



**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:** 11/12/2024 **VisitType:** Licensing Study

**Arrival:** 8:45 AM **Departure:** 12:45 PM

**CCLC-33867**

**Chapel Christian Academy**

259 NE Broad Street Lyons, GA 30436 Toombs County  
 (478) 208-8253 jimandleahwatkins@yahoo.com

Regional Consultant

Connie Boatright

Phone: (912) 544-9701

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**Mailing Address**  
 Same

**Quality Rated:** ★ ★

| <b>Compliance Zone Designation</b> |                  |               | <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. |
|------------------------------------|------------------|---------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 11/12/2024                         | Licensing Study  | Good Standing |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| 12/07/2023                         | Licensing Study  | Good Standing |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| 05/04/2023                         | Monitoring Visit | Good Standing |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
|                                    |                  |               | <b>Good Standing</b> - Program is demonstrating an acceptable level of performance in meeting the rules.                                                                                                                       |
|                                    |                  |               | <b>Support</b> - Program performance is demonstrating a need for improvement in meeting rules.                                                                                                                                 |
|                                    |                  |               | <b>Deficient</b> - 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                                                           |
|--------------------------------|-------------------|------------------------------------|-------|----------|-------------------------------|------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|------------|--------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------|
| Bldg. 1                        | Room A (3-12yrs)  | Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds | 1     | 14       | C                             | 39         | C                                                           | NA         | NA           | Music,Transition ing,TV                                         |
| Bldg. 1                        | Room B (Inf-2yr)  | Infants and One Year Olds          | 2     | 10       | C                             | 17         | C                                                           | NA         | NA           | Breakfast,Transi tioning,Floor Play,Free Play,Centers,Cle an Up |
| Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 56 |                   |                                    |       |          | Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0 |            |                                                             |            |              |                                                                 |
| Bldg. II                       | Room C (5-17yrs)  |                                    | 0     | 0        | C                             | 12         | C                                                           | NA         | NA           | Not In Use                                                      |
| Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 12 |                   |                                    |       |          | Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0 |            | Building @35 capacity limited by Fire Marshall Limitations  |            |              |                                                                 |
| Bldg. III                      | Room D (5-17 yrs) | Two Year Olds                      | 1     | 8        | C                             | 12         | C                                                           | NA         | NA           | Transitioning,Br eakfast,Centers                                |
| Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 12 |                   |                                    |       |          | Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0 |            | Building @35 capacity limited by Insufficient Toilets/Sinks |            |              |                                                                 |
| Bldg. IV                       | Room E( 2YRS)     | Two Year Olds                      | 1     | 8        | C                             | 12         | C                                                           | NA         | NA           | Centers,Not In Use,Breakfast,T ransitioning,Cle an Up           |
| Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 12 |                   |                                    |       |          | Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0 |            | Building @35 capacity limited by Insufficient Toilets/Sinks |            |              |                                                                 |
| Total # Children this Date: 40 |                   | Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 92     |       |          | Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0 |            |                                                             |            |              |                                                                 |

| Enrolled Children |         |         |         |         |                    |                   |
|-------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|--------------------|-------------------|
| Under 1 years     | 1 years | 2 years | 3 years | 4 years | 5 years (Prekonly) | 5 years and older |
| 6                 | 11      | 10      | 25      | 10      | 0                  | 30                |

#### Comments

An in person Licensing Study was conducted on this day. The center director stated there are a total of 8 staff with 3 being new hires since the consultant's last visit. The center director stated no medication is administered, no field trips, routine transportation, or swimming activities are provided. All staff have a satisfactory comprehensive criminal records check determination letter on file with the department.

Plan of Improvement: No Plan Developed

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.state.ga.us/CCS/Regulations.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.dec.state.ga.us/KOALA](http://www.dec.state.ga.us/KOALA) 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](mailto: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**

591-1-1-.03(2) - The center owner / staff will ensure that the Center to keep current lesson plans on site that reflect appropriate instruction practices and activities to support children's development The Center shall have sufficient and varied play and learning equipment and materials to support the above program of activities in all developmental areas.

**Correction Deadline: 11/12/2024**

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

**Met**

**Comment**

Equipment and toys were observed to be clean and in good repair.

**Correction Deadline: 11/12/2024**

**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**

Parent agreements observed obtained/completed.

**Comment**

Parent authorizations obtained/completed.

**Comment**

Records were observed to be complete and well organized.

**Facility**

**Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.06(7) - The center owner / staff will ensure that all bathrooms are cleaned daily to include the newly installed outdoor bathroom.

**Correction Deadline: 11/12/2024**

**591-1-1-.19 License Capacity(CR)****Met****Comment**

Licensed capacity observed to be routinely met by center. A total of thirty three children were observed on this day.

