



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: 9/30/2025 **VisitType:** Licensing Study

Arrival: 8:40 AM **Departure:** 12:30 PM

CCLC-62311

Imagination Station Too

4601 Cargo Drive Columbus, GA 31907 Muscogee County
(706) 317-0227

Regional Consultant

Brandi Mangino

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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. 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.
09/30/2025	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
03/31/2025	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
10/01/2024	Licensing Study	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	Room - A (Middle - Ft. Left)	Infants	1	6	C	18	C	NA	NA	Floor Play, Diapering
Main	Room - B (Middle - Bk Left)	Infants and One Year Olds	1	2	C	18	C	NA	NA	Floor Play
Main	Room - K (Left Wing - bk left)	GA PreK	2	13	C	24	C	NA	NA	Centers
Main	Room C - (Middle - Ft. Back Rt.)	One Year Olds and Two Year Olds	2	4	C	19	C	NA	NA	Circle Time
Main	Room D - (Middle - Ft. Rt.)	One Year Olds	1	4	C	20	C	NA	NA	Circle Time
Main	Room E - Rt. Wing ft. left	Two Year Olds	3	7	C	24	C	NA	NA	Centers
Main	Room F - (Rt. wing - bk left)	Two Year Olds	2	9	C	21	C	NA	NA	Centers
Main	Room H - (Rt. Wing - ft. middle)	Three Year Olds	1	9	C	20	C	NA	NA	Circle Time
Main	Room I - (Rt. Wing - ft. rt.)	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	2	9	C	24	C	NA	NA	Centers
Main	Room J - (Left wing - ft. left)		0	0	C	26	C	NA	NA	
Main	Room L - (Left Wing - Bk Right)		0	0	C	24	C	NA	NA	
Main	Room M - (Left Wing - Ft. rt.)		0	0	C	24	C	NA	NA	

Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 240

Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0

Building @35 capacity limited by Building Department

Total # Children this Date: 63

Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 240

Total Capacity @25 sq.
ft.: 0

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	Playground A - (Left)	224	C
Main	Playground B - (Middle)	81	C
Main	Playground C - (Right)	228	C

Enrolled Children						
Under 1 years	1 years	2 years	3 years	4 years	5 years (Prekonly)	5 years and older
11	14	33	19	14	3	15

Comments

The purpose of this visit was to conduct a Licensing Study.

- The CCS Consultant discussed and left a copy of the updated Child Care Weather Watch Chart with the program today. Weather does not permit outdoor play when there is active precipitation or when weather advisories are in effect. Consult the Child Care Weather Watch Chart resource for further guidance, considering specific weather conditions.

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



Summary Report

Date: 9/30/2025 **VisitType:** Licensing Study

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The following information is associated with a Licensing Study:

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)

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 hazards were accessible to children in care:

Room D:
broom and dust pan within the classroom

Room F:
plastic bags in unlocked drawer of the diapering station

Room J:
broom and dust pan within the classroom

Room I;
broom and dust pan within the classroom

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: 9/30/2025

Recited on 9/30/2025

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 concrete was not flush on the center playgrounds throughout causing tripping hazards.

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: 10/7/2025

Recited on 9/30/2025

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

Not Met

Finding

591-1-1-.15(2) requires that a signed written feeding plan for children less than one (1) year of age shall be obtained from Parent(s) and that instructions from the Parent(s) shall be updated regularly as new foods are added or other dietary changes are made. The feeding plan shall be posted in the child's assigned room and must include the child's feeding schedule, the amount of formula or breast milk to be given, instructions for the introduction of solid foods, the amount of food to be given and notation of any type(s) of commercially premixed formula which may not be used in an emergency because of food allergies. It was determined based on a review of records that the center did not have current infant feeding plans for 8 of 11 infants.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center Director will develop and implement a plan to obtain and post the completed feeding plan as part of the enrollment process and to have parents update the plans on a regular basis that will include center staff involved with enrollment and those working in the infant classrooms.

Correction Deadline: 9/30/2025

Finding

591-1-1-.15(7) requires that food be served according to manufacturer's instructions and recommendations. Foods that are associated with young children's choking incidents, such as, but not limited to, peanuts, hot dogs, raw carrots, popcorn, fish with bones, cheese cubes, grapes and any other food that is of similar shape and size of the trachea/windpipe shall not be served to the children less than four (4) years of age. Children older than four (4) years of age may be served these foods provided that the foods are cut in such a way as to minimize choking. Food shall not be accessible or served to children until it has been chopped, diced, cut or mashed and is appropriate for each child's age and individual eating, chewing and swallowing ability. It was determined based on a review of the center menu blueberries and cheese sticks were listed as items being served.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will train Staff and monitor food served and accessible to children to ensure that the food does not present a choking hazard.

