



**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:** 4/29/2026 **VisitType:** Licensing Study

**Arrival:** 10:30 AM **Departure:** 2:30 PM

**CCLC-35302**

**Berean Christian Early Learning Academy**

7082 Covington Highway Lithonia, GA 30058 DeKalb County  
(678) 418-8824

Regional Consultant

Cassandra Jakes-Beasley

Phone: (770) 357-7016

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**Mailing Address**

Same

**Quality Rated:** ★

| Compliance Zone Designation |                                   |               | <b>Compliance Zone Designation</b> - 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.<br><br><b>Good Standing</b> - Program is demonstrating an acceptable level of performance in meeting the rules.<br><b>Support</b> - Program performance is demonstrating a need for improvement in meeting rules.<br><b>Deficient</b> - Program is not demonstrating an acceptable level of performance in meeting the rules. |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 04/29/2026                  | Licensing Study                   | Good Standing |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| 12/12/2025                  | Complaint Closure                 | Good Standing |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| 11/24/2025                  | Complaint Investigation Follow Up | 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                            | A 1st Left    |                                   | 0                             | 0        | C    | 12                                               | C            | NA         | NA           | Not In Use              |
| Main                            | B 1st right   | Infants and One Year Olds         | 2                             | 3        | C    | 16                                               | C            | NA         | NA           | Floor Play,Nap          |
| Main                            | C 2nd Left    | One Year Olds and Two Year Olds   | 1                             | 7        | C    | 13                                               | C            | NA         | NA           | Transitioning           |
| Main                            | D 2nd Right   |                                   | 0                             | 0        | C    | 18                                               | C            | NA         | NA           | Not In Use              |
| Main                            | E 3rd Left    | Two Year Olds                     | 1                             | 9        | C    | 19                                               | C            | NA         | NA           | Nap,Transitioning       |
| Main                            | F 3rd Right   | Two Year Olds and Three Year Olds | 1                             | 7        | C    | 20                                               | C            | NA         | NA           | Lunch,Transitioning     |
| Main                            | G 4th Left    | Three Year Olds                   | 1                             | 8        | C    | 19                                               | C            | NA         | NA           | Lunch,Transitioning     |
| Main                            | H 4th Right   | Three Year Olds                   | 1                             | 9        | C    | 20                                               | C            | NA         | NA           | Lunch                   |
| Main                            | I 5th Right   | Four Year Olds and Five Year Olds | 1                             | 11       | C    | 16                                               | C            | NA         | NA           | Transitioning,Free Play |
| Main                            | J 6th Right   | Four Year Olds and Five Year Olds | 1                             | 10       | C    | 16                                               | C            | NA         | NA           | Free Play,Transitioning |
| Main                            | K 5th Left    |                                   | 0                             | 0        | C    | 19                                               | C            | NA         | NA           | Not In Use              |
| Main                            | L Rear Middle |                                   | 0                             | 0        | C    | 19                                               | C            | NA         | NA           | Not In Use              |
| Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 178 |               |                                   | Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0 |          |      | Building @35 capacity limited by Centers Request |              |            |              |                         |

Total # Children this Date: 64

Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 178

Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0

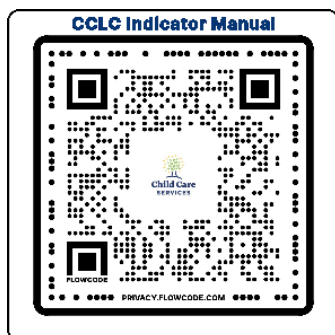
| Building | Playground  | Playground<br>Occupancy | Playground<br>Compliance |
|----------|-------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| Main     | A           | 19                      | C                        |
| Main     | B 2nd Right | 105                     | C                        |
| Main     | C Left      | 100                     | C                        |

| Enrolled Children |         |         |         |         |                    |                   |
|-------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|--------------------|-------------------|
| Under 1 years     | 1 years | 2 years | 3 years | 4 years | 5 years (Prekonly) | 5 years and older |
| 5                 | 8       | 19      | 18      | 22      | 0                  | 1                 |

#### Comments

The Consultant reviewed the visit with the Director.

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>.

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.

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#### 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](http://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.

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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](mailto:qualityrated@dec.al.ga.gov) for more information. Free technical assistance is available!**



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Summary Report

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Same

The following information is associated with a Licensing Study:

Activities and Equipment

591-1-1-.03 Activities

Met

Comment

Age-appropriate activities observed throughout the center.

Comment

Lesson Plans were observed to be posted and reflected the current weeks activities in each classroom.

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

Not Met

Comment

A variety of equipment and toys were observed throughout the center on this date.

Finding

591-1-1-.12(4) requires that equipment and furniture is secured if it is of a weight or mass that could cause injury from tipping, falling, or being pulled or pushed over. It was determined based on observation, there was a small television unsecured on a cabinet in the 2nd Left one and two-year-old classroom.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will ensure that the identified equipment or furniture and any other such existing or future items are secured adequately and will have a system for checking these for stability.