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

**Correction Deadline: 12/18/2023**

**Corrected on 11/12/2024**

**.25(13) - The previous citation was observed to be corrected on this day.**

**Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.25(3) - The center director will ensure that the Center and surrounding premises to be kept clean, free of debris and in good repair. Hygienic measures such as, but not limited to, screened windows and proper waste disposal procedures shall be utilized to minimize the presence of rodents, flies, roaches and other vermin at the Center (Ripped linoleum by the back door).

**Correction Deadline: 11/12/2024**

**591-1-1-.26 Playgrounds(CR)****Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.26(6) requires that playground equipment provide an opportunity for the children to engage in a variety of experiences and shall be age-appropriate. For example, toddlers shall not be permitted to swing in swings designed for School-age Children. The outdoor equipment shall be free of lead-based paint, sharp corners and shall be regularly maintained in such a way as to be free of rust and splinters that could pose significant safety hazard to the children. All equipment shall be arranged so as not to obstruct supervision of children. It was determined based upon a Licensing Study conducted on this day that the following hazards were observed to be accessible to the children:

- \*One red and blue Step 2 Coupe Car was missing the steering wheel leaving a hole the size of a dime. Additionally, two head lights was missing leaving two holes the size of a nickel. Additionally, the safety belt is not usable as one side of the safety belt is missing.
- \*Three of five bucket swing seats located on the infant playground had six metal triangles that was rusting.
- \* The large blue metal climbing dome is chipping paint in multiple places.
- \*The large gym structure is chipping paint in multiple places.
- \* One of three yellow slides had a nine inch crack at the bottom of the slide.
- \*The yellow metal bus is chipping paint.
- \* Four of four steering wheels were missing on the yellow metal bus. Two of the four had exposed bolts more than two threads in length and two of the four had remains of the broken steering wheels that had jagged edges.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center will provide a variety of age-appropriate equipment that is arranged so as not to obstruct supervision of children. Staff will check the equipment daily to ensure that the equipment is free of hazards, rust and splinters.

**Correction Deadline: 11/22/2024**

**Food Service**

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

CACFP Meal Pattern Requirements effective October 1, 2017 will be implemented October 1, 2018: 3 Components for breakfast: Grains, Vegetables, Fruits or both, Milk  
5 Components for lunch – Grains, Meat/Meat alternates, Fruits, Vegetable, and Milk OR Grains, Meat/Meat alternates, 2 different types of vegetables, and Milk  
2 of 5 Components for snack

Provided Updated CACFP Infant Meal pattern and Child/Adult Meal pattern flyers.

The Crediting Handbook for the CACFP can be located on DECAL and USDA's website:

DECAL

<http://dec.al.ga.gov/CACFP/Handbook.aspx>

USDA

<http://www.fns.usda.gov/cacfp/cacfp-handbooks>

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

Kitchen appears clean and well organized.

|                           |
|---------------------------|
| <b>Health and Hygiene</b> |
|---------------------------|

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

The center staff stated proper knowledge of diapering procedures.

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

The consultant observed proper hand washing observed throughout the center.

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

The Provider stated that no medication is administered.

|                     |
|---------------------|
| <b>Organization</b> |
|---------------------|

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**591-1-1-.16 Governing Body & License****Met****Comment**

591-1-1-.16(c) - The center is operating with a valid 2024 license with Department of Early Care and Learning Bright From the Start.

**Correction Deadline: 11/12/2024**

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|--------------------------------|
| <b>Policies and Procedures</b> |
|--------------------------------|

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**591-1-1-.21 Operational Policies & Procedures****Met****Comment**

Program observed complete emergency drills

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

Please make sure that all required signs are posted and up to date (Updated Communicable Disease).

|               |
|---------------|
| <b>Safety</b> |
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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> |
|-----------------------------------|------------|

**Comment**

Age-appropriate discussion and/or redirection observed.

**Comment**

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>Technical Assistance</b> |
|---------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------|

**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**

591-1-1-.30(4) - The center director / staff will ensure that if cots and mats are stored in the children's activity room or area, they shall be stored to prevent children's access to them and to allow maximum use of play space. When storage is available and used for the storage of cots and mats that allows the cots, mats and any bedding to be stored without touching any other cots, mats or bedding, the bedding may be left on the cot or mat. When such storage is not available for the cots and mats, each child's bedding shall be kept separate from other children's bedding and stored in containers marked for individual use, such as, but not limited to, bins, cubbies, or bags. Nine mats were stores in the black box under the TV in the two-year-old classroom. Eight of the mats had sheets covering them and the sheets were touching.

**Correction Deadline: 11/12/2024**

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|----------------------|
| <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.