Correction Deadline: 9/30/2025

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

Proper hand washing observed throughout the center on this date.

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

Met

Comment

Discussed proper medication documentation and procedures.

Policies and Procedures

Correction Deadline: 9/30/2025

Corrected on 9/30/2025
.21(3) - Citation corrected.

Technical Assistance

Discussed updating the Center's policies and procedures to include the program's practices regarding the expulsion and suspension of children enrolled for care within the description of behavior management and discipline actions used by the Center.

Also discussed to ensure a description of the practices followed by the Center to prevent shaken baby syndrome and abusive head trauma in children up to five years of age that includes the following information: how to recognize, respond to, and report the signs and symptoms of shaken baby syndrome and abusive head trauma; strategies to assist staff members in understanding how to care for infants and how to cope with a crying, fussing, or distraught child; strategies to ensure staff members understand the brain development of children up to five years of age; and a list of prohibited behaviors when dealing with children.

Additional information can be found in the CCLC Indicator Manual found on DECAL's website at:

<https://www.dec.state.ga.us/CCS/Regulations.aspx> or through the Center on Shaken Baby Syndrome found at: <https://dontshake.org/>.

Correction Deadline: 10/5/2025

Safety

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

Met

Comment

Age-appropriate discussion and/or redirection observed.

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

Met

Comment

Proper field trip documentation and regulations regarding checklists, name tags and permission forms was discussed on this date.

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

Not Met

Technical Assistance

Consultant discussed the emergency medical forms needs to have parents work number or N/A and the medical facility and the address listed on each form. The form should have no blanks.

Correction Deadline: 10/5/2025

Correction Deadline: 4/5/2025

Corrected on 9/30/2025

.36(4)(a) - Citation corrected. The center has an updated annual safety checked.

Finding

591-1-1-.36(7)(c)3. requires that the driver or other designated person document in writing the date and time of arrival and departure each time the vehicle departs from the Center, is loaded or unloaded at each school and when the vehicle returns to the Center; each time the vehicle departs from the Center, arrives at the location where any child is picked up or dropped off and when the vehicle returns to the Center; each time the vehicle leaves the Center, arrives at a field trip destination, leaves a field trip destination, and returns to the Center. It was determined based on a review of records that the week of September 15, 2025 center transportation logs did not have the date listed daily at the bottom of the form as required.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will ensure that each date and time of arrival and departure is documented by the driver or designated person with training, review and monitoring.

Correction Deadline: 9/30/2025

Recited on 9/30/2025

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

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

Technical Assistance

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.

Technical Assistance

Consultant discussed ensuring that cots in classrooms are covered.

Correction Deadline: 10/10/2025

Staff Records**Records Reviewed: 38****Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 16**

Staff # 1

Not Met

Date of Hire: 06/09/2025

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.24(1)-Evidence of Orientation Missing,.33(3)-Health & Safety Certificate

Staff # 2

Not Met

Date of Hire: 06/09/2025

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.24(1)-Evidence of Orientation Missing

Staff # 4

Not Met

Date of Hire: 06/07/2025

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.24(1)-Evidence of Orientation Missing,.33(3)-Health & Safety Certificate

Staff # 5

Not Met

Date of Hire: 06/09/2025

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.24(1)-Evidence of Orientation Missing,.33(3)-Health & Safety Certificate

Staff # 6

Not Met

Date of Hire: 06/09/2025

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.24(1)-Evidence of Orientation Missing,.33(3)-Health & Safety Certificate

Staff # 10

Not Met

Date of Hire: 06/09/2025

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.24(1)-Evidence of Orientation Missing,.33(3)-Health & Safety Certificate

Staff # 14

Not Met

Date of Hire: 06/09/2025

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.24(1)-Evidence of Orientation Missing,.33(3)-Health & Safety Certificate

Staff # 15

Not Met

Date of Hire: 06/09/2025

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.24(1)-Evidence of Orientation Missing,.33(3)-Health & Safety Certificate