Correction Deadline: 4/29/2026

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

Met

Comment

Center does not provide swimming activities.

Children's Records

591-1-1-.08 Children's Records

Met

Comment

Records were observed to be complete and well organized.

Facility

591-1-1-.06 Bathrooms

Met

Comment

Bathrooms observed to be clean and well maintained.

**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**

No hazards observed accessible to children on this date.

**591-1-1-.26 Playgrounds(CR)** **Met**

**Comment**

Discussed maintenance of resilient surface after inclement weather. Please fluff and redistribute.

**Food Service**

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

**Comment**

Center menu meets USDA guidelines.

**591-1-1-.18 Kitchen Operations** **Met**

**Comment**

Discussed proper steps for dishwashing on this date.

**Comment**

Kitchen appears clean and well organized on this date.

**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**

Proper hand washing observed throughout the center on this date.

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

**Comment**

Documentation for medication dispensing observed completed on this date.

**Policies and Procedures**

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

**Finding**

591-1-1-.21(1)(r) requires Center policies and procedures include 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. It was determined based on a review the policies and procedures did not include information describing the practices followed by the Center to prevent shaken baby syndrome and abusive head trauma in children up to five years of age.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center will write or revise policies and procedures to include the required description of the Center's practices used to prevent shaken baby syndrome and abusive head trauma in children up to five years or age.

**Correction Deadline: 5/4/2026**

**Comment**

Program observed complete emergency drills. Please ensure that the emergency preparedness plan is reviewed every six months.

**Safety**

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|                            |            |
|----------------------------|------------|
| <b>591-1-1-.05 Animals</b> | <b>Met</b> |
|----------------------------|------------|

**Comment**

Center does not keep animals on premises.

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|                                   |            |
|-----------------------------------|------------|
| <b>591-1-1-.11 Discipline(CR)</b> | <b>Met</b> |
|-----------------------------------|------------|

**Correction Deadline: 12/31/2025**

**Corrected on 4/29/2026**

**.11(2) - The previous citation was observed corrected on this date. Staff were observed to maintain a positive learning environment on this date.**

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|                                    |            |
|------------------------------------|------------|
| <b>591-1-1-.13 Field Trips(CR)</b> | <b>Met</b> |
|------------------------------------|------------|

**Comment**

Center does not participate in field trips at this time.

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|                                       |            |
|---------------------------------------|------------|
| <b>591-1-1-.36 Transportation(CR)</b> | <b>Met</b> |
|---------------------------------------|------------|

**Comment**

Center does not provide routine transportation.

|                                         |
|-----------------------------------------|
| <b>Sleeping &amp; Resting Equipment</b> |
|-----------------------------------------|

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|                                                               |            |
|---------------------------------------------------------------|------------|
| <b>591-1-1-.30 Safe Sleeping and Resting Requirements(CR)</b> | <b>Met</b> |
|---------------------------------------------------------------|------------|

**Comment**

Discussed SIDS and infant sleeping position.

**Comment**

Pleasant naptime environment observed.

|                      |
|----------------------|
| <b>Staff Records</b> |
|----------------------|

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|                                                                             |            |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|
| <b>591-1-1-.09 Criminal Records and Comprehensive Background Checks(CR)</b> | <b>Met</b> |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|

**Comment**

Criminal record checks were observed to be complete.

**Comment**

Director provided [3] file(s) for employees hired since last visit.

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|                                            |            |
|--------------------------------------------|------------|
| <b>591-1-1-.14 First Aid &amp; CPR(CR)</b> | <b>Met</b> |
|--------------------------------------------|------------|

**Comment**

Complete first aid kits observed on this date.

**Comment**

Evidence observed of 100% of center Staff certified in First Aid and CPR containing emergency care for infants and children on this date.

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|                                   |            |
|-----------------------------------|------------|
| <b>591-1-1-.33 Staff Training</b> | <b>Met</b> |
|-----------------------------------|------------|

**Comment**

Documentation observed of required staff training.

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|                              |            |
|------------------------------|------------|
| <b>591-1-1-.31 Staff(CR)</b> | <b>Met</b> |
|------------------------------|------------|

**Comment**

Staff observed to be compliant with applicable laws and regulations.

|                                 |
|---------------------------------|
| <b>Staffing and Supervision</b> |
|---------------------------------|

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|                                                          |            |
|----------------------------------------------------------|------------|
| <b>591-1-1-.32 Staff:Child Ratios and Group Size(CR)</b> | <b>Met</b> |
|----------------------------------------------------------|------------|

**Comment**

Center observed to maintain appropriate staff:child ratios.

**Comment**

Adequate supervision observed on this date.