**Correction Deadline: 12/7/2023**

**Corrected on 11/12/2024**

**.09(1)(a) - The previous citation was observed to be corrected.**

**Correction Deadline: 12/7/2023**

**Corrected on 11/12/2024**

**.09(1)(b) - The previous citation was observed to be corrected.**

**Correction Deadline: 12/7/2023**

**Corrected on 11/12/2024**

**.09(1)(c) - The previous citation was observed to be corrected.**

**Comment**

Complete first aid kits observed in center and on vehicles.

**Comment**

Evidence observed of 50% of center staff certified in First Aid and CPR.

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**591-1-1-.24 Personnel Records****Technical Assistance****Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.24(1) - The center director will ensure that the center to maintain a personnel file on the Director, all Employees, Provisional Employees, Personnel, Staff, Students-in-Training, Volunteers, Clerical, Housekeeping, Maintenance, and other Support Staff for the duration of the term of employment plus one calendar year, and it shall contain the following: identifying information to include: name, date of birth, social security number, current address and current telephone number; employment history; as applicable to the position held: evidence of education and qualifying work experience; evidence of all training required by these rules which shall include: title of training, date of training, trainer's signature, location of training and number of clock hours obtained; a statement completed by the staff member that the information provided is true and accurate; any other records required by these rules; and as applicable to the position held, evidence of required orientation including date and signature of person providing the orientation (Staff # 4 is missing the employee application).

**Correction Deadline: 11/17/2024**

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

591-1-1-.33(2) - The center director will ensure that the initial Center orientation to include the following subjects: the Center's policies and procedures; the portions of these rules dealing with the care, health and safety of children; the Staff person's assigned duties and responsibilities; reporting requirements for suspected cases of child abuse, neglect or deprivation; communicable diseases and serious injuries; emergency weather plans; the program's emergency preparedness plan; childhood injury control; the administration of medicine; reducing the risk of Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS); hand washing; fire safety; water safety; and prevention of HIV/AIDS and blood borne pathogens (Staff # 3 and 4).

**Correction Deadline: 11/13/2024**

**Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.33(3) - The center director will ensure that 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: prevention and control of infectious diseases (including immunizations); prevention of sudden infant death syndrome and use of safe sleeping practices; administration of medication, consistent with standards for parental consent; prevention of and response to emergencies due to food and allergic reactions; 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; prevention of shaken baby syndrome, abusive head trauma and child maltreatment; 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); handling and storage of hazardous materials and the appropriate disposal of bio contaminants; precautions in transporting children; recognition and reporting of child abuse and neglect; and child development (Staff # 3 and 5).

**Correction Deadline: 12/12/2024**

**Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.33(4) - The center director will ensure that within the first year of employment, the Director and person with primary responsibility for food preparation shall have four clock hours of training in food nutrition planning, preparation, serving, proper dish washing and food storage (Staff # 7).

**Correction Deadline: 12/12/2024**

**Correction Deadline: 1/6/2024**

**Corrected on 11/12/2024**

**.33(5) - The previous citation was observed to be corrected on this day.**

**Finding**

591-1-1-.31(2)(b)2. requires teachers and lead caregivers to meet minimum academic requirements and qualifying experience at the time of employment. It was determined based on review of staff files that staff # 1, 3, 5, and 7 serve as lead teachers and do not meet qualifying experience, as required.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

A teacher/lead caregiver will be hired that meets the minimum academic requirements and qualifying work experience.

**Correction Deadline: 11/30/2024**

**Recited on 11/12/2024**

**Finding**

591-1-1-.31(2)(b)3.(ii)(I)-(VIII) requires the Center develop a written plan for newly hired teacher's who do not possess the educational credential or degree listed in 591-1-1-.31(2)(b)2.(i) through (xii). It was determined based on review of staff files, staff # 1 serves as a lead teacher, was hired May 23, 2018 and has no written PLP on file. Additionally, staff # 3 serves as a lead teacher, was hired December 8, 2023 and has no written PLP on file. Additionally, staff # 5 serves as a lead teacher, was hired July 1, 2024 and has no written PLP on file. Additionally, staff # 7 serves as a lead teacher, was hired on July 23, 2019 and has no written PLP on file as required.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center will develop a written plan for newly hired teacher's and ensure that the teacher's follow the plan.

**Correction Deadline: 11/22/2024**

**Recited on 11/12/2024**

|                          |  |
|--------------------------|--|
| Staffing and Supervision |  |
|--------------------------|--|

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**591-1-1-.32 Staff:Child Ratios and Group Size(CR)****Met****Comment**

Center observed to maintain appropriate staff:child ratios.

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

Adequate supervision observed on this date.