



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: 3/26/2026 VisitType: Monitoring Visit

Arrival: 8:40 AM Departure: 11:55 AM

CCLC-1786

Ware County Head Start Center

1235 McDonald Street Waycross, GA 31501 Ware County
(912) 285-1844

Regional Consultant

Connie Boatright

Phone: (912) 544-9701

Fax: (912) 544-9700

connie.boatright@dec.al.ga.gov

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.
03/26/2026	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
09/02/2025	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
09/23/2024	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
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.

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	1 HS Inclusion	One Year Olds and Two Year Olds	2	7	C	21	C	NA	NA	Transitioning, Breakfast, Free Play, Outside
Main	1 Pre-K	GA PreK	3	11	C	31	C	NA	NA	Breakfast, Centers
Main	10 Multi Purpose		0	0	C	22	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Main	11 Sensory Room		0	0	C	22	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Main	12 Extended Care		0	0	C	22	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Main	13 Outside Hall		0	0	C	21	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Main	14 Outside Hall		0	0	C	21	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Main	15 Outside Hall		0	0	C	21	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Main	1a Head Start Hall		0	0	C	22	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Main	2 HS Inclusion	Infants and One Year Olds	2	5	C	21	C	NA	NA	Transitioning, Free Play, Outside, Breakfast
Main	2 Pre-K	GA PreK	2	12	C	25	C	NA	NA	Centers, Breakfast
Main	2a Head Start Hall	Three Year Olds	2	13	C	21	C	NA	NA	Outside, Transitioning, Breakfast
Main	3 HS Inclusion		0	0	C	22	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Main	3 Pre-K	GA PreK	2	13	C	25	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Main	3a Head Start Hall	Three Year Olds	3	15	C	21	C	NA	NA	Centers, Transitioning, Outside

Main	4 HS Inclusion		0	0	C	22	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Main	4a Head Start Hall	Two Year Olds	2	13	C	21	C	NA	NA	Transitioning, Outside
Main	5 Head Start Hall	Three Year Olds	2	8	C	21	C	NA	NA	Centers
Main	5a Head Start Hall		0	0	C	24	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Main	6 Head Start Hall	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	2	8	C	21	C	NA	NA	Centers
Main	7 Head Start Hall	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	2	7	C	24	C	NA	NA	Centers
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 471			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0							
Total # Children this Date: 112			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 471				Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0			

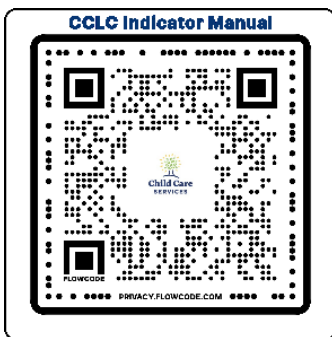
Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	PG 1	56	C
Main	PG 2	67	C
Main	PG 3	30	C
Main	PG 4	93	C
Main	PG 5	49	C
Main	PG 6	52	C
Main	Playground 7	13	C
Main	Playground 8	27	C

Enrolled Children						
Under 1 years	1 years	2 years	3 years	4 years	5 years (Prekonly)	5 years and older
1	23	35	30	40	27	0

Comments

The Consultant discussed the Monitoring Visit with the Center Director and emailed a copy via DocuSign. The Consultant discussed and provided fliers for Chop, Look, and Listen.

Plan of Improvement: No Plan Developed



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

You have received permission to operate and the form received with this report is intended to serve as a temporary license which is **valid for thirty(30) days**. Your actual license/ will be emailed to you upon receipt of the licensing fee. You may pay the licensing fee either online at <http://www.dec.al.ga.gov/> or by certified check or money order mailed to: Bright from the Start, 2 Martin Luther King Jr. Drive SE, Suite 670 East Tower, Atlanta, GA 30334

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: 3/26/2026 VisitType: Monitoring Visit

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The following information is associated with a Monitoring Visit:

Activities and Equipment

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

Met

Comment

The Consultant observed a variety of age appropriate activities through out the center. Toys and equipment were observed to be clean and in good repair.

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. The Consultant observed 112 children present during this visit.

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

Met

Comment

The Center appeared clean and well maintained on this date.

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

Met

Comment

Playground observed to be clean and in good repair 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.

Correction Deadline: 9/2/2025

Corrected on 3/26/2026

.20(3) - The previous citation was observed to be corrected.

Safety

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

Met

Comment

Age-appropriate discussion and/or redirection observed.

Comment

Staff were observed to maintain a positive learning environment on this date.

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

N/A

Comment

Center does not provide routine transportation.

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

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

Met

Comment

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.

Comment

The Consultant observed cots stored in the Pre K and Head Start hallway and covered as required. Additionally, the Consultant observed cots stored in the Inclusion classrooms and covered as required.

Correction Deadline: 3/26/2026

Staff Records

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

Met

Comment

Criminal record checks were observed to be complete.

Comment

Director provided 6 file(s) for employees hired since last visit.

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

Met

Comment

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

591-1-1-.33 Staff Training

Met

Comment

Complete documentation of transportation observed. on this date.

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

Met

Comment

Staff observed to be compliant with applicable laws and regulations.

Staffing and Supervision

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

Met

Comment

Center observed to maintain appropriate staff:child ratios.

591-1-1-.32 Supervision(CR)

Met

Comment

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

