



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: 9/29/2025 **VisitType:** Licensing Study

Arrival: 10:20 AM **Departure:** 1:40 PM

CCLC-54837
Baldwin County Youth Services
127 Blandy Road Milledgeville, GA 31061 Baldwin County
(478) 452-9488

Regional Consultant
Kajora McCoy
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Joint with: April Christian

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.
09/29/2025	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
09/23/2025	Incident Investigation Closure	Good Standing	
08/29/2025	Incident 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 Building	A	Two Year Olds and Three Year Olds	1	9	C	21	C	NA	NA	TV
Main Building	B		0	0	C	17	C	NA	NA	
Main Building	C		0	0	C	19	C	NA	NA	
Main Building	D		0	0	C	18	C	NA	NA	
Main Building	E		0	0	C	23	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.:			98		Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					
Total # Children this Date: 9			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.:		Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main Building	Four-Year-Old-School Age PG	30	C
Main Building	Three-Year-Old PG	16	C
Main Building	Two-Year-Old PG	26	C

Enrolled Children						
Under 1 years	1 years	2 years	3 years	4 years	5 years (Prekonly)	5 years and older
0	0	6	3	0	0	15

Comments

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.decgal.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@decgal.ga.gov for more information. Free technical assistance is available!



Summary Report

Date: 9/29/2025 VisitType: Licensing Study

Arrival: 10:20 AM Departure: 1:40 PM

CCLC-54837

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Mailing Address

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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(14) - Please ensure that TV time is limited to 2 hours per day.

Correction Deadline: 9/29/2025

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.03(2) - Please ensure that lesson plans for operating classrooms are current and available.

Correction Deadline: 9/29/2025

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

Not Met

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.12(2) - Please ensure that classroom equipment/furniture is in good repair.

Correction Deadline: 9/29/2025

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.12(4) - Please ensure that chairs are not stacked.

Correction Deadline: 9/29/2025

Finding

591-1-1-.12(6) requires that a variety of age-appropriate toys and play materials be available, stored on low, open shelves accessible to children in each room or assigned area. It was determined based on observation that the chairs in classroom A and classroom B were too big for the children and did not allow their feet to touch the floor.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center director will ensure there is a variety of age-appropriate toys and play materials in each room for each age group. that are stored on low, open shelves accessible to children.

Correction Deadline: 10/29/2025

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

N/A

Comment

Center does not provide swimming activities.

Children's Records

Child # 2	Not Met
<u>"Missing/Incomplete Components"</u>	
.08(1)-Doctor, Clinic, Phone Numbers,.08(1)(a)-Work Address Missing,.08(3)-Address of Release Person Missing	
Child # 3	Not Met
<u>"Missing/Incomplete Components"</u>	
.08(1)(a)-Work Address Missing	
Child # 4	Not Met
<u>"Missing/Incomplete Components"</u>	
.08(1)(a)-Work Address Missing,.08(1)(a)-Work Number Missing	

591-1-1-.08 Children's Records**Technical Assistance****Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.08(1) - Please ensure that parent's who list a workplace also list the workplace phone number and address.

Correction Deadline: 9/29/2025

	Facility
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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)**Technical Assistance****Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.25(11) - Please ensure that floor coverings are tight, smooth, free of odors and washable or cleanable.

Correction Deadline: 10/29/2025

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.25(8) - Please ensure that electrical outlet coverings are properly secured.

Correction Deadline: 9/29/2025

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 there was a 4 inch gap at the bottom of the gate door of the back right playground.

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: 9/29/2025

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 on observation that there was a tricycle with rust and missing both handle grips.

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: 10/9/2025

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.26(8) - Please ensure that there is adequate resilient surfacing under required equipment.

Correction Deadline: 10/9/2025

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 there was a large active antbed at the middle fence separating the back left and back right playgrounds.

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: 9/29/2025

Food Service**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>

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

Hand washing requirements for diapering were discussed with the director on this date.

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

Correction Deadline: 10/7/2025

Corrected on 9/29/2025

.17(2) - This citation was corrected on this date. Children were observed to be clean, dry, and comfortable.

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**Met****Comment**

Program observed complete emergency drills

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

Observed all required posted notices.

591-1-1-.29 Required Reporting**Met****Comment**

Thank you for reporting as required.

Safety

591-1-1-.05 Animals**N/A****Comment**

Center does not keep animals on premises.

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****Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.36(3)(a-b) - Please ensure that transportation training is taken every 2 years.

Correction Deadline: 10/9/2025

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 first row seat was torn and there was exposed foam.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The center will maintain that all transportation vehicles are clean, in safe repair, and free from hazards.

Correction Deadline: 9/30/2025

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.36(4)(c) - Please ensure that the vehicle's fire extinguisher is serviced as required by the fire department.

Correction Deadline: 9/29/2025

Finding

591-1-1-.36(7)(a) requires that each vehicle contains current information including: the full names of all children to be transported, each child's pick-up location, pick-up time, delivery location, alternate delivery location if a Parent is not at home and name of person authorized to receive each child. In addition, the vehicle shall contain current information identifying the Center's name, telephone number and the name of the driver of the vehicle. It was determined based on a review of records that the transportation checklist did not list transported children's individual pick up locations when they picked up at the Early Learning Center, Lakeview Primary, and Midway Hills Academy.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will ensure that the Center's information and the children's information is included on each vehicle.

