



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: 8/5/2026

VisitType: POI Follow Up

Arrival: 7:50 AM

Departure: 8:50 AM

CCLC-58059

Stonewell Academy

204 Park Lane Thomaston, GA 30286 Upson County
(706) 938-0835

Regional Consultant

Brandi Mangino

Phone: (404) 548-4987

Fax:

brandi.mangino@decal.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. 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.
08/05/2026	POI Follow Up	Good Standing	
07/28/2026	TA Follow Up	NA	
07/16/2026	Monitoring Visit	Support	

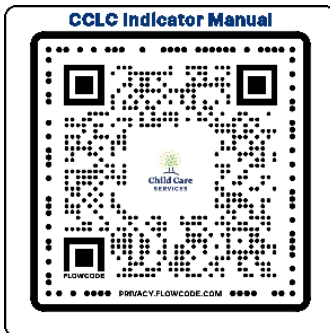
Data retrieval failed for the subreport, 'RatioCapacity', located at: Koala.Reports.Visits.RDLC.RatioCapacity.rdlc.

Comments

The purpose of the visit was a Plan of Improvement follow-up.

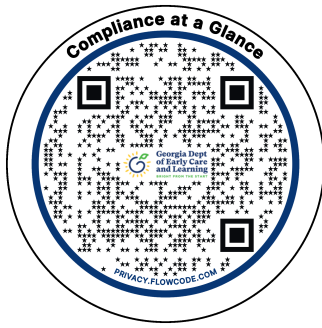
Transportation was observed on this date.

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>.



For additional information regarding the full compliance inspection results of this program or any licensed program in the state, access the Child Care Services Compliance-at-a Glance website by scanning this QR code or visiting: <https://families.decal.ga.gov>.

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



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Summary Report

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The following information is associated with a POI Follow Up:

Activities and Equipment

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

Not Met

Finding

591-1-1-.12(1) requires each Employee and child in attendance to use all indoor and outdoor furniture, activity materials, and equipment in a safe and appropriate manner and in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions, recommendations, and intended use. All equipment and furniture shall be used only by the age-appropriate group of children. It was determined based on observation that a staff member had a rocker and carried the child in the rocker down the hallway. Rocker was intended for floor use.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will ensure Staff are trained in and children are taught the proper use of all furniture, materials and equipment; will implement a plan for this information to be reviewed with both groups on an ongoing basis; and for monitoring proper and age-appropriate usage.

Correction Deadline: 8/5/2026

Food Service

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

Met

Correction Deadline: 7/16/2026

Corrected on 8/5/2026

.15(3) - Citation observed to be corrected. Bottles were observed to be premade and labeled.

Health and Hygiene

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

Met

Correction Deadline: 7/16/2026

Corrected on 8/5/2026

.10(2) - Citation observed to be corrected as the diapering sink was in working order.

Safety

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

Not Met

Technical Assistance

Consultant discussed tire replacement of the bus due to tires being bald by August 10, 2026. In addition, please ensure that the first aid kit and fire extinguisher are properly secured.

Correction Deadline: 8/10/2026

Correction Deadline: 7/17/2026

Corrected on 8/5/2026

.36(4)(f)1. - Citation observed to be corrected.

Correction Deadline: 7/17/2026

Corrected on 8/5/2026

.36(4)(f)2. - Citation observed to be corrected.

Finding

591-1-1-.36(6) requires written Parental authorization for routine transportation provided by or on behalf of the Center. Written authorization must include the routine pick-up location, routine pick-up time, routine delivery location, routine delivery times and the name of any person authorized to receive the child. It was determined based on a review of records that the center did not have parental permission for any of the children being transported.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will obtain the required written parental authorization.

Correction Deadline: 8/6/2026

Correction Deadline: 7/17/2026

Corrected on 8/5/2026

.36(7)(a) - Citation observed to be corrected.

Technical Assistance

Consultant discussed all areas of the emergency medical forms need to be filled out. No blanks should be left.

Correction Deadline: 8/6/2026

Correction Deadline: 7/17/2026

Corrected on 8/5/2026

.36(7)(c)2. - Citation observed to be corrected.

Correction Deadline: 7/17/2026

Corrected on 8/5/2026

.36(7)(c)3. - Citation observed to be corrected.

Correction Deadline: 7/17/2026

Corrected on 8/5/2026

.36(7)(d)1. - Citation observed to be corrected.

Correction Deadline: 7/16/2026

Corrected on 8/5/2026

.36(7)(d)2. - Citation observed to be corrected.

Staff Records

591-1-1-.33 Staff Training

Defer

Defer

591-1-1-.33(5)(b)(1)-Citation will be deferred until the first regulatory visit of 2027 as center staff have until December 31, 2026 to complete annual training for the year.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will plan and schedule the required 10 hours of annual training each year to include a least two (2) hours in evidence based, developmentally appropriate language and literacy practices and follow up to ensure the training is completed.

Correction Deadline: 2/11/2026

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

Defer

Defer

591-1-1-.31(2)(c)-Staff credential will be reviewed at the next regulatory visit. The staff member has finished the classes and is set for graduation.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will review lead teacher records to ensure the required documentation is on file and will obtain and file it if not found.

Correction Deadline: 7/30/2026

Staffing and Supervision

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

Met

Correction Deadline: 7/16/2026

Corrected on 8/5/2026

.32(7) - Citation observed to be corrected.