Staff # 17	Not Met
Date of Hire: 06/09/2025	
<u>"Missing/Incomplete Components"</u>	
.24(1)-Evidence of Orientation Missing,.33(3)-Health & Safety Certificate	
Staff # 18	Not Met
Date of Hire: 06/09/2025	
<u>"Missing/Incomplete Components"</u>	
.33(3)-Health & Safety Certificate,.24(1)-Evidence of Orientation Missing	
Staff # 19	Not Met
Date of Hire: 06/05/2025	
<u>"Missing/Incomplete Components"</u>	
.33(3)-Health & Safety Certificate,.24(1)-Evidence of Orientation Missing	
Staff # 20	Not Met
Date of Hire: 06/09/2025	
<u>"Missing/Incomplete Components"</u>	
.33(3)-Health & Safety Certificate,.24(1)-Evidence of Orientation Missing	
Staff # 22	Not Met
<u>"Missing/Incomplete Components"</u>	
.24(1)-Evidence of Orientation Missing	
Staff # 24	Not Met
Date of Hire: 06/09/2025	
<u>"Missing/Incomplete Components"</u>	
.24(1)-Evidence of Orientation Missing,.33(3)-Health & Safety Certificate	
Staff # 28	Not Met
Date of Hire: 06/09/2025	
<u>"Missing/Incomplete Components"</u>	
.24(1)-Evidence of Orientation Missing,.33(3)-Health & Safety Certificate	
Staff # 35	Not Met
Date of Hire: 06/09/2025	
<u>"Missing/Incomplete Components"</u>	
.33(3)-Health & Safety Certificate,.24(1)-Evidence of Orientation Missing	

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

Criminal record checks were observed to be complete.

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

Discussed that effective July 1, 2025, new staff are required to obtain pediatric First Aid and pediatric CPR training within 45 days of employment. It was further discussed that programs must have at least one person with current pediatric First Aid and pediatric CPR training in each classroom at all times.

591-1-1-.33 Staff Training**Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.33(2)(a)-(n) requires the initial Center orientation to include the following subjects: a) the Center's policies and procedures; b) the portions of these rules dealing with the care, health and safety of children; c) the Staff person's assigned duties and responsibilities; d) reporting requirements for suspected cases of child abuse, neglect or deprivation; e) communicable diseases and serious injuries; f) emergency weather plans; g) the program's emergency preparedness plan; h) childhood injury control; i) the administration of medicine; j) reducing the risk of Sudden Unexpected Infant Death (SUID), which includes Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS); k) hand washing; l) fire safety; m) water safety; and n) prevention of HIV/AIDS and blood borne pathogens. It was determined based on a review of records that all staff that transferred from the other location in June did not have a new documentation of orientation on file.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will provide orientation in all missing subjects to the employee(s) and will take steps to provide a complete orientation to new Employees in the future.

Correction Deadline: 10/1/2025**Technical Assistance**

Discussed that 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.

Discussed that all Employees, including volunteers, independent contractors, students-in-training, etc. should have a completed initial program orientation form on file.

Correction Deadline: 10/1/2025**Finding**

591-1-1-.33(3)(a)-(k) requires each Staff member with direct care responsibilities to complete health and safety orientation training within the first 90 days of employment. The state-approved training hours obtained will count toward required first year training hours. The training must address the following health and safety topics: a) prevention and control of infectious diseases (including immunizations); b) prevention of sudden infant death syndrome and use of safe sleeping practices; c) administration of medication, consistent with standards for parental consent; d) prevention of and response to emergencies due to food and allergic reactions; e) building and physical premises safety, including identification of and protection from hazards that can cause bodily injury such as electrical hazards, bodies of water, and vehicular traffic; f) prevention of shaken baby syndrome, abusive head trauma and child maltreatment; g) emergency preparedness and response planning for emergencies resulting from a natural disaster or a human-caused event (such as violence at a child care facility); h) handling and storage of hazardous materials and the appropriate disposal of bio contaminants; i) precautions in transporting children; j) recognition and reporting of child abuse and neglect; and k) child development to include all major domains: cognitive; social and emotional; physical development and motor skills; communication, language, and literacy; and approaches to play and learning. It was determined based on a review of records that 12 staff members that started at the center over 90 days ago did not have health and safety orientation on file for viewing.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will develop and implement a plan to schedule and track this training for all employees based on their hire dates and will ensure that the training includes all required components as required.

Correction Deadline: 10/30/2025**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.

Finding

591-1-1-.32(7) requires that children be supervised at all times appropriate to the individual age, needs and capabilities of each child. Such supervision must include, but not be limited to, indoor and outdoor activities, mealtimes, naptime, transportation, field trips, and transitions between activities. "Supervision" means that the appropriate number of Staff members are physically present in the area where children are being cared for and are providing watchful oversight to the children, volunteers and Students-in-Training. The persons supervising in the child care area must be alert, positioned to maximize their ability to hear and see the children at all times, and able to respond promptly to the needs and actions of the children being supervised, as well as the actions of the volunteers and Students-in-Training, and provide timely attention to the children's actions and needs. Staff shall be attentive and participating with all children during mealtimes and shall be seated within an arm's length away from children thirty-six (36) months of age and younger. It was determined based on observation that in Room F 2-year-old children were eating and one staff was at circle time and the other was at the sink with a child.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will train Staff and monitor to ensure they are providing supervision and watchful oversight to the children at all times.

Correction Deadline: 9/30/2025