Correction Deadline: 9/30/2025

Finding

591-1-1-.36(7)(c)2. requires that the driver or other designated person shall immediately document in writing, with a check or other mark/symbol to account for each child listed on the passenger transportation checklist each time a child enters and exits the vehicle. The driver or other designated staff person shall document in writing with a different mark/symbol to account for each child listed on the passenger transportation checklist who was not present on the vehicle for any reason. An explanation shall be documented in writing whenever a child is transported to a field trip site but is not present on the return trip to the Center. It was determined based on a review of documents that there were no indicators for children who were transported on the afternoon route by the center for the following:

- September 15, 2025 when 8 of 15 children were not accounted for when transported from Baldwin County Schools to the center.
- September 16, 2025 when 8 of 15 children were not accounted for when transported from Baldwin County Schools to the center.
- September 17, 2025 when 9 of 15 children were not accounted for when transported from Baldwin County Schools to the center.
- September 18, 2025 when 9 of 15 children were not accounted for when transported from Baldwin County Schools to the center.
- September 22, 2025 when 9 of 15 children were not accounted for when transported from Baldwin County Schools to the center.
- September 23, 2025 when 9 of 15 children were not accounted for when transported from Baldwin County Schools to the center.
- September 24, 2025 when 9 of 15 children were not accounted for when transported from Baldwin County Schools to the center.
- September 25, 2025 when 10 of 15 children were not accounted for when transported from Baldwin County Schools to the center.
- September 26, 2025 when 7 of 15 children were not accounted for when transported from Baldwin County Schools to the center.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The driver/other designated person will immediately document in writing with a check/mark/symbol each time a child gets on and off the vehicle.

Correction Deadline: 9/30/2025

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

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

Met

Comment

Pleasant naptime environment observed.

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.

Staff Records

Records Reviewed: 2

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 1

Staff # 2

Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.36(3)(a-b)-2 hrs. Transportation Training missing,.33(5)-10 Hrs. Annual Training,.33(4)-Food Prep Training Missing 4 hrs.

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

Met

Comment

Criminal record checks were observed to be complete.

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

Met

Comment

Criminal records checks were observed to be complete.

Finding

591-1-1-.14(3) requires the Center to have a first aid kit in each building of the Center and in any vehicle used by the Center for transportation of children, that contains scissors, tweezers, gauze pads, adhesive tape, thermometer, band-aids, assorted sizes, antibacterial ointment, insect-sting preparation, an antiseptic cleansing solution, triangular bandages, rubber gloves, protective eye wear, a protective face mask, and a cold pack. The first aid kit, together with a first aid instruction manual which must be kept with the kit at all times, shall be stored so that it is not accessible to children but is easily accessible to Staff. It was determined based on observation that the center transportation vehicle had an incomplete first aid kit that was missing: band-aids, assorted sizes, antibacterial ointment, insect-sting preparation, an antiseptic cleansing solution, rubber gloves, protective eye wear, a protective face mask, and a cold pack.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

Center Staff will provide any missing first aid kits, add any missing items to each first aid kit and will develop and use a plan for checking the kits and replacing missing items in each kit in the future. First aid kits and instruction manuals will be stored so that they kits are not accessible to children but are easily accessible to Center Staff.

Correction Deadline: 10/9/2025

591-1-1-.33 Staff Training

Not Met

Finding

591-1-1-.33(4) requires 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. It was determined based on a review of records that staff #2 did not have evidence of having completed 4 hours of food preparation training as required.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will schedule food preparation training, as required, and follow up to ensure the training is completed.

Correction Deadline: 10/29/2025

Finding

591-1-1-.33(5)(a) requires that every calendar year after the first year of employment, all supervisory and caregiver Personnel, except independent contractors, Students-in-Training and volunteers, shall attend ten (10) clock hours of diverse training which is offered by an accredited college, university or vocational program or other Department-approved source. It was determined based on a review of records that staff #2 did not have evidence of having completed ten hours of annual training for 2024.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will plan and schedule the required 10 hours of annual training each year and follow up to ensure the training is completed.

Correction Deadline: 10/29/2025

591-1-1-.31 Staff(CR)

Technical Assistance

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.31(11) - Please ensure that the Center has adequate qualified and sufficient direct-care, clerical, housekeeping, maintenance and other employees to ensure full compliance with these rules without neglecting the supervision of children at all times.

Correction Deadline: 9/29/2025

Staffing and Supervision

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

Technical Assistance

Comment

Center observed to maintain appropriate staff:child ratios.

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.32(4)(b) - Please ensure that there are parental agreements on file for children who are 2-years-old and are mixed with children who are 3-years-old.

Correction Deadline: 9/29/2025

Correction Deadline: 10/7/2025

Corrected on 9/29/2025

.32(7) - This citation was corrected on this date. Adequate supervision was observed.