Licensing Study **Arrival:** 10:45 AM **Departure:** 3:15 PM

CCLC-66009
Early Scholars at Steve Reynolds LLC
4121 Steve Reynolds Blvd Norcross, GA 30093 Gwinnett County
(404) 703-5576

Regional Consultant
Jermecia Moore-Fulton
Phone: (470) 214-7043
Fax:
jermecia.moore-fulton@decal.ga.gov

Mailing Address
Same

Quality Rated: No

Compliance Zone Designation		
08/17/2026	Complaint Investigation & Licensing Study	Good Standing
05/19/2026	Complaint Closure	Good Standing
05/05/2026	Complaint Investigation & Monitoring Visit	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.

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

Comments
*Updates and Reminders

-Please ensure to complete all temporary closures by 8 a.m. (vacation, emergencies, school closures, holidays, etc.) in DECAL KOALA at all times under the Required Report tab whenever your facility is closed temporarily when you are not caring for children for one day or more. Please be sure to SAVE the report prior to exiting.

-Please ensure to complete rechecks for Criminal Records Checks at least 90 days before the five year expiration. Suggestion: Check monthly or sooner to ensure that staff's Criminal Records Checks are not about to expire.

-Incident Reports are to be submitted via DECAL KOALA with all signed staff statements for staff and the Director.

-All amendments are required to be electronically entered in DECAL KOALA.

-Please ensure to hide staff who are no longer employed in your DECAL KOALA account.

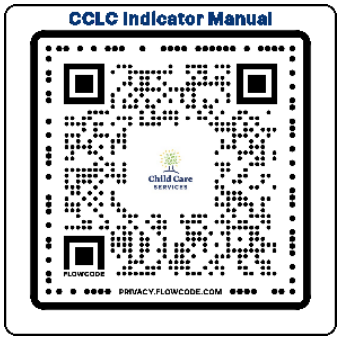
-Please ensure that director and staff responsible for food preparation completes the four (4) hours of nutrition training as soon as possible but within the first year of employment.

• Staff Training: -Initial Program Orientation- All Employees, including volunteers, independent contractors, students-in-training, etc. should have a completed initial program orientation form on file.

• Annual Training: Effective July 1, 2025, all staff are required to obtain at least two hours in evidence based, developmentally appropriate language and literacy practices and at least two hours in on-going child development and health and safety related topics as part of their 10 hours of annual training.

• First Aid and CPR:
Effective July 1, 2025, new staff are required to obtain pediatric First Aid and pediatric CPR training within 45 days of employment. Programs must also have at least one person with current pediatric First Aid and pediatric CPR training in each classroom at all times.

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.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.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-.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) **Met**

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) **Met**

Comment
Please be mindful to keep items that pose a hazard inaccessible to children.

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

Technical Assistance
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. Please ensure to monitor the playground area daily and keep the playground/outside area free of hazards:
- Exposed tree roots.
- Biting and/or stinging insects (i.e., bees, ants, etc.).
- Normal wear and tear of the fence surrounding the playground areas.
- Normal wear and tear of playground equipment (i.e., chipped paint, cracked/broken, etc.).
- Excessive leaves, pine cones/straws, sweet gum tree balls, etc.
- Standing water in and/or around playground equipment and/or toys.

Correction Deadline: 8/17/2026

Health and Hygiene

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

Comment
Proper diapering procedures observed.

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

Comment
Please ensure lids remain on trash containing organic waste.

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 **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, the Center did not document the dates and times of drills for fire, tornado and other emergency situations 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: 8/22/2026

591-1-1-.27 Posted Notices **Met**

Comment
Please make sure that all required signs are posted and up to date.

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.

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: 5 **Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 1**

Staff # 4 Not Met

Date of Hire: 08/21/2022

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(5)-10 Hrs. Annual Training

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

Comment
Director provided one file for employees hired since the last visit was conducted on May 5, 2026. The Consultant observed the new staff member/Director to have a satisfactory records on this date.

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

Comment
Director provided one file for employees hired since the last visit was conducted on May 5, 2026.

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

Comment
Please replace/add missing/expired item(s) in first aid kit(s). Please add goggles and face masks to the Center's first aid kit.

Finding
591-1-1-.14(2)(b) requires that there must always be one staff person present in each classroom where children are present that has current and valid pediatric cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and pediatric first aid training. It was determined based on a review of records, staff member #6, date of hire April 28, 2025, did not have current and valid pediatric cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and pediatric first aid training. Staff member's pediatric cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and pediatric first aid training expired June 2026

POI (Plan of Improvement)
The Director will schedule and/or position caregiver Staff throughout the Center to ensure at least one currently pediatric CPR and First Aid trained Staff person is present in each classroom where children are present.

Correction Deadline: 8/31/2026

591-1-1-.24 Personnel Records **Met**

Correction Deadline: 5/10/2026

Corrected on 8/17/2026
.24(1) - The previous citation was observed corrected on this date. The previously cited staff member is no longer employed at the Center.

591-1-1-.33 Staff Training **Met**

Comment
Discussed staff training. Please obtain required documentation.

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**

Comment
Staff observed to provide direct supervision and be attentive to children's